



Target Area: Anxiety, Depression, Stress & Adjustment / Communication, Language & Speech Disorders / Independent & Self Care ADL / Quality of Life

<p>Chapman, Weiner, Rackley, Hynan & Zientz (2004). <i>Effects of Cognitive-Communication Stimulation for Alzheimer's Disease Patients Treated with Donepezil</i>. <i>Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research</i> 47(5):1149-1163.</p>	<p>PEDro score - 6/10</p>
<p>Method/Results</p>	<p>Rehabilitation Program</p>
<p>Design:</p> <p>Y Studytype: RCT.</p> <p>Y Population: n=54 participants with mild to moderate Alzheimers Disease (AD), M=54-91 years, 46% male. Participants were fluent in English, living at home, and aware of their diagnosis.</p> <p>Y Groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Combined cognitive stimulation and donepezil (n=26). 2. Donepezil only group (n=28). <p>Y Setting: Not stated (although all participants were residing at home).</p> <p>Primary outcome measure/s:</p> <p>Y Composite discourse score.</p> <p>Y Texas Functional Living Scale (TFLS).</p> <p>Y Neuropsychiatric Inventory (NPI).</p> <p>Y Quality of life questionnaire.</p> <p>Y Clinician Interview-Based Impression of Change.</p> <p>Secondary outcome measure/s:</p> <p>Y None.</p> <p>Result: Significant group x time effects were found for the combined group regarding improvements in emotional symptoms of apathy and irritability, and patient-reported quality of life. Although the combined group showed improved discourse scores, compared with a decline in the control group, the group differences were not significant.</p>	<p>Aim: To enhance the relevance of discourse, performance of functional abilities, emotional symptoms, quality of life and overall global function.</p> <p>Materials: None specified.</p> <p>Treatment plan:</p> <p>Y Duration: 12 hrs over 8 weeks.</p> <p>Y Procedure: 8 weekly sessions of 1.5hrs each.</p> <p>Y Content: The cognitive stimulation group was divided into subgroups of 6-7 participants. Sessions were run by a speech pathologist/ intern speech pathologists. Activities focused on conversational interaction rather than practice or drills, and included participant-led discussions requiring homework, interactive sessions about AD, and discussions using salient life stories.</p>