

Title: Variability in Cognitive Abilities in Individuals with Down Syndrome

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This study used the Woodcock Johnson III Tests of Cognitive Abilities, Australian Adaptation (WJ-III COG) to investigate a wide range of cognitive abilities in people with Down syndrome (DS). The study examined heterogeneity and homogeneity in cognitive strengths and weankesses in a large sample of 25 DS individuals (aged 7 to 35 years) by focusing on individual perfomance instead of group averages. We found homogeneity in cognitive strengths and weaknesses at both the subtest and domain level of the WJ-III COG .However, we found some evidence of heterogeneity across some WJ-III COG domains and subtests , which overall IQ, chronological age, or sex could not fully explain. Based on our these findings, clinicians should be cautious when claiming that a single cognitive profile is characteristic of all DS individuals. Further clinical implications are discussed.

Biography

Daniel Miezah is currently a PhD student in the Psychology Department at Macquarie University. He previously completed a Masters in Clinical Psychology at the University of Ghana.

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Session name/ number: Session 1: Down Syndrome
Category: Poster presentation