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Abstract Proof

CONTROL ID: 197798 CONTACT (NAME ONLY): Jordi Bernabeu PRESENTER: Jordi Bernabeu Abstract Details PRESENTATION TYPE: Paper or Poster

**CATEGORY:** Child - Developmental Disorders

## "Other" Category:

**KEYWORDS:** nonverbal learning disability, child development disorders, pediatric neuropsychology.

Abstract

TITLE:

Neuropsychological Profiles and Differences among NVLD, Asperger and Healthy Children. **AUTHORS (ALL):** <u>Bernabeu, Jordi</u>; Fournier, Concepcion; Gavilan, Beatriz; Almerich, Gonzalo; Suarez, Jesus M.; Canyete, Adela; Castel, Victoria.

## **ABSTRACT BODY:**

**Objective :** To find out differences in the neuropsychological profile between Non Verbal Learning Disabilities (NVLD) and Asperger children.

**Participants and Methods :** 24 children were studied, median age was 9.12 (range: 7-14). There were 12 healthy, 7 Asperger and 5 NVLD children. 14 were boys and 10 girls. Statistical analysis (descriptives and ANOVA) was carried out by using SPSS 12.0 package.

**Results :** NVLD children showed the worst scores of these three groups. They present difficulties in cognitive general abilities (performance and total IQ, perceptual organization, simultaneous and mental composite processing), motricity (dominant, non-dominant and visuomotor coordination), perception (visual attention and integration), non-verbal abilities (line orientation, visuoconstructive praxias), non-verbal memory (spatial, serial visual learning, delayed visual recall), executive functioning (working memory, planning, non-verbal fluency). Asperger children did not present cognitive deterioration; only lower scores in cognitive general abilities (verbal and total IQ), attention (sustained, divided and selective), language (auditory processing), memory (serial verbal learning) and executive functioning (concept formation and non-verbal fluency)

ANOVA multiple comparisons: both groups showed significant differences compared to healthy in cognitive general abilities, perception, memory, attention and academic abilities. Asperger children present significant differences with healthy children in language and executive functions. The only significant differences between Asperger and NVLD children were in motricity and non-verbal abilities (NVLD present the worst scores).

**Conclusions :** Children with Asperger and NVLD are frequently defined clinically. Here we present some clues to try to define neuropsychological profiles of these pathologies.