Olfactory influence on memory in patients with deep brain stimulation for essential tremor, thalamic infarct or cerebellar infarct

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Research
Background

- Working memory impaired by negative olfactory stimuli
- Parkinson’s patients with DBS exhibit improved olfactory function
- Contralateral olfactory impairments seen in cerebellar lesions
- Relationship between the transthalamic pathway activity and olfaction
Social Information and Olfactory Responses: Our Task

Learning Phase

Test Phase

Wie heisst diesen Person?

Mareike

Markus

Holger
The Olfactometer
Results

- Significant intra-individual differences, some patients performed much better in the presence of odor, some performed worse.
- Direction of effect wasn’t predictable.
- Additional patients were being enrolled at the time of my departure, and further statistics to come.
Highlights of the Summer

- Living in Aachen for 8 weeks
- Working inside a different healthcare system
- Practicing conversational German
- Collaborative environment
- Working in the IRTG
- Learning how to perform neuropsychological and olfaction testing
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