

É POSSIBILE ALLENARE IL CERVELLO?



SANTA LUCIA
NEUROSCIENZE
E RIABILITAZIONE

Dr Fabrizio Piras, PhD



FABRIZIO PIRAS

Psicologo, dottore di ricerca in Neuroscienze Cognitive

- **Direttore della linea di ricerca *Neuroscienze Cliniche e Neuroriabilitazione***
- **Responsabile dell'*Ambulatorio di Stimolazione Cognitiva***
- **Ricercatore presso il *Laboratorio di Neuropsichiatria***
- **Coordinatore del Master in *Neuroriabilitazione di Alta Specialità, Metodologie Neurocognitive e Neuromotorie* (Fondazione Santa Lucia-Treccani Accademia)**
- **Docente di *Valutazione Neuropsicologica e Neuroriabilitazione Cognitiva*, Università Telematica Internazionale Uninettuno**
- **Autore di 150 pubblicazioni su riviste scientifiche internazionali, 2 libri, 6 capitoli di libro**



OUTLINE

IL SISTEMA NERVOSO

LA NEUROPLASTICITA'

IL BRAIN TRAINING



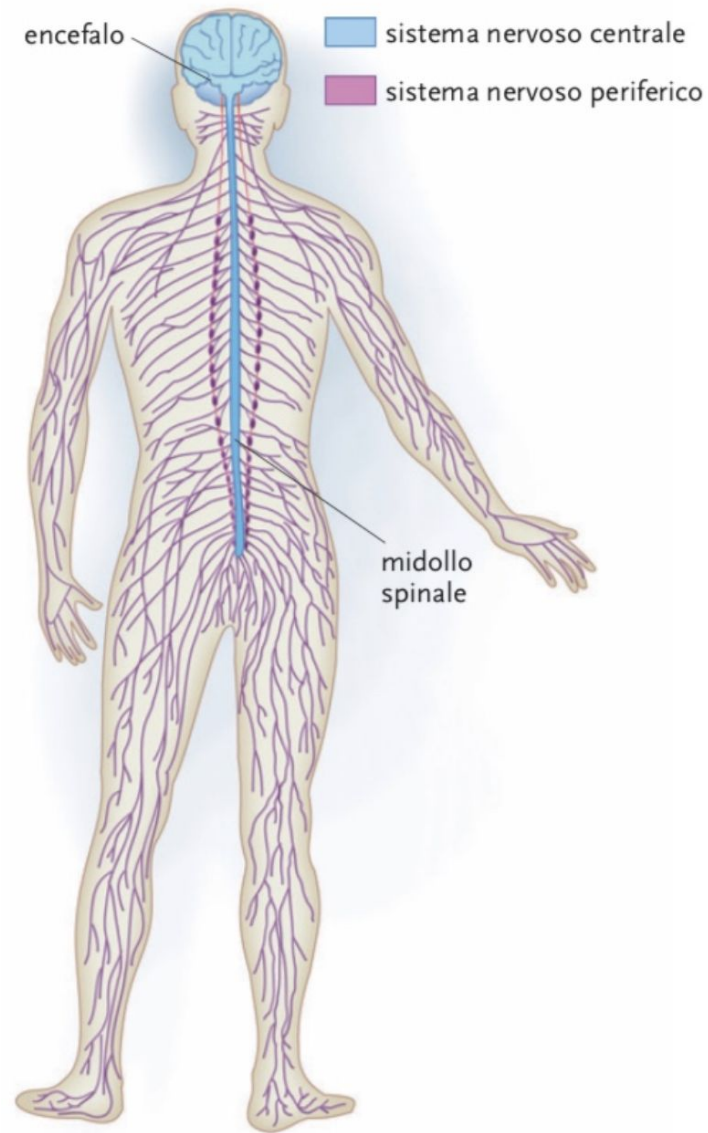
IL SISTEMA NERVOSO

Regolazione di:

- Funzioni vitali involontarie
- Attività volontarie

Formato da:

- Sistema nervoso centrale
- Sistema nervoso periferico



IL SISTEMA NERVOSO

Formato da:

- Sistema nervoso centrale
- Sistema nervoso periferico

- 
- Encefalo
 - Midollo spinale



IL SISTEMA NERVOSO

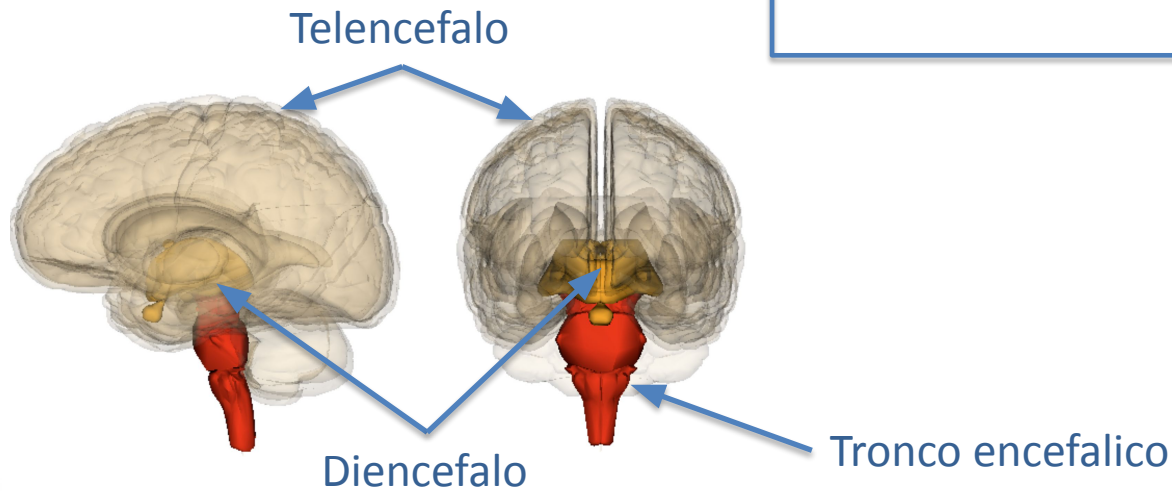
Formato da:

- Sistema nervoso centrale
- Sistema nervoso periferico

- Encefalo
- Midollo spinale

- Cervello
- Cervelletto
- Tronco encefalico

- Telencefalo
- Diencefalo



IL SISTEMA NERVOSO

Formato da:

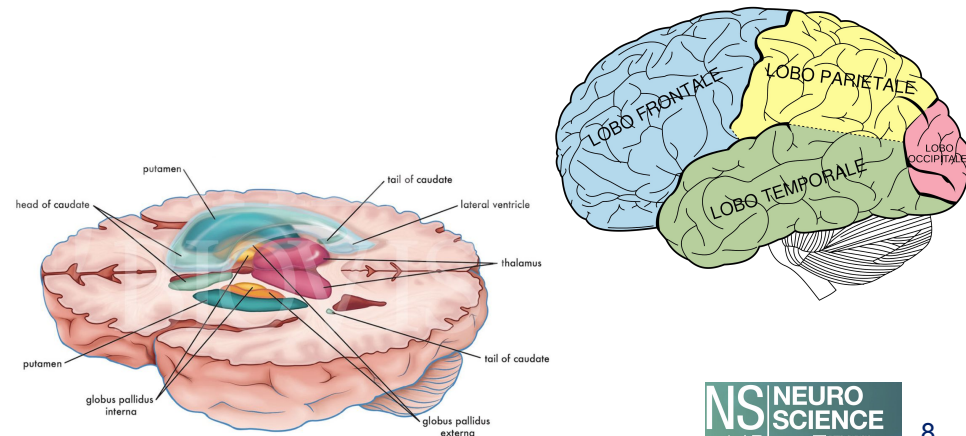
- Sistema nervoso centrale
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- Cervello
- Cervelletto
- Tronco encefalico

- Telencefalo
- Diencefalo

- Lobi cerebrali
- Nuclei profondi
- Ippocampo



IL SISTEMA NERVOSO

Formato da:

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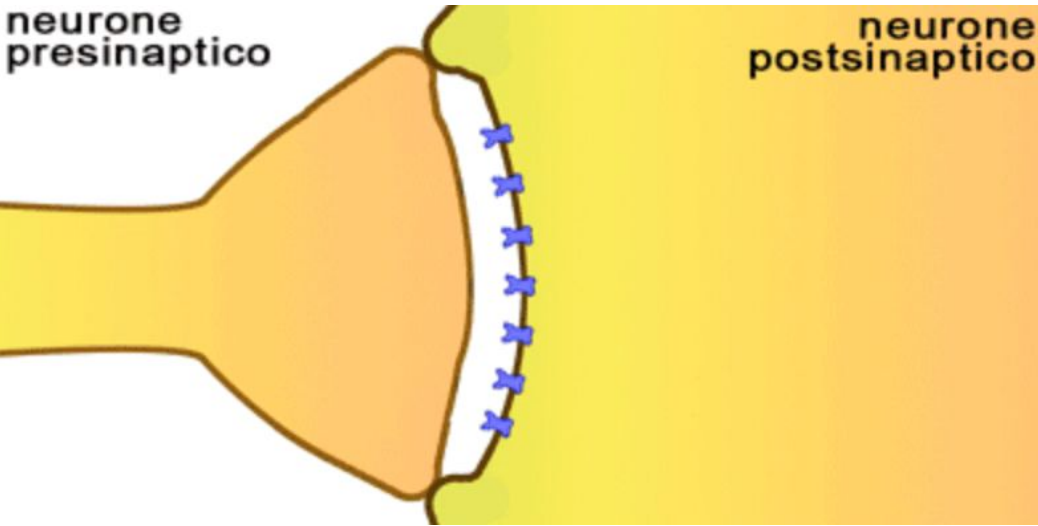
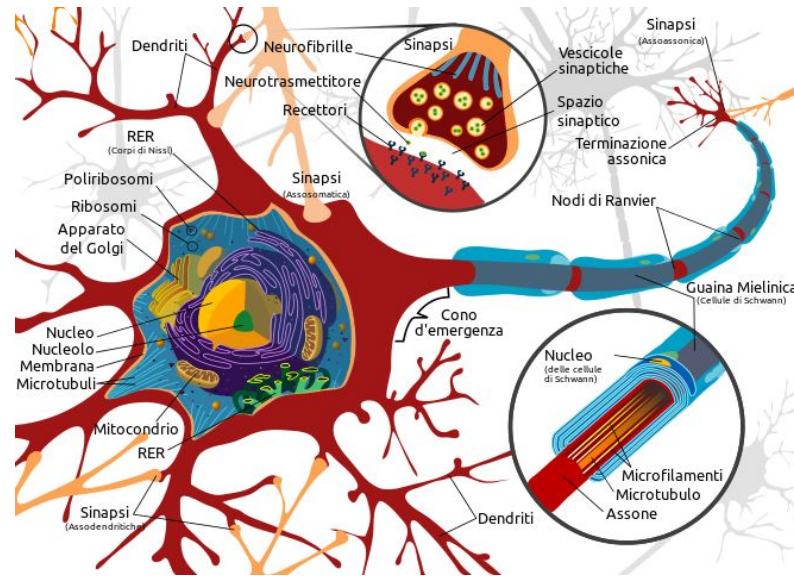
- Telencefalo
- Diencefalo

- Ipotalamo
- Talamo
- Subtalamo
- Epitalamo
- Metatalamo



IL SISTEMA NERVOSO

Il flusso delle informazioni



- 86 miliardi di neuroni
- $N \text{ sinapsi} = N \text{ neuroni} \times 1000$
- Il segnale viaggia a 432 km/h



2% del peso corporeo, 25% di energia
Fabrizio Piras - È possibile allenare il cervello?

IL SISTEMA NERVOSO

Le dimensioni contano?

Il quoziente di encefalizzazione o QE il rapporto tra la massa del cervello e quella che ci si aspetterebbe di trovare in un tipico animale della stessa taglia.

$$C = \frac{E}{S^r}$$

E=peso del cervello

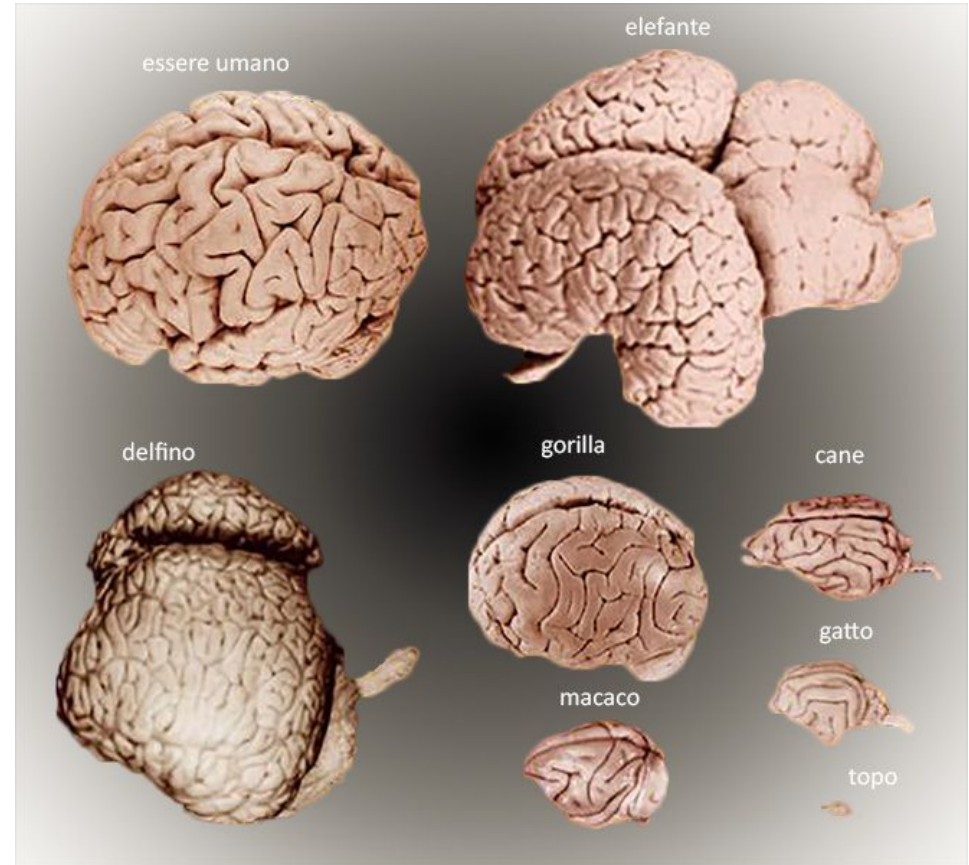
S=peso del corpo

R= costante (per i mammiferi 0,56 e 0,66)

Uomo=6-8

Delfino=5

Scimmie= 1-3



LA NEUROPLASTICITÀ

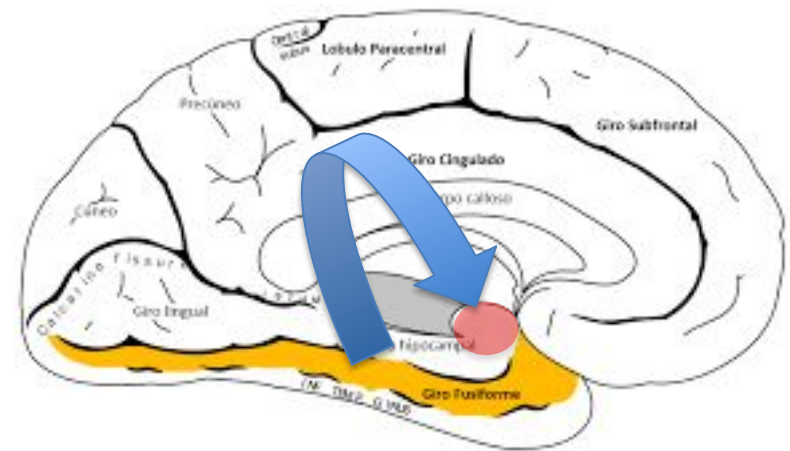
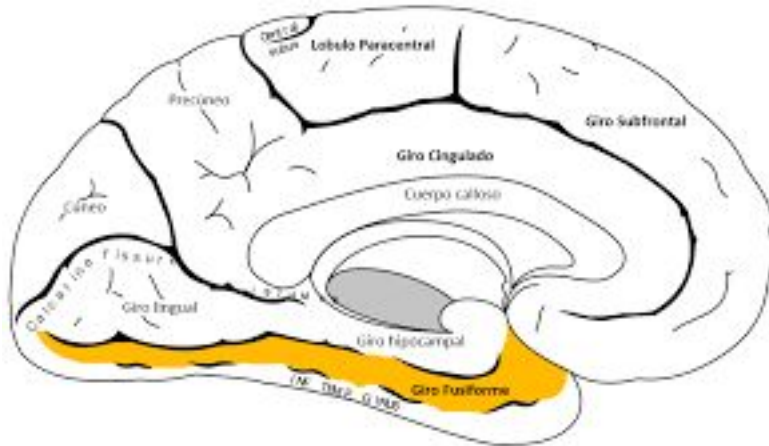
Effetti di una lesione cerebrale

1. Sindrome di Capgras

Madame M sosteneva che il marito ed altre persone a lei note erano state sostituite da sosia

Prima interpretazione: isteria

Anni 90 Ramachandran ipotizza una disconnessione tra la corteccia temporale ed il sistema limbico)



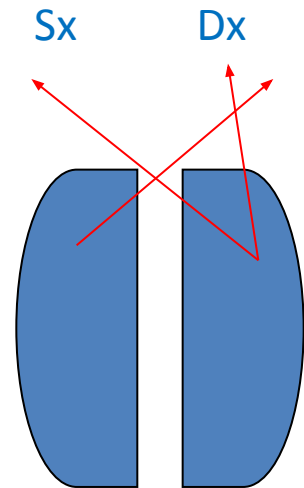
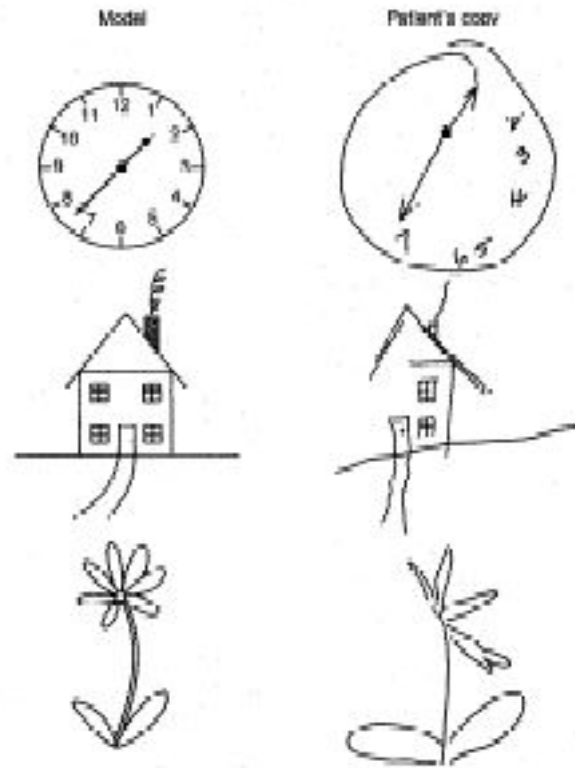
LA NEUROPLASTICITÀ

Effetti di una lesione cerebrale

2. Il neglect



Copying:



LA NEUROPLASTICITÀ



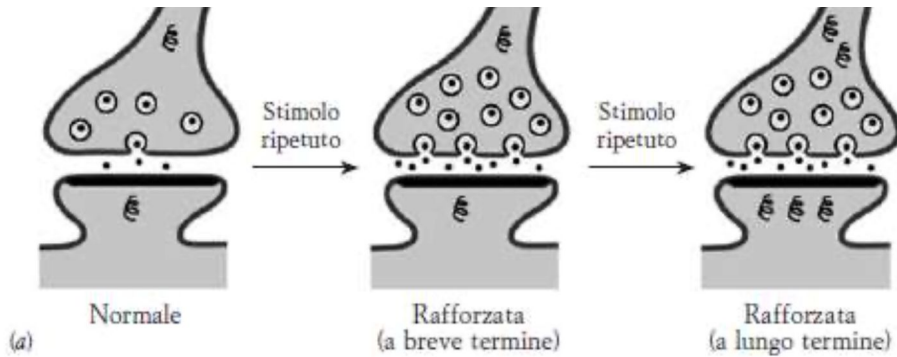
la capacità dell'encefalo di modificare la propria struttura e le proprie funzionalità a seconda dell'attività dei propri neuroni, correlata ad esempio a stimoli ricevuti dall'ambiente esterno, in reazione a lesioni traumatiche o modificazioni patologiche e in relazione al processo di sviluppo dell'individuo.

- La capacità del cervello e quindi dei suoi circuiti nervosi di rispondere a degli stimoli provenienti dall'ambiente
- Adatta la funzione dei circuiti nervosi sulla base delle esperienze
- Ottimizza le risposte del cervello agli stimoli dell'ambiente

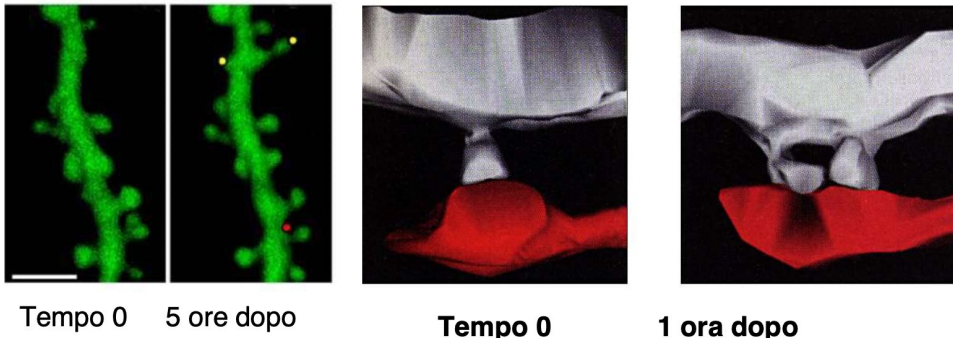


LA NEUROPLASTICITÀ

Plasticità sinaptica molecolare

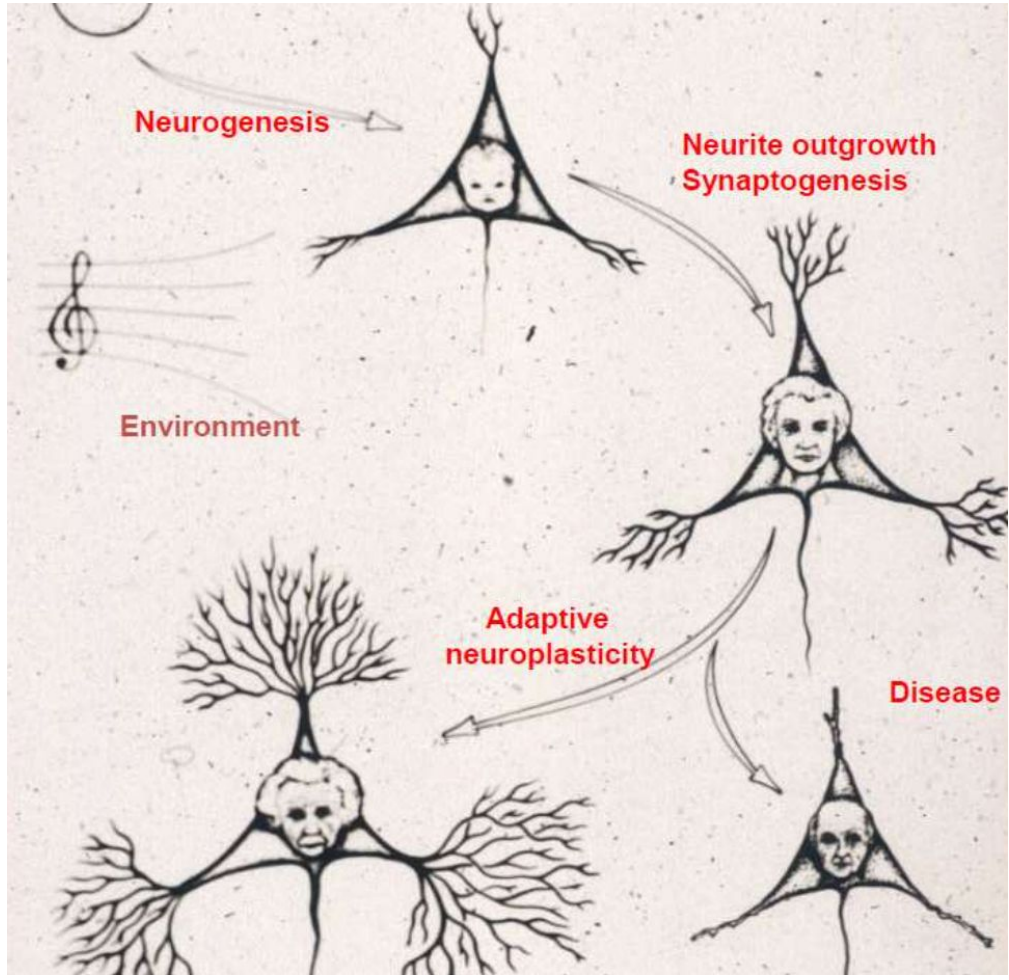


Plasticità sinaptica strutturale



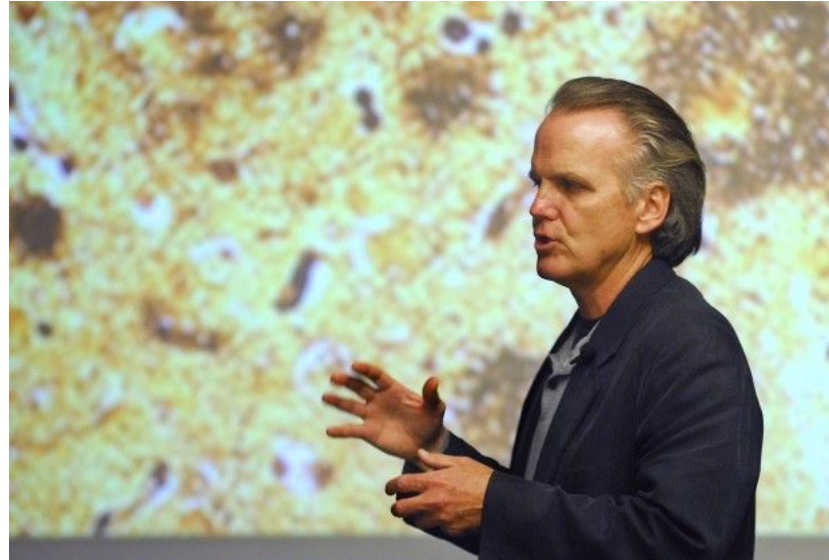
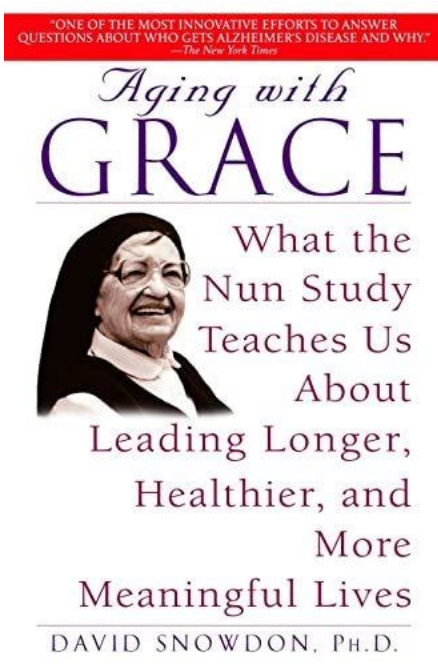
LA NEUROPLASTICITÀ

Periodo critico



LA NEUROPLASTICITÀ

La riserva



The Nun Study – David Snowdon 1986-2020



LA NEUROPLASTICITÀ

La riserva

Resilienza del cervello rispetto al danno cerebrale

Riserva cerebrale

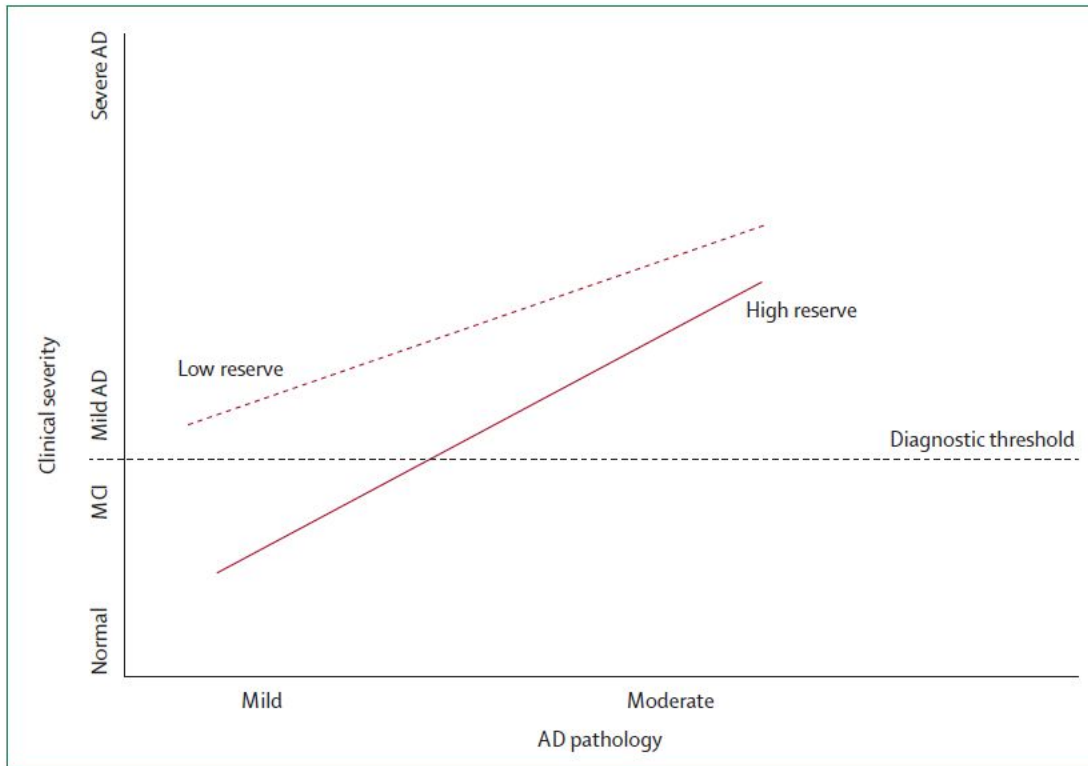


Riserva cognitiva



LA NEUROPLASTICITÀ

La riserva



Personal View

Cognitive reserve in ageing and Alzheimer's disease

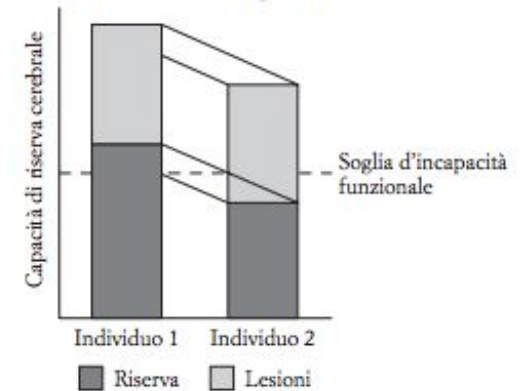
Yaakov Stern

Lancet Neurol 2012; 11: 1006-12
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 Columbia University College of
 Physicians and Surgeons, New
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The concept of cognitive reserve provides an explanation for differences between individuals in susceptibility to age-related brain changes or pathology related to Alzheimer's disease, whereby some people can tolerate more of these changes than others and maintain function. Epidemiological studies suggest that lifelong experiences, including educational and occupational attainment, and leisure activities in later life, can increase this reserve. For example, the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease is reduced in individuals with higher educational or occupational attainment. Reserve can conveniently be divided into two types: brain reserve, which refers to differences in the brain structure that may increase tolerance to pathology, and cognitive reserve, which refers to differences between individuals in how tasks are performed that might enable some people to be more resilient to brain changes than others. Greater understanding of the concept of cognitive reserve could lead to interventions to slow cognitive ageing or reduce the risk of dementia.

Abstract
 Introduction
 Discussion
 Conclusion

Riserva Cerebrale (Satz, 1993)

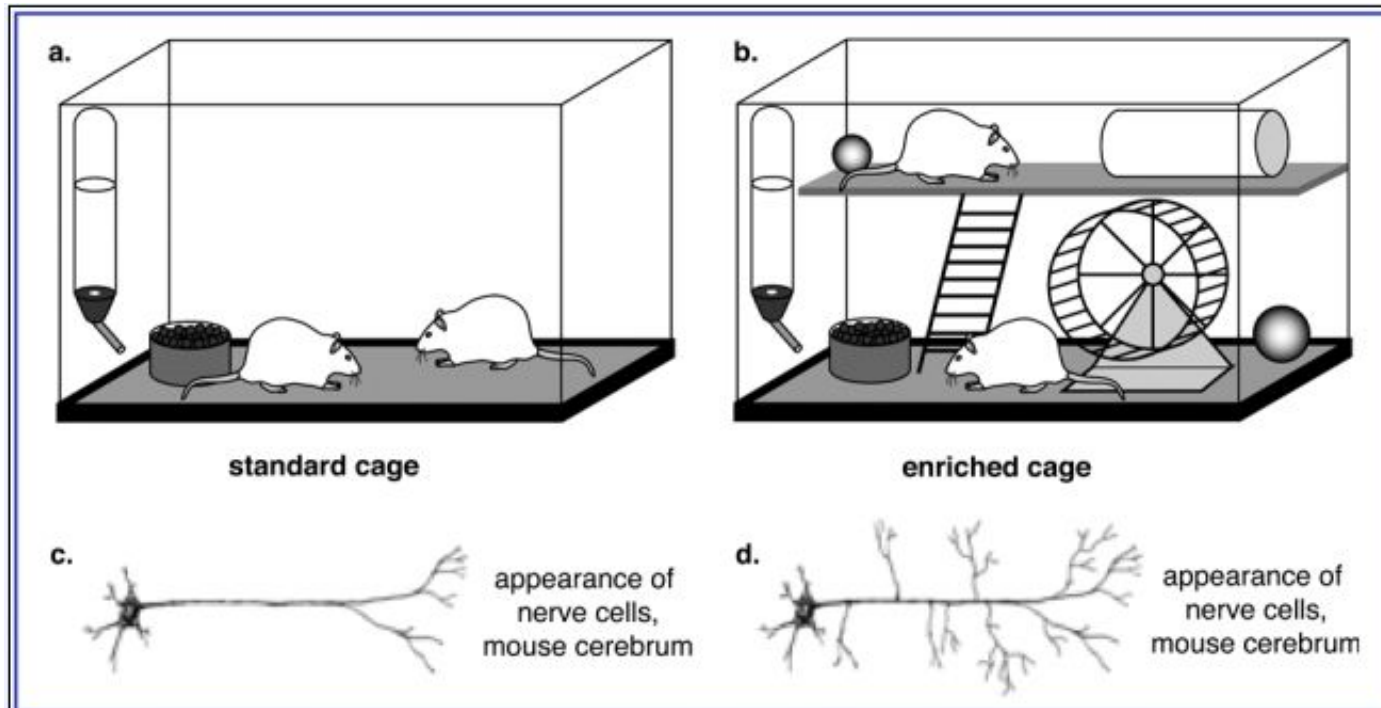




Review

On whether the environmental enrichment may provide cognitive and brain reserves

Laura Petrosini^{a,b,*}, Paola De Bartolo^{a,b}, Francesca Foti^{a,b}, Francesca Gelfo^{c,b}, Debora Cutuli^{a,b}, Maria Giuseppa Leggio^{a,b}, Laura Mandolesi^{c,b}



La riserva

Rethinking the Reserve with a Translational Approach: Novel Ideas on the Construct and the Interventions

L. Serra et al. / Novel Ideas on Reserve in Humans and Animals

1069



Fig. 1. Lifestyle enrichment indexes in humans and in animals. The panel represents the parallelism between the lifestyle enrichment indexes that are classically considered in humans (on the left) and the environmental enrichment variables that are manipulated in animal models (on the right).



La riserva

Journal of Alzheimer's Disease 28 (2012) 223-230
DOI 10.3233/JAD-2011-110377
IOS Press

223

Active Cognitive Lifestyle Associates with Cognitive Recovery and a Reduced Risk of Cognitive Decline

Riccardo E. Marioni^{a,*}, Ardo van den Hout^b, Michael J. Valenzuela^{c,d,e}, Carol Brayne^a, Fiona E. Matthews^b and MRC Cognitive Function and Ageing Study
Riccardo E. Marioni^{a,*}, Ardo van den Hout^b, Michael J. Valenzuela^{c,d,e}, Carol Brayne^a,
Fiona E. Matthews^b and MRC Cognitive Function and Ageing Study

Journal of Alzheimer's Disease 39 (2014) 833-839
DOI 10.3233/JAD-131808
IOS Press

Physical Activity Reduces the Risk of Dementia in Mild Cognitive Impairment Subjects: A Cohort Study

Giulia Grande^{a,b}, Nicola Vanacore^c, Laura Maggiore^a, Valentina Cucumo^a, Roberta Ghirelli^a, Daniela Galimberti^d, Elio Scarpini^d, Claudio Mariani^{a,b} and Francesca Clerici^{a,b,*}
Giulia Grande^{a,b}, Nicola Vanacore^c, Laura Maggiore^a, Valentina Cucumo^a, Roberta Ghirelli^a,
Daniela Galimberti^d, Elio Scarpini^d, Claudio Mariani^{a,b} and Francesca Clerici^{a,b,*}



Psychiatry Research 196 (2012) 90-95



Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect

Psychiatry Research

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/psychres



Cognitive activity, education and socioeconomic status as preventive factors for mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease

Christine Sattler, Pablo Toro, Peter Schönknecht, Johannes Schröder *

Section of Geriatric Psychiatry, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany

Christine Sattler, Pablo Toro, Peter Schönknecht, Johannes Schröder *

Christine Sattler, Pablo Toro, Peter Schönknecht, Johannes Schröder *

Cognitive activity, education and socioeconomic status as preventive factors for mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease



American Journal of Epidemiology

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Vol. 173, No. 9

DOI: 10.1093/aje/kwq476

Advance Access publication: March 4, 2011

Original Contribution

Cognitive Lifestyle and Long-Term Risk of Dementia and Survival After Diagnosis in a Multicenter Population-based Cohort

Michael Valenzuela*, Carol Brayne, Perminder Sachdev, Gordon Wilcock, and Fiona Matthews on Behalf of the Medical Research Council Cognitive Function and Ageing Study

Michael Valenzuela*, Carol Brayne, Perminder Sachdev, Gordon Wilcock, and Fiona Matthews on

Behalf of the Medical Research Council Cognitive Function and Ageing Study

Michael Valenzuela*, Carol Brayne, Perminder Sachdev, Gordon Wilcock, and Fiona Matthews on

La riserva

Education Mediates Microstructural Changes in Bilateral Hippocampus

Fabrizio Piras,^{1*} Andrea Cherubini,¹ Carlo Caltagirone,^{1,2} and Gianfranco Spalletta¹

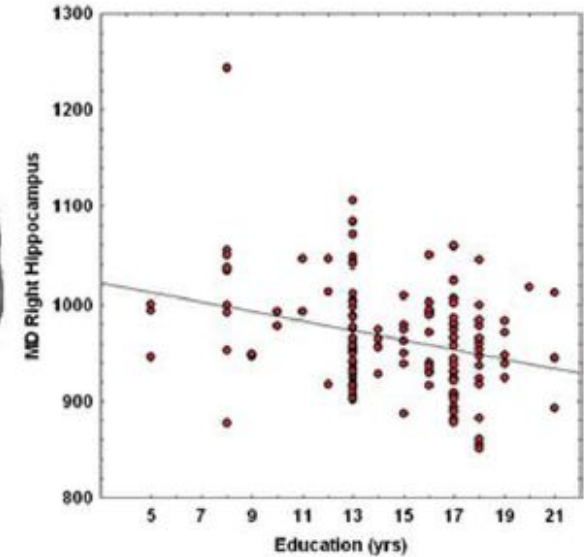
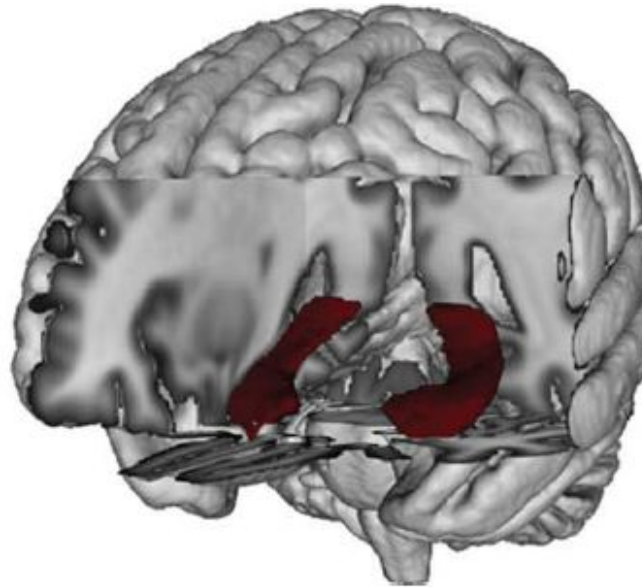
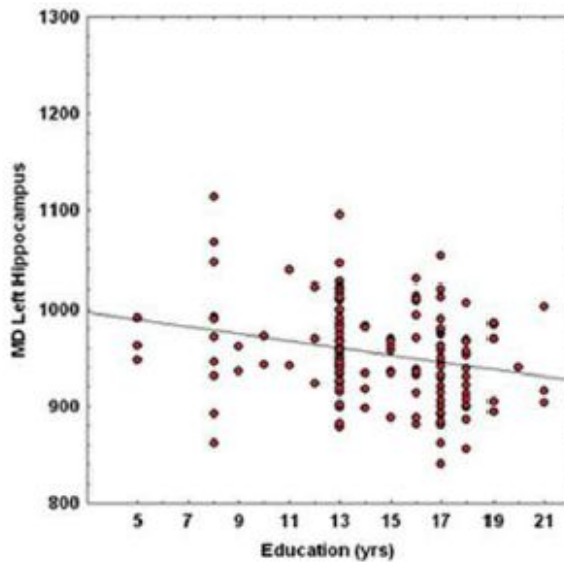
¹Fondazione Santa Lucia, Rome, Italy

²Dipartimento di Neuroscienze, Università Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy

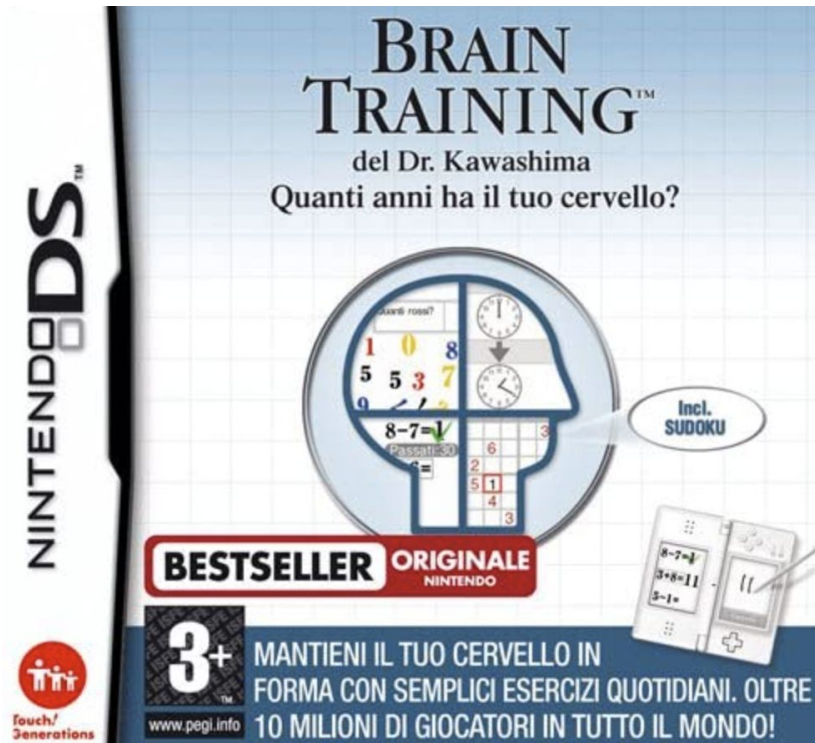
³Dipartimento di Neuroscienze, Università Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy

⁴Fondazione Santa Lucia, Rome, Italy

and Gianfranco Spalletta



IL BRAIN TRAINING

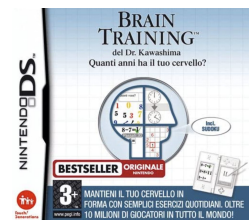


Ryuta Kawashima

2005: Nintendo rilascia Brain Training



IL BRAIN TRAINING



Calcolo 20 e Calcolo 100

operazioni (addizioni, sottrazioni e moltiplicazioni e divisioni)

Lettura opere

testi celebri da leggere nel minor tempo possibile.

Memoria lampo

Caselle con numeri che scompaiono

Contasillabe

fornire il numero di sillabe che compongono frasi

Contagente

quantificare le persone all'interno di un edificio contando ingressi e uscite

Calcolo plurimo

catena di operazioni da risolvere nel minor tempo possibile.

Calcolo del tempo

differenza temporale tra i quadranti di due orologi analogici



IL BRAIN TRAINING

Gamification:

utilizzo di elementi mutuati dai giochi e delle tecniche di creazione di giochi in contesti non ludici:

- Punti da accumulare;
- Livelli da raggiungere;
- Ricompense o doni da ottenere;
- Distintivi da esibire;



IL BRAIN TRAINING

Gamification:



Memorado - Giochi
Mentali

Mentali
Memorado - Giochi



Elevate - Brain
Training Games

Elevate - Brain



NeuroNation-Allena
la mente

la mente
NeuroNation-Allena



Peak - Brain Games
& Training



Einstein allena la mente
BBG Entertainment



CogniFit Giochi
Mentali



Evidenze:

Computerised cognitive training for 12 or more weeks for maintaining cognitive function in cognitively healthy people in late life (Review)

Gates NJ, Rutjes AWS, Di Nisio M, Karim S, Chong LY, March E, Martínez G, Vernooij RWM

Outcomes	Difference between CCT and control (95% CI) ^{a*}	No. of participants (studies)	Quality of the evidence (GRADE)	Comments
Global cognitive function measured at the end of the intervention period	Not reported using a validated measure			
Cognitive subdomain: episodic memory measured at the end of the intervention period (6 months)	MD 0.90 lower (1.73 lower to 0.07 lower)	150 participants (1 study)	⊕⊕○○ low^b	CCT may improve slightly episodic memory when compared to inactive control
Cognitive subdomain: speed of processing measured at the end of the intervention period (12 to 16 weeks)	SMD 0.28 lower (0.82 lower to 0.26 higher)	204 participants (2 studies)	⊕○○○ very low^c	It is uncertain whether CCT maintains speed of processing better than inactive control
Cognitive subdomain: executive functioning measured at the end of the intervention period (12 weeks to 6 months)	SMD 0.08 lower (0.31 lower to 0.15 higher)	292 participants (2 studies)	⊕⊕○○ low^b	CCT may lead to little or no improvement in executive functioning when compared to inactive control
Cognitive subdomain: working memory measured at the end of the intervention period (16 weeks)	MD 0.08 lower (0.43 lower to 0.27 higher)	60 participants (1 study)	⊕⊕○○ low^b	CCT may lead to little or no improvement in working memory when compared to inactive control
Cognitive subdomain: verbal fluency measured at the end of the intervention period (6 months)	MD 0.11 lower (1.58 lower to 1.36 higher)	150 participants (1 study)	⊕⊕○○ low^b	CCT may lead to little or no improvement in verbal fluency when compared to inactive control



Brain Training Game Boosts Executive Functions, Working Memory and Processing Speed in the Young Adults: A Randomized Controlled Trial

Rui Nouchi^{1,2*}, Yasuyuki Taki³, Hikaru Takeuchi¹, Hiroshi Hashizume³, Takayuki Nozawa¹, Toshimune Kambara^{2,4,5}, Atsushi Sekiguchi⁶, Carlos Makoto Miyachi⁶, Yuka Kotozaki¹, Haruka Nouchi¹, Ryuta Kawashima^{1,3,4}

Evidenze:

	Brain Age Group		Tetris Group		Results of ANCOVAs	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Effect size (η^2)	P-value
Fluid intelligence						
RAPMT (score)	3.44	(1.93)	2.53	(1.86)	0.08	0.126
Executive functions						
WCST (percentage of error response)	-2.38	(2.53)	-0.33	(1.62)	0.23	0.000
rST (score)	6.38	(8.24)	0.53	(5.10)	0.20	0.007
ST (score)	3.81	(3.41)	0.80	(1.76)	0.25	0.002
Working memory						
OpS (percentage of correct response)	0.15	(0.18)	0.06	(0.14)	0.15	0.003
LNS (score)	2.31	(2.24)	0.53	(1.82)	0.14	0.005
Ari (score)	1.75	(1.29)	0.47	(1.50)	0.21	0.008
Short-term memory						
DS-F (score)	0.63	(1.45)	1.00	(1.93)	0.00	0.626
DS-B (score)	0.25	(1.65)	0.13	(1.67)	0.00	0.923
SpS-F (score)	0.31	(2.39)	0.20	(1.87)	0.00	0.554
SpS-B (score)	0.31	(1.58)	0.27	(1.34)	0.00	0.863
Attention						
D-CAT (number)	2.00	(4.83)	1.33	(4.70)	0.00	0.690
SRT (ms)	-2.94	(18.42)	-16.56	(15.30)	0.10	0.012
Processing speed						
Cd (number)	8.63	(5.44)	2.40	(6.24)	0.23	0.006
SS (number)	3.81	(3.67)	0.67	(3.03)	0.24	0.004
Reading ability						
JART (score)	0.25	(1.00)	0.60	(1.50)	0.00	0.961
Visuo-spatial ability						
MR (ms)	-66.95	(243.82)	-339.39	(271.25)	0.18	0.003



Evidenze:

Enhancing Cognitive Functioning in Healthy Older Adults: a Systematic Review of the Clinical Significance of Commercially Available Computerized Cognitive Training in Preventing Cognitive Decline

Tejal M. Shah^{1,2,3} · Michael Weinborn^{1,2,4} · Giuseppe Verdile^{1,2,5} ·
Hamid R. Sohrabi^{1,2,3} · Ralph N. Martins^{1,2,3}

Abstract Successfully assisting older adults to maintain or improve cognitive function, particularly when they are dealing with neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer’s disease (AD), remains a major challenge. Cognitive training may stimulate neuroplasticity thereby increasing cognitive and brain reserve. Commercial brain training programs are computerized, readily-available, easy-to-administer and adaptive but often lack supportive data and their clinical validation literature has not been previously reviewed. Therefore, in this review, we report the characteristics of commercially available brain training programs, critically assess the number and quality of studies evaluating the empirical evidence of these programs for promoting brain health in healthy older adults, and discuss underlying causal mechanisms. We searched PubMed, Google Scholar and each program’s website for relevant studies reporting the effects of computerized cognitive training on cognitively healthy older adults. The evidence for each program was assessed via the number and quality (PEDro score) of studies, including Randomized Control Trials (RCTs).

Programs with clinical studies were subsequently classified as possessing Level I, II or III evidence. Out of 18 identified programs, 7 programs were investigated in 26 studies including follow-ups. Two programs were identified as possessing Level I evidence, three programs demonstrated Level II evidence and an additional two programs demonstrated Level III evidence. Overall, studies showed generally high methodological quality (average PEDro score = 7.05). Although caution must be taken regarding any potential bias due to selective reporting, current evidence supports that at least some commercially available computerized brain training products can assist in promoting healthy brain aging.

Keywords Computerized cognitive training · Brain training · Cognition · Dementia · Alzheimer’s disease

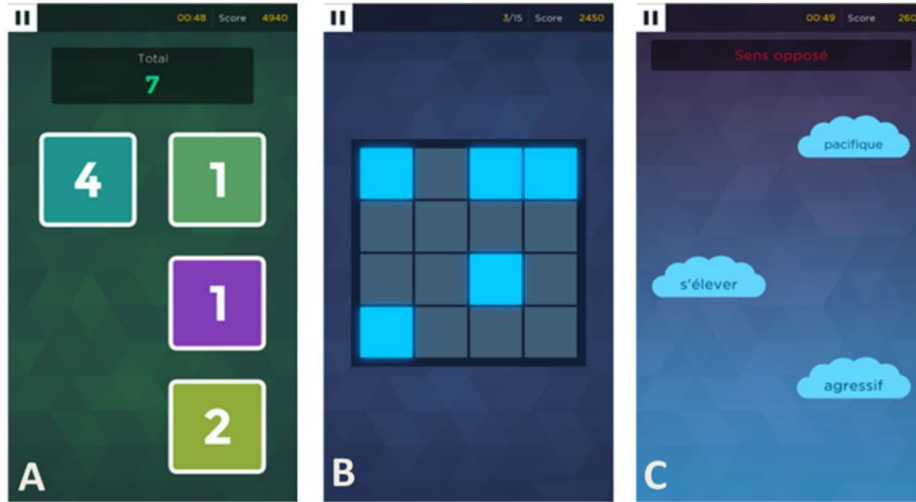
Introduction



Evidenze:

OPEN Brain training using cognitive apps can improve cognitive performance and processing speed in older adults

Bruno Bonnechère^{1,2,3}, Malgorzata Klass³, Christelle Langley² & Barbara Jacquelyn Sahakian²

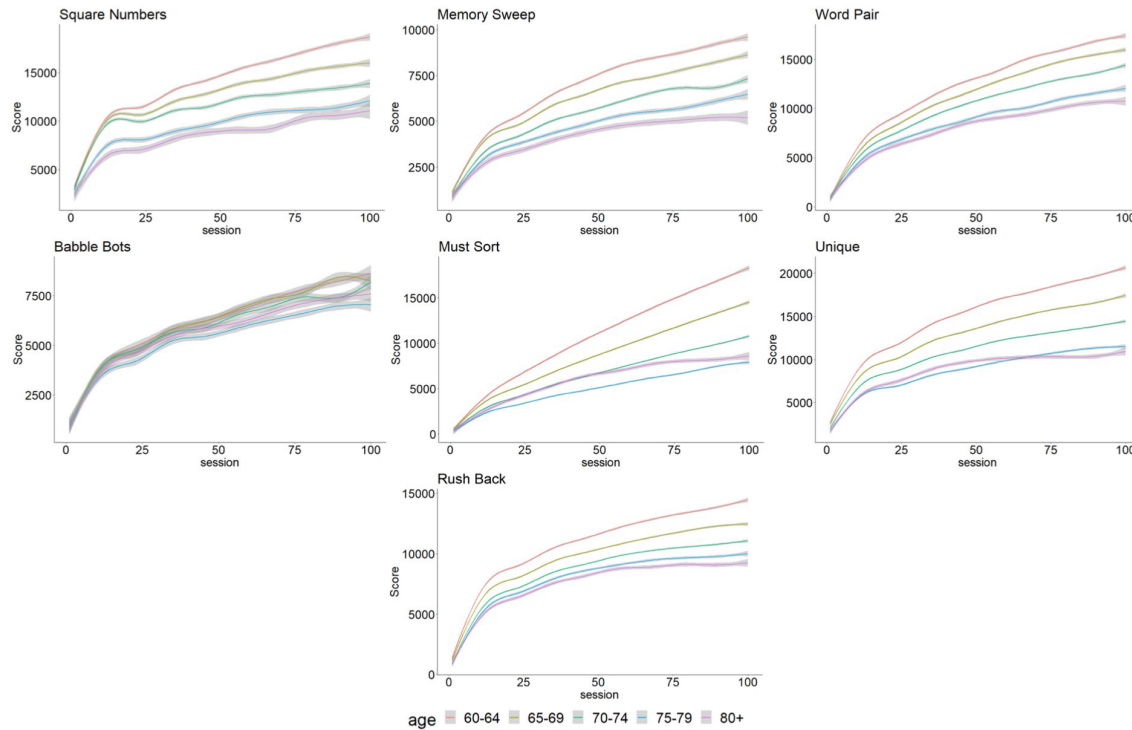


Evidenze:

OPEN Brain training using cognitive apps can improve cognitive performance and processing speed in older adults

Bruno Bonnechère^{1,2,3}, Malgorzata Klass³, Christelle Langley² & Barbara Jacquelyn Sahakian²

Age	Cognitive Mobile Games													
	Square Numbers		Memory Sweep		Word Pair		Babble Bots		Must Sort		Unique		Rush Back	
	n	Score	n	Score	n	Score	n	Score	n	Score	n	Score	n	Score
60-64	4863	16,735 [13,910]	3157	31,687 (6260)	3543	2460 [2310]	1006	4530 [7600]	3538	3392 [2019]	3558	3330 [3010]	3553	11,350 [10,550]
65-69	3591	16,600 [13,975]	2833	30,872 (6101)	3559	2460 [2095]	1015	4110 [8170]	3543	3205 [2160]	3569	3240 [3560]	3556	10,750 [11,200]
70-74	3312	14,485 [11,730]	1885	29,931 (5439)	3537	2460 [2360]	1012	3695 [6738]	3565	3005 [2280]	3048	2930 [3890]	3549	10,300 [11,050]
75-79	1034	14,442 [10,968]	726	29,246 (5408)	1345	1960 [2480]	1004	3020 [5772]	1421	2865 [2445]	1449	2910 [4740]	1330	9850 [10,600]
≥ 80	527	13,340 [12,205]	368	28,576 (5880)	723	1960 [2680]	1005	3530 [6010]	848	2758 [2742]	802	2610 [4150]	734	10,300 [10,738]



IL BRAIN TRAINING

Quali funzioni cognitive?



IL BRAIN TRAINING

Quali funzioni cognitive?

Attenzione: funzione cognitiva che regola l'attività dei processi mentali, filtrando ed organizzando le informazioni provenienti dall'ambiente allo scopo di emettere una risposta adeguata



IL BRAIN TRAINING

Quali funzioni cognitive?

Attenzione

Attenzione selettiva: capacità di concentrare l'attenzione su un'informazione in presenza di un stimoli interferenti



IL BRAIN TRAINING

Quali funzioni cognitive?

Attenzione

Attenzione selettiva: capacità di concentrare l'attenzione su un'informazione in presenza di un stimoli interferenti

Attenzione divisa: capacità di prestare attenzione a più stimoli simultaneamente (doppio compito)



IL BRAIN TRAINING

Quali funzioni cognitive?

Attenzione

Attenzione selettiva: capacità di concentrare l'attenzione su un'informazione in presenza di un stimoli interferenti

Attenzione divisa: capacità di prestare attenzione a più stimoli simultaneamente (doppio compito)

Attenzione sostenuta: prestare attenzione ad un'unica fonte di informazioni per un tempo prolungato.



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Quali funzioni cognitive?

Velocità di elaborazione: la velocità alla quale un individuo riesce a compiere semplici task mentali automatici o minimamente controllati



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Quali funzioni cognitive?

Funzioni esecutive: complesso sistema di moduli funzionali della mente, che regolano i processi di pianificazione, controllo e coordinazione del sistema cognitivo, e che governano l'attivazione e la modulazione di schemi e processi cognitivi



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Quali funzioni cognitive?

Funzioni esecutive

Inibizione: la capacità di ignorare gli stimoli distrattori, le informazioni irrilevanti o le risposte prepotenti ma errate, mantenendo lo scopo



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Quali funzioni cognitive?

Funzioni esecutive

Inibizione: la capacità di ignorare gli stimoli distrattori, le informazioni irrilevanti o le risposte prepotenti ma errate, mantenendo lo scopo

Flessibilità: la capacità di modificare il proprio comportamento in relazione ad un cambiamento delle richieste ambientali



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Quali funzioni cognitive?

Funzioni esecutive

Inibizione: la capacità di ignorare gli stimoli distrattori, le informazioni irrilevanti o le risposte prepotenti ma errate, mantenendo lo scopo

Flessibilità: la capacità di modificare il proprio comportamento in relazione ad un cambiamento delle richieste ambientali

Memoria di lavoro: sistema di immagazzinamento temporaneo, che mantiene una quantità limitata di informazioni in un tempo limitato, per consentirne l'utilizzo nell'immediato.



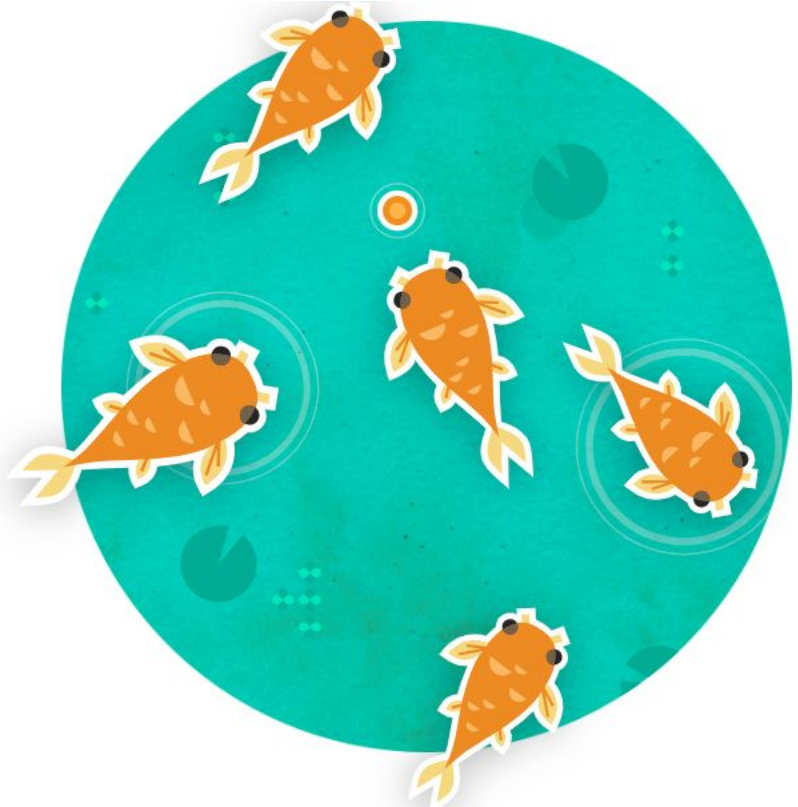
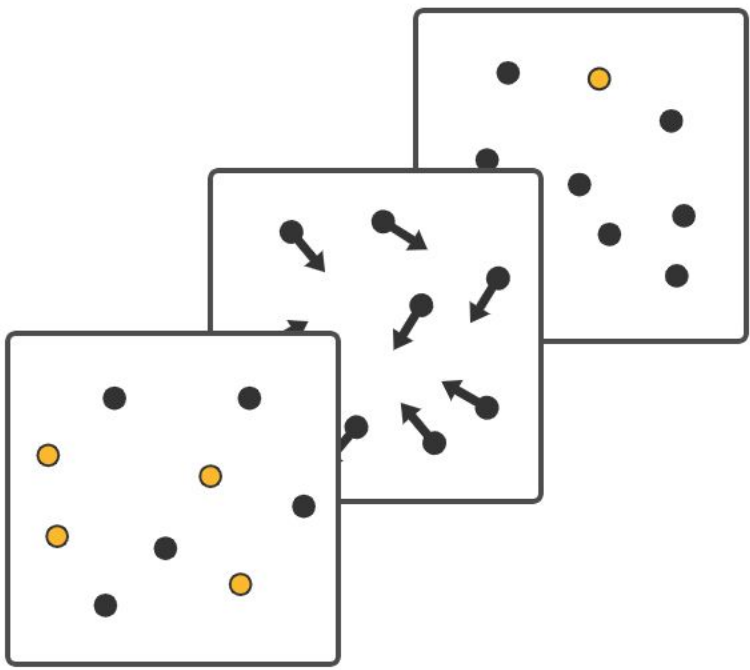
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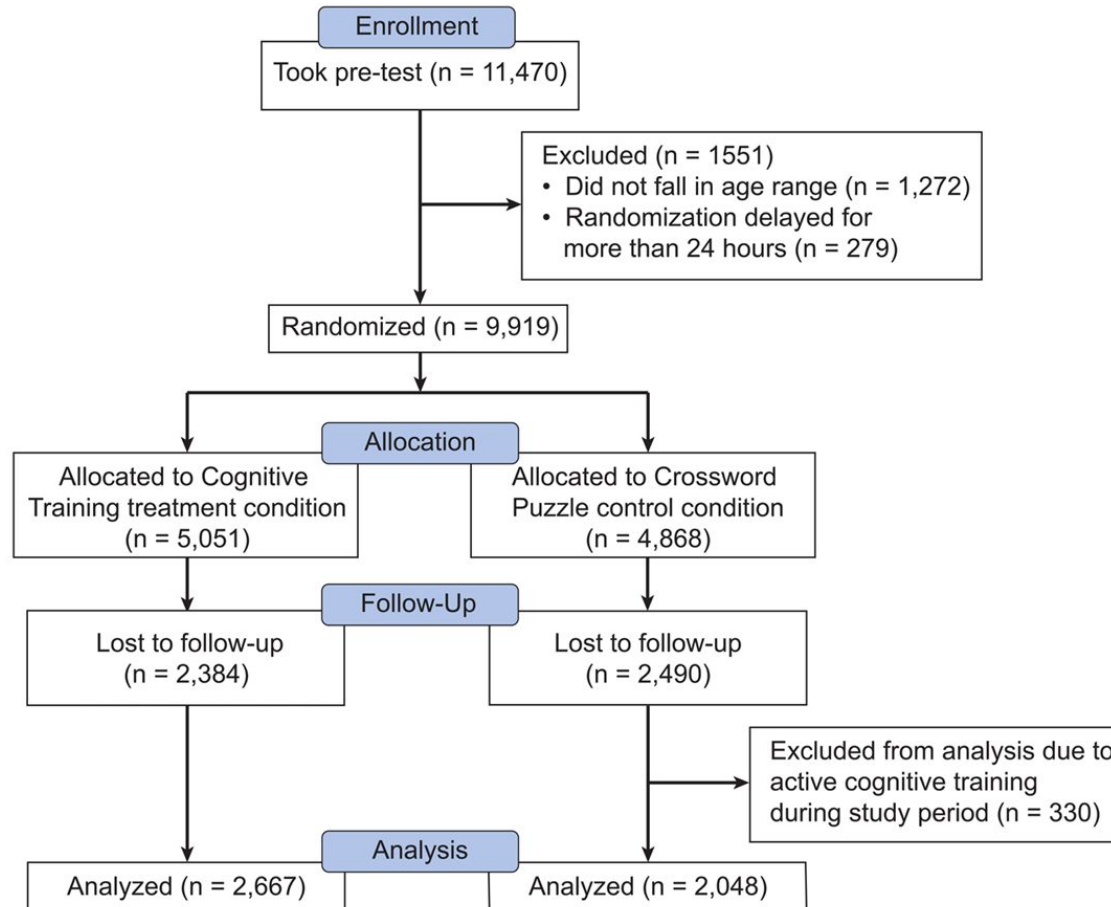
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Enhancing Cognitive Abilities with Comprehensive Training: A Large, Online, Randomized, Active-Controlled Trial

Joseph L. Hardy¹, Rolf A. Nelson², Moriah E. Thomason^{3,4}, Daniel A. Sternberg^{*1}, Kiefer Katovich¹, Faraz Farzin¹, Michael Scanlon¹

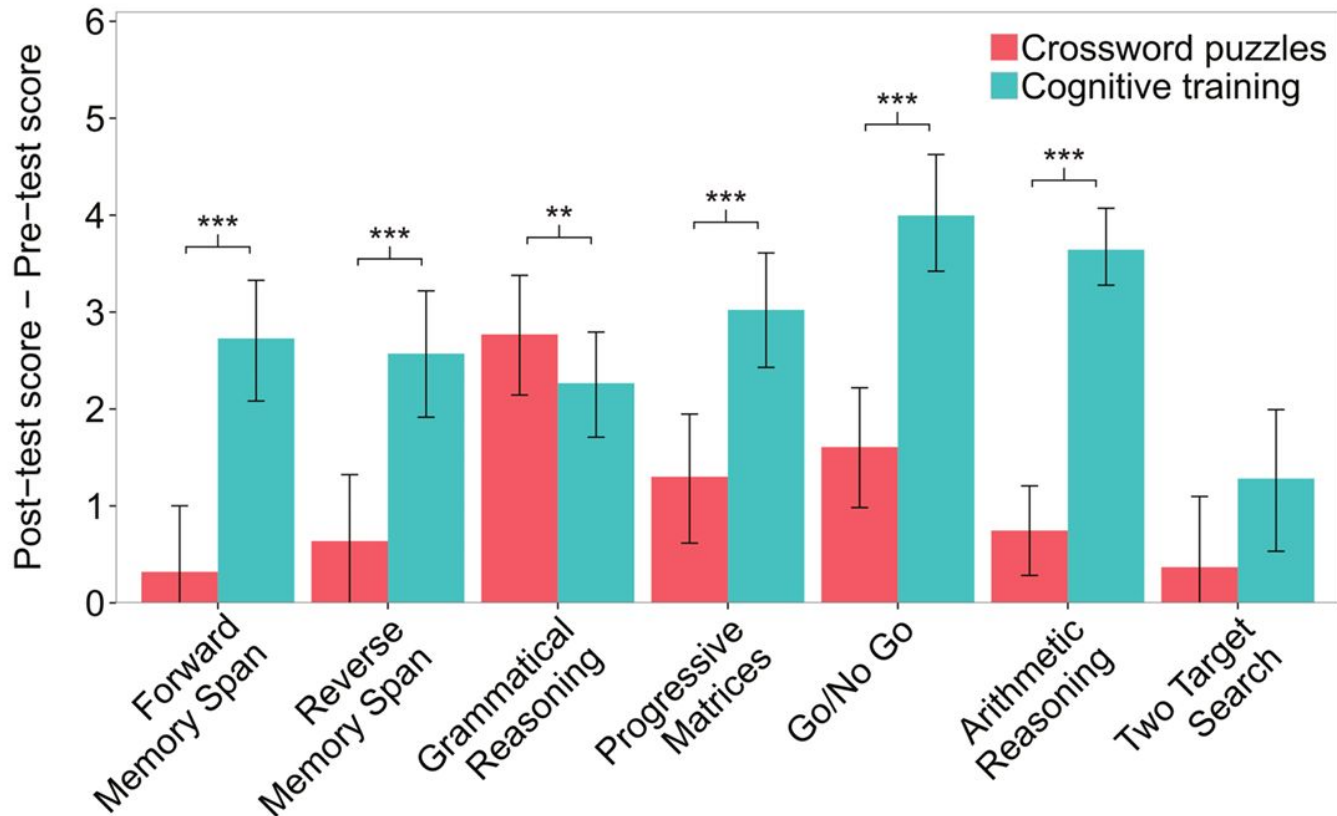
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OVERVIEW

FOR RESEARCHERS

PUBLISHED RESEARCH

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GRAZIE

MI STA
AUMENTANDO
L'AUTOSTIMA,
LUISA.

STAI
PERDENDO
LA MEMORIA.

