

## Target Area: Memory Impairments

<p>Clare &amp; Wilson (2004). <i>Memory Rehabilitation Techniques for People with Early-Stage Dementia</i>. <i>Zeitschrift fur Gerontopsychologie &amp; Psychiatrie</i> 17(2): 109-117</p>	<p>RoBiNT score - <i>to be confirmed</i></p>
<p><b>Method/Results</b></p> <p>Design:</p> <p>Y Study type: SSD. Paper states “multiple–baseline–across–items–design”, however the sequencing of implementation and withdrawal of each memory technique is unclear. From the information provided the design is at least an ABA with follow up where A=baseline before treatment, B=each of the 4 errorless learning memory techniques, A=follow up after one week, then at 1, 3, and 6 months post</p> <p>Y Participant: A female, age 73 years, with a diagnosis of probable early stage Alzheimers Disease. Her premorbid IQ is average. Current memory abilities are significantly impaired.</p> <p>Y Setting: Not stated.</p> <p>Target behaviour measure/s:</p> <p>Y Number of correctly named faces.</p> <p>Primary outcome measure/s:</p> <p>Y No additional measures.</p> <p>Result: Significant improvements in name–face learning were found using spaced retrieval, mnemonic elaboration, and cueing with increasing assistance methods. For each of these methods, some level of improvement was maintained at follow up. While some increase were observed under the cueing with decreasing assistance condition, these were not significant, and any learning gains were not maintained. The greatest improvements were observed under the mnemonic condition (from 20% correct at baseline to 83% correct at post–intervention), although statistical comparisons between conditions were not reported on.</p>	<p><b>Rehabilitation Program</b></p> <p>Aim: To improve memory for naming familiar faces using errorless learning techniques.</p> <p>Materials: Photos of familiar faces that the patient has difficulty naming (in this case 16 stimuli from the Famous Faces Test); Sheets of paper with increasing/decreasing letters of the person’s name; a method of timing intervals (e.g. stopwatch).</p> <p>Treatment plan</p> <p>Y Duration: 16 training sessions (one for each name).</p> <p>Y Procedure: Twice weekly sessions (time per session not stated by appears to be &gt;20 minutes).</p> <p>Y Content: All techniques begin by familiarizing the patient with written and spoken details of the name given. Patient is instructed not to guess, but only answer when the name is known. After the training trials, 10–mins of conversation follows, then 5 test trials are administered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Spaced retrieval</i>: name is tested gradually over increasing intervals of 30s, 1 min, 2 min, 5 min, 10 min.</li> <li>- <i>Mnemonic elaboration</i>: 5 training trials at 1 minute intervals. The patient and therapist generate a mnemonic (a verbal label linking the appearance of the individual with a sound of the initial letter of their name) which is repeated and rehearsed until clearly established.</li> <li>- <i>Cueing with increasing assistance</i> 5 training trials at 1 min intervals. A sheet is provided that shows the first name, but has blanks for the letters of the surname. Letters are added one at a time until the patient is able to complete the name, then a new sheets are given, removing letters one at a time, as for vanishing cues method.</li> <li>- <i>Cueing with decreasing assistance</i> 5 training trials at 1 min intervals. A sheet is given with the full name minus the last letter of the surname, then a sheet with the full</li> </ul>



name minus the last 2 letters and so on, until only the first name is given.

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