



Episodic Memory Feeling-of-Knowing in Early Demented Patients with Alzheimer's Disease

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Literature regarding whether the early demented patients with Alzheimer's disease (AD) have deficits in the feeling of knowing (FOK) function of episodic memory is scanty, and issues of whether these patients evidence executive dysfunction and of the underlying neuropsychological mechanism for FOK function have been controversial. The present study was thus made an attempt to explore these issues in questionably and mildly demented patients with AD. A total of 90 adult participants including, 30 questionably and 30 mildly demented patients with AD, and 30 normal healthy controls participated in this study. Each subject received a recall-judgment-recognition (RJR) paradigm task and a battery of neuropsychological tests, mainly including memory and executive function measures. The results revealed that

both questionably and mildly demented patients' performance on the FOK judgment task was significantly poorer than that of normal control counterparts, and these demented patients evidenced deficits of executive function other than memory impairment. Most of the demented patients with defective function of FOK also manifested impairments of memory and executive function. These results partially confirm findings evident in the literature, and we further suggest that deficits of both memory and executive function might account for the impairment of FOK in our demented patients.

Keywords: *Alzheimer Dementia, neuropsychological function, episodic memory, feeling-of-knowing.*

