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Measuring cognitive change in subjects with prodromal Alzheimer's disease

T Mura*, MD, PhD ^{1, 2, 3, 4}, C Proust-Lima, PhD ^{5, 6}, H Jacqmin-Gadda PhD ^{5, 6}, TN Akbaraly PhD ^{1, 2, 7}, J. Touchon, MD, PhD ^{8, 2}, B Dubois, MD, PhD ⁹, C Berr, MD, PhD ^{1, 2, 8}.

¹ INSERM, U1061, Neuropsychiatrie : Recherche Epidémiologique et Clinique, 34093 Montpellier, Cedex 5, France

² Université Montpellier I, 34095 Montpellier, Cedex 5, France

³ Département d'Information Médicale & Centre d'Investigation Clinique, CHRU Montpellier, 34093 Montpellier, France

⁴ INSERM, CIC 1001, Montpellier, France

⁵ INSERM U897, Equipe de Biostatistique, Centre de Recherche en Epidémiologie et Biostatistique, F-33076 Bordeaux, France

⁶ Université Bordeaux Segalen, ISPED, F-33076 Bordeaux, France

⁷ Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University College London, London, United Kingdom.

⁸ CMRR Languedoc Roussillon, service de Neurologie, CHRU Montpellier, 34093 Montpellier, France

⁹ INSERM-UPMC UMRS 975, Institut de la Mémoire et de la Maladie d'Alzheimer, ICM, APHP, Salpêtrière Hospital, University Paris 6, Paris, France

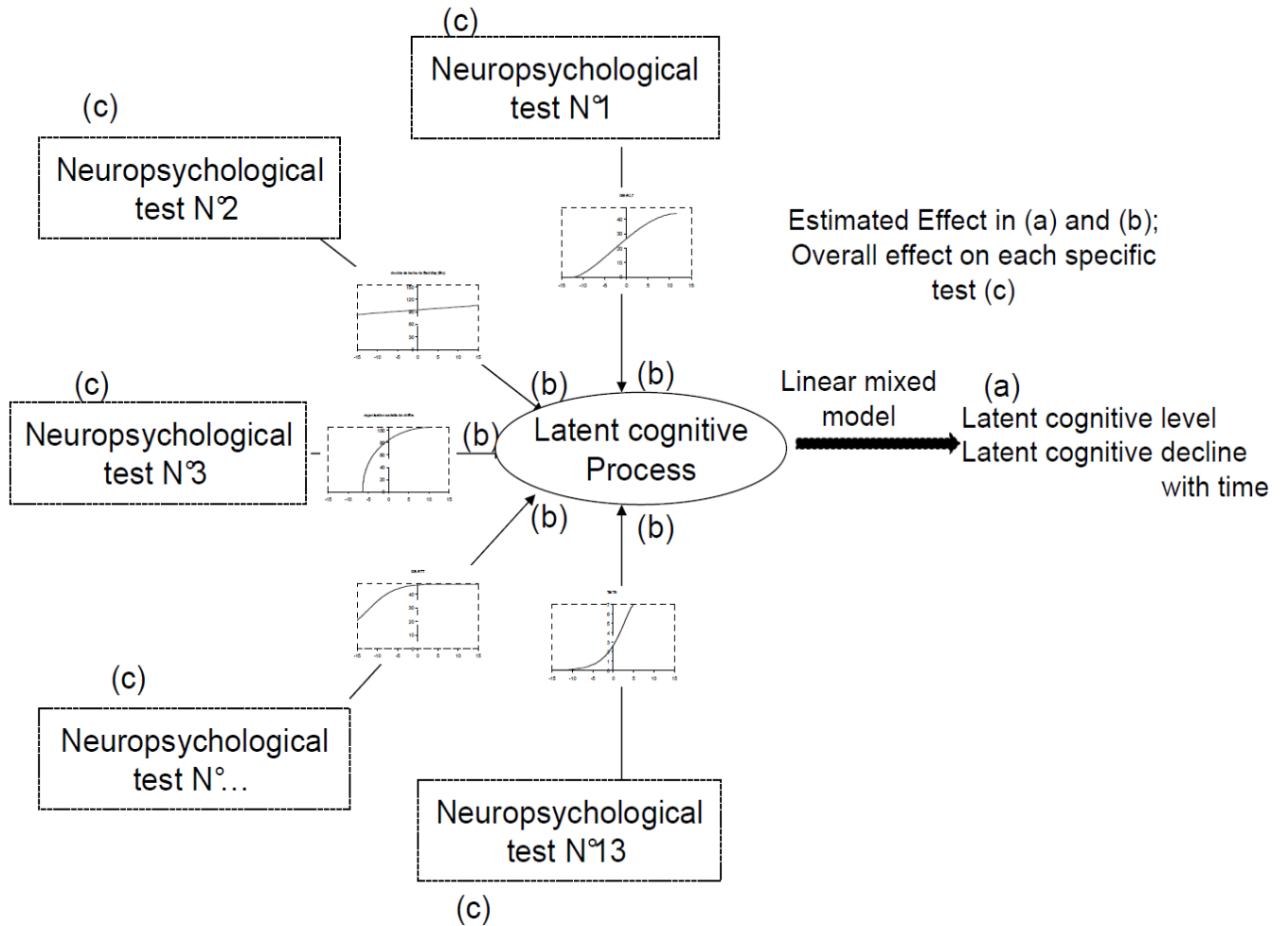
Corresponding author: Thibault Mura

INSERM U1061, Hôpital La Colombière, 39 Avenue Charles Flahault, BP 34493, 34093 Montpellier, Cedex 5, France.

Phone: 33 (0)4 67 33 23 28, Fax: 33 (0)4 67 33 23 35

email: t-mura@chu-montpellier.fr

Figure 1: Conceptualization of the nonlinear mixed model involving a latent process to model cognition from several neuropsychological tests.

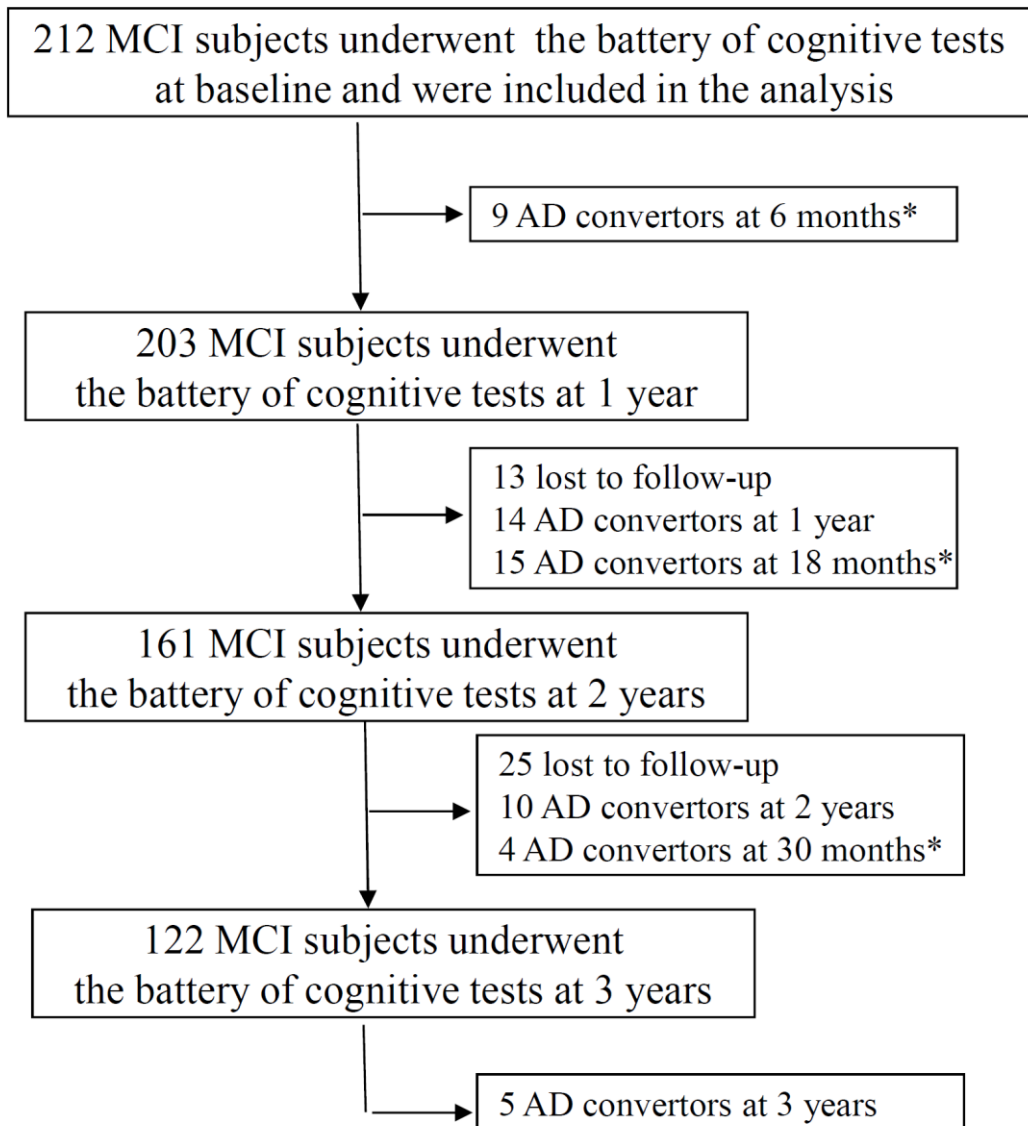


(a) A linear mixed model describes the change over time in the latent cognitive process and evaluates the common effects of covariates on this latent cognitive trajectory

(b) Test-specific measurement models relate each administration of the psychometric tests with the latent cognitive process, by accounting for and describing the metrological properties of the tests and test-specific associations with covariates.

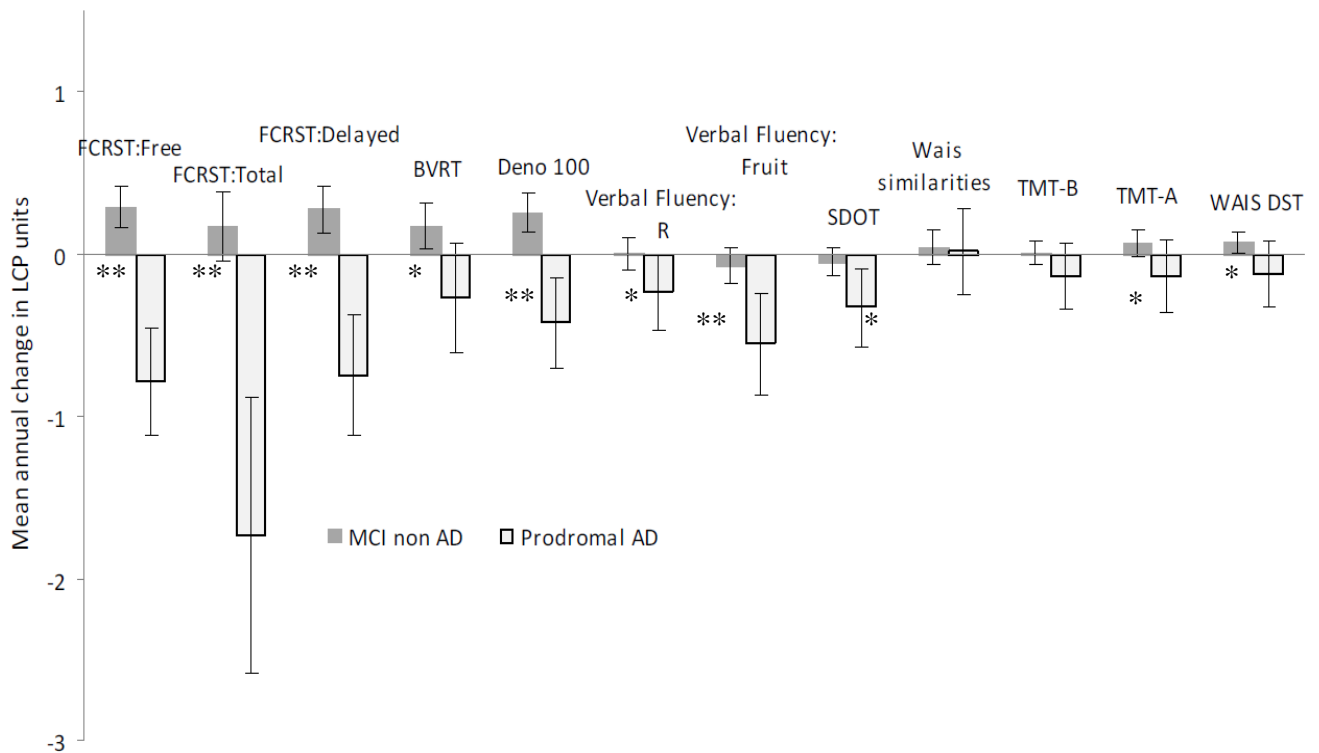
(c) Overall effect of a covariate on each specific test is calculated by adding together the effect of the covariate on the latent cognitive process (a) and the test-specific effect (b).

Figure 2: Diagram mapping the administration of the neuropsychological tests and the occurrence of AD during the three-year follow-up (FU) of the study.



* In the event of a suspected conversion, the patient underwent an additional neuropsychological evaluation 6 months later.

Figure 3: Mean annual change for each neuropsychological test according to the occurrence of AD during the follow-up (in latent cognitive process units).



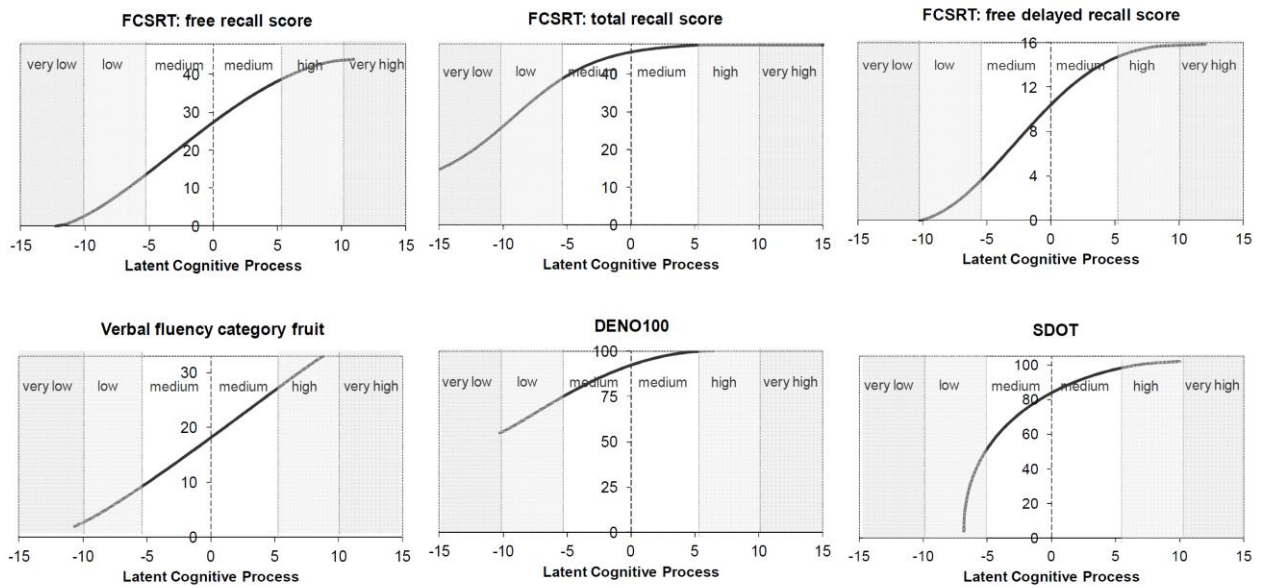
Mean annual change with 95% confidence interval for each neuropsychological test (in latent cognitive process unit) for a 71.8 year-old woman with a low level of education.

*denotes a significant difference (adjusted for age, sex and level of education) between Prodromal-AD and MCI Non-AD ($p < 0.05$), ** for $p < 0.01$

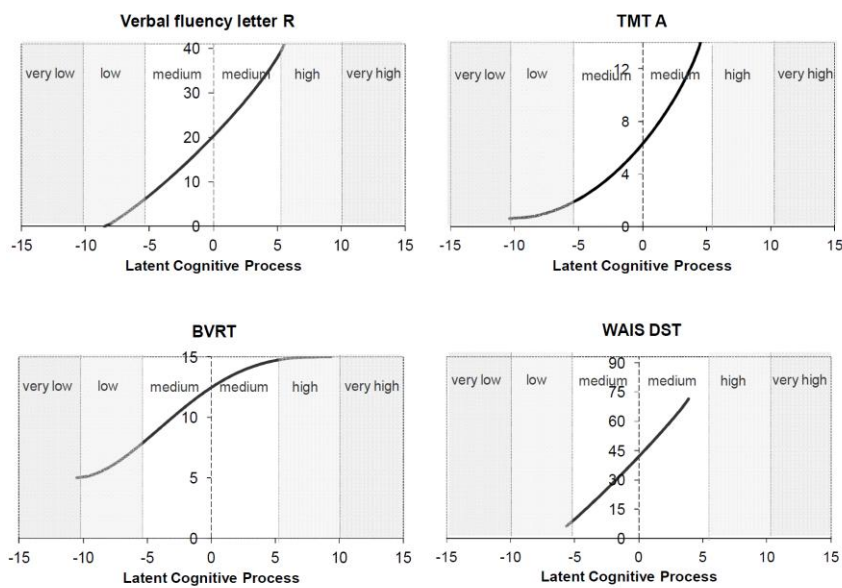
Baddeley Mü was not represented in this figure because of its high level of individual variability; this test did not significantly change over time in any group and was not different between groups.

Figure 4: Metrological properties of the thirteen neuropsychological scores used in the study

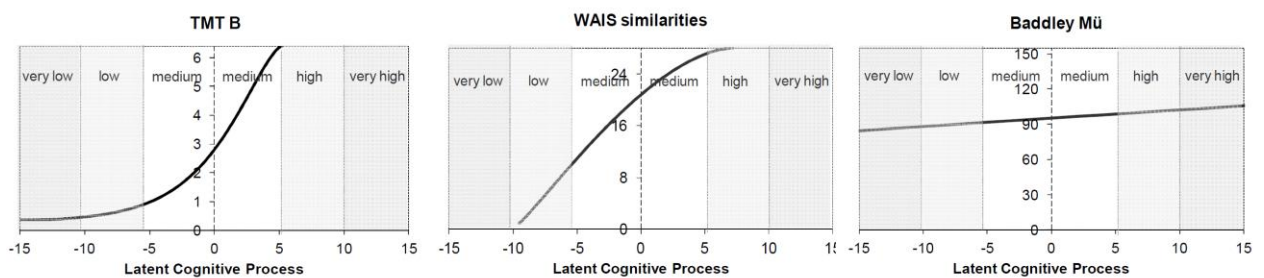
Neuropsychological tests with high sensitivity to changes due to prodromal-AD*



Neuropsychological tests with medium sensitivity to changes due to prodromal-AD*



Neuropsychological tests with low sensitivity to changes due to prodromal-AD*



*according to the previous results display in figure 3