

## Working Memory in Schizophrenia

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**INTRODUCTION:** Working memory refers to a restricted system for the temporary maintenance and information processing capacity. His exploration in patients with schizophrenia has been the subject of numerous studies on different types of people and using a wide range of cognitive tests

**OBJECTIVES:** Explore working memory in patients during the different phases of schizophrenia

**MATERIALS AND METHODS:** We enrolled 15 patients hospitalized for a first episode of schizophrenia and 15 hospitalized for schizophrenia according to DSM-IV. The control group consisted of 15 healthy participants matched group of patients by sex, age and educational level. Clinical evaluation was performed by the Positive and Negative Syndrome Scale. Working memory was assessed by the board Corsi for visuo-spatial span.

### RESULTS:

For first episode patients: The average age was 26.8 years. The average number of years of education is 10.13 years. The score on the general psychopathology scale of the PANSS was 38.5. The score at the Direct Span is 4.13. The score Span Indirect is 3.2.

For multi-episodes patients: The average age was 38.1 years. The average years of education is 8.53 years. The score on the overall scale of the PANSS psychopathology is 43.13. The score at the Direct Span is 3.2. The score in Indirect Span is 2.06.

**CONCLUSION:** In recent years, the cognitive dimension in schizophrenia has been increasing interest. Cognitive deficits observed in patients with schizophrenia are better recognized, tracked and taken into account in the pharmacological and psychosocial treatment of the disease