

Project Title:**Exploring Prospective Memory in HIV: Objective Measures versus Subjective Reports of “Difficulties of Remembering to Remember”
(Project Code: MSS 205R)**

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Executive Summary:**Objectives**

The ability of remembering to remember (Prospective Memory: PM), refers to the memory associated with carrying intended actions at specific time in future. PM has been not been explored among HIV-infected persons in Hong Kong. Yet, there is converging evidence in the West that PM has strong relevance to functional outcomes. The purpose of this study focused on the following hypotheses. First, it was hypothesized that both PM and RM subjective complaints would be more frequent in persons living with HIV, as compared to HIV- individuals. Second, performance on the MIST would have incremental significance over overall cognitive functioning in predicting subjective complaints of PM. Finally., PM test performance would have incremental significance over PM subjective complaints in predicting functional outcomes.

Design

This is primarily a cross-sectional study.

Participants

A total of 142 participants were recruited for this study and the result is shown in Table 1. There were 68 HIV patients in the HIV participant group. The mean age of the HIV patient group was 40.13 years old and the mean of number of years in education 13.81 years. For the HIV-negative control group, there were 74 participants with mean age of 36.82 years and the mean education was 14.47 years. There was no significant difference between the two groups in terms of the age and education years.

Outcomes

These included the Memory for Intentions Screening Test (MIST), Comprehensive Assessment of Prospective Memory (CAPM), Hopkins Verbal Learning Test ó Revised (HVLT-R), Brief Visuospatial Memory Test ó Revised (BVMT-R).

Results

For the prospective memory test, the Hall the cognitive tests components in the Memory for Intentions Screening Test (MIST), persons living with HIV were found to perform significantly poorer than the control group ($p < 0.01$). However, the results for the retrospective memory tests were found to be more varied. Hopkins Verbal Learning Test ó Revised (HVLT-R) were able to address significant different result between the two groups ($p < 0.01$). However, there was no significant difference in terms of score for Brief Visuospatial Memory Test ó Revised (BVMT-R). Most of the components in CAPM ó Section C showed significant correlation with the MIST. Performance on the MIST showed incremental significance over overall cognitive functioning in predicting subjective complaints of PM. Finally, results of the MIST were also found to be significantly correlated with employment status.

Conclusions

Results suggested that the study of prospective memory is relevant and important with persons living with HIV. Significant impairment in PM was found in the present HIV group. These deficits correlated significantly to the subjective evaluation of memory and also employment status.

PAPER PRESENTATION

Au A. & Woods S. P. (2014). Profile and vocational relevance of deficits in