

Cognitive, emotional and psychosocial functions after resective epilepsy surgery

Epilepsy surgery is an evidence-based treatment for selected patients with drug-resistant focal epilepsy. However, resective brain surgery carries a risk of cognitive adverse effects and cognitive outcome is therefore important to address in the preoperative counselling of the patient. The risk of memory decline after temporal lobe resection (TLR) is 20-40%, but the risk as well as the degree of impairment is hard to predict at the individual level. Cognitive outcomes after frontal lobe resections (FLR) have been less studied but at group level there does not seem to be any substantial cognitive decline. There has been very little focus on emotional and psychosocial outcomes after FLR for epilepsy. This thesis aims to develop an individualized prediction model for the risk of verbal memory decline after TLR and further the knowledge about cognitive, emotional and psychosocial outcomes after FLR for epilepsy.

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