

Special Issue

The Involvement of the Right Cerebral Hemisphere in Communication

Message from the Guest Editors

While the left cerebral hemisphere is dominant for language, there is increasing evidence that the right hemisphere is also involved in several aspects of verbal communication. It has been argued that the cognitive mechanisms of executive functions and the theory of mind are associated with overall communication competence and could somehow mediate the relationship of linguistic components with right hemisphere structures. However, the exact role of the right hemisphere in underlying cognitive mechanisms (whether language-related or not) that support communication remains elusive. The heterogeneity of clinical populations studied, the breadth of constructs assessed and the lack of a comprehensive understanding of the role of other cognitive mechanisms in related processes create a cloudy consensus: although the majority of researchers agree on the involvement of the right hemisphere in communication, evidence on the specifics of this involvement is so far inconclusive. Thus, the need for further research on the subject is evident. This Special Issue aims to contribute to the field by bringing together studies on the role of the right hemisphere in communication.

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