

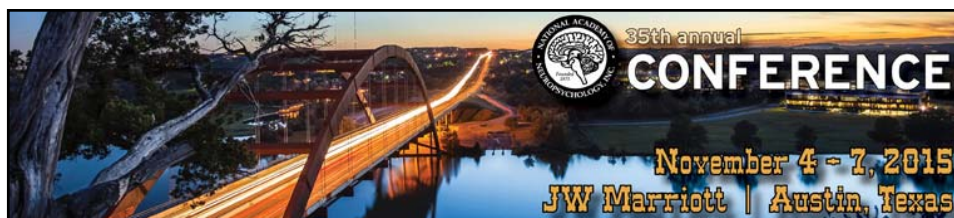
## Pediatric Grand Rounds

Ashlee Loughan PhD

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Renee Lajiness-O'Neill PhD, Christine Salinas PhD,  
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## Financial Disclosure

**The presenters, discussants and I have no  
financial relationships to disclose.**




# Megalencephaly-Capillary Malformation Polymicrogyria (M-CAP): A Case Study

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35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the National Academy of Neuropsychology, Austin, TX



## Objectives


- **M-CAP**
  - Diagnostic Criteria
  - Identifiable Characteristics
  - Literature
  - Treatment
- **Case Study**
  - Demographics
  - History
  - Evaluation Results
  - Recommendations




## Demographics

- Rare syndrome first described in 1997
  - Multiple name changes given defining characteristics (M-CMTC, M-CM, M-CAP)
  - In 2012, Genetic mutation identified in gene PIK3CA
  - Mutation is thought to always occur after cell division begins - de novo mutation
- Website Registry = 181 cases
 

Age	# Registered
0-2 yrs	32
3-10 yrs	100
11-18 yrs	37
18+ yrs	12
- Literature Reports = 150 cases
- Across genders
- Across ethnicities



<http://works-progress.com/portfolio/m-cm-network/>




## Diagnostic Criteria

- Proposed Clinical Criteria for Diagnosis (Martínez-Glez et al., 2010)

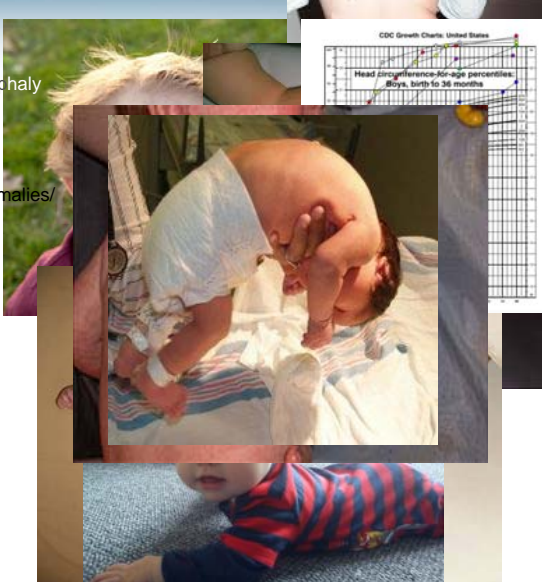
Major Criteria (requires 3)	Minor Criteria (requires 2)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Macrocephaly *</li> <li>Capillary malformation(s) *</li> <li>Overgrowth/asymmetry *</li> <li>Neuroimaging alterations:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ventriculomegaly *</li> <li>Cavum septum pellucidum or cavum septum vergae</li> <li>Cerebellar tonsillar herniation</li> <li>Cerebral and/or cerebellar asymmetry *</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Midline facial capillary malformation</li> <li>Neonatal hypotonia</li> <li>Syndactyly/polydactyly *</li> <li>Connective tissue abnormalities</li> <li>Frontal bossing</li> <li>Hydrocephalus *</li> <li>Developmental delay *</li> </ul>

Martínez-Glez et al. were able to diagnose 94% of 136 previously reported cases using their criteria.


## Identifiable Characteristics



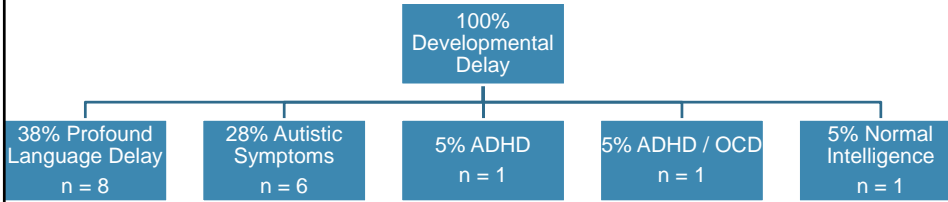
- **Macrocephaly**  
<http://undiagnosed.org.uk/archives/tag/macrocephaly>  
<http://www.m-cm.net/>
- **Capillary Malformation(s)**  
<http://www.saintluc.be/en/services/vascular-anomalies/>
- **Overgrowth / Asymmetry**  
<https://www.edmcasereports.com/>  
<http://www.m-cm.net>
- **Neonatal Hypotonia**  
<http://autism.wikia.com/wiki/Hypotonia>
- **Syndactyly / Polydactyly**  
<https://www.m-cm.net>  
<http://www.wikipedia.org>



## Literature




- Limited cognitive / neuropsychological data
- Most studies suggest developmental delays ranging from mild to moderate impairment
- For example: Mirzaa et al. (2012) examined 21 MCAP children



```

graph TD
    A[100% Developmental Delay] --> B[38% Profound Language Delay  
n = 8]
    A --> C[28% Autistic Symptoms  
n = 6]
    A --> D[5% ADHD  
n = 1]
    A --> E[5% ADHD / OCD  
n = 1]
    A --> F[5% Normal Intelligence  
n = 1]
    
```




## Literature Cont...

- **Important Note:**
  - To date, MCAP does not appear to be a condition associated with regression or decline in a person's cognitive functioning; unless an exacerbation of neuropathological processes occurs.
  - Children with MCAP are expected to make slow progress developmentally.
  - However, most children with this disorder continue to be consistently behind their peers in both academic and functional abilities.


**CHALLENGE**

**This diverse presentation proves to be an obstacle when trying to identify cognitive or behavioral patterns in MCAP.**




## Treatment

Currently, there is no cure for M-CAP




**Treatment varies depending on a multitude of factors including the presence and severity of specific impairments**




## CASE STUDY

- Frances “Franny” Brown
- Diagnosed with M-CAP at age 4 months
- Referral
  - Global delays
  - Reported inattention
  - Recent academic deficits / regression





<b>Gender</b>	Female
<b>Age</b>	7
<b>Education</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> grade public education
<b>Handedness</b>	Right
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Caucasian
<b>Socioeconomic Status</b>	Upper Middle Class
<b>Parental Education</b>	Bachelors Degree



## Developmental History


- Prenatal history uncomplicated
- Upon delivery, presented with
  - Cutis marmorata
  - Port wine stains
  - Large head (95<sup>th</sup> percentile – then “off the chart”)
  - Feet malformations
- Genetic testing - none
- All developmental milestones delayed
- Continued motor deficits





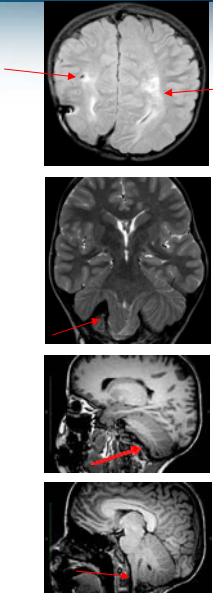
## Medical History

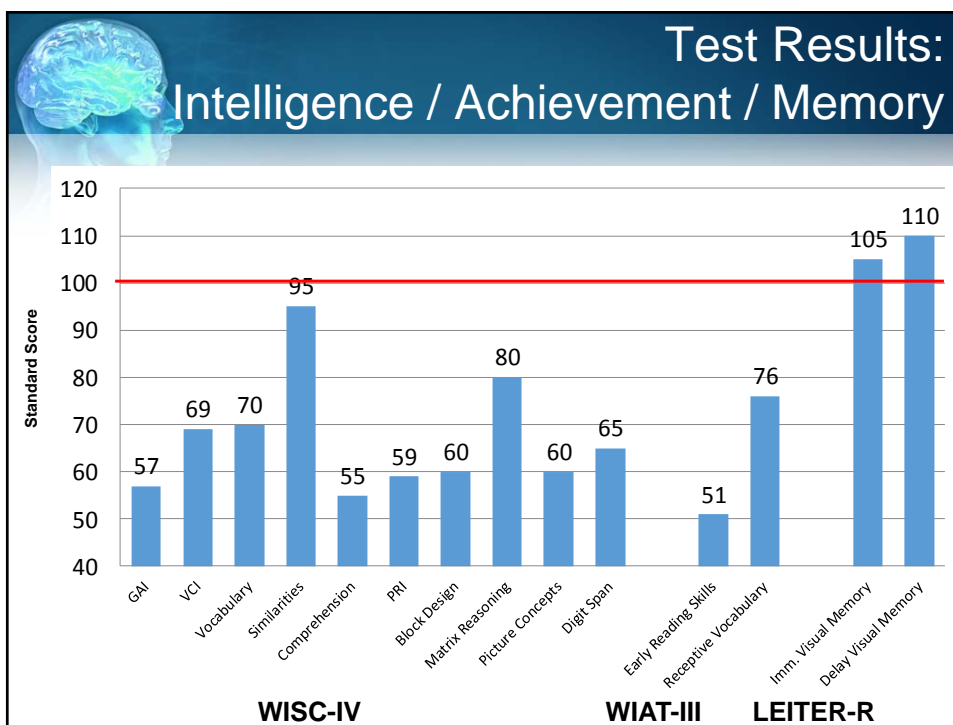
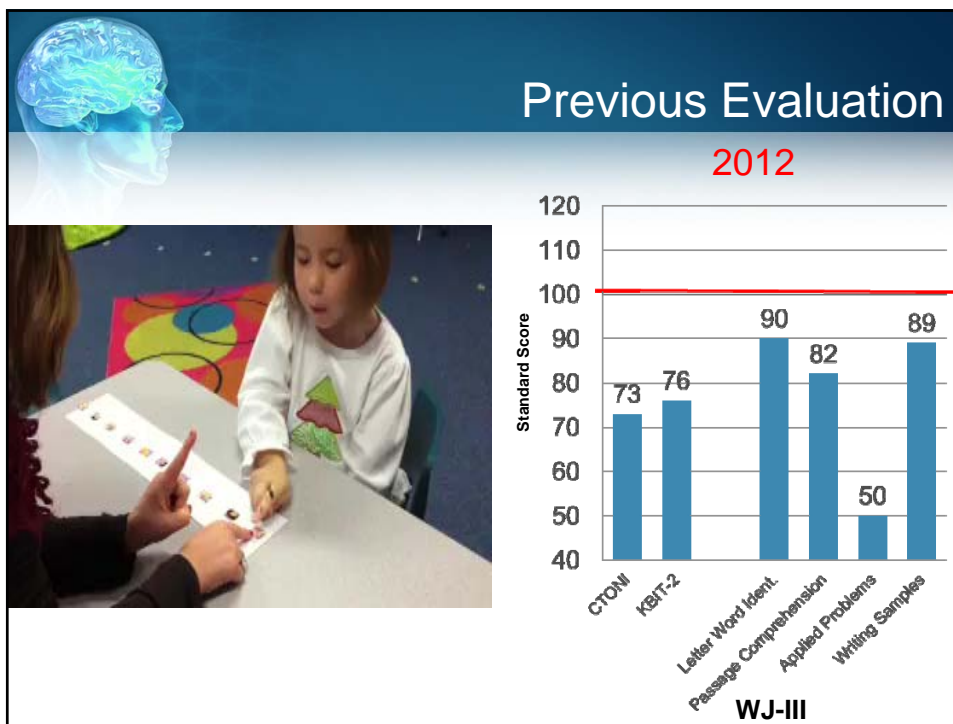
- **Macrocephaly \*\***
- **Hemihyperplasia \*\***
- **Capillary malformations \*\***
- Headaches
- **Hydrocephalus \***
- Partial complex seizures (age 2 ½)
- **Syndactyly / polydactyly \***
- Muscle spasms
- Bladder incontinence
- Chronic ear infections
  - Comorbid hearing impairment
  - Currently wears hearing aids in both ears
- Surgery History (to date):
  - Ventriculoperitoneal shunt
    - (2 revisions)
  - Fourth ventricle shunt
    - (1 revision)
  - Tonsillectomy
  - Adenoidectomy
  - Spinal fenestration of an arachnoid cyst
  - Chiari decompressions (3)
  - Spinal shunt
    - (1 revision)
- Medications
  - Keppra, Trileptal, prevacid



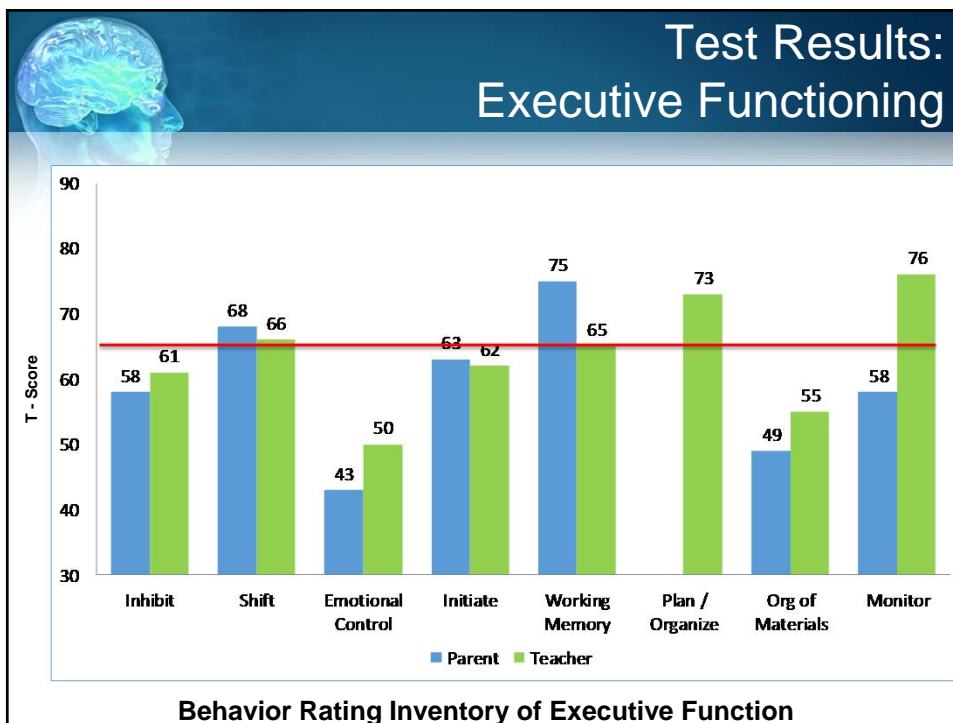
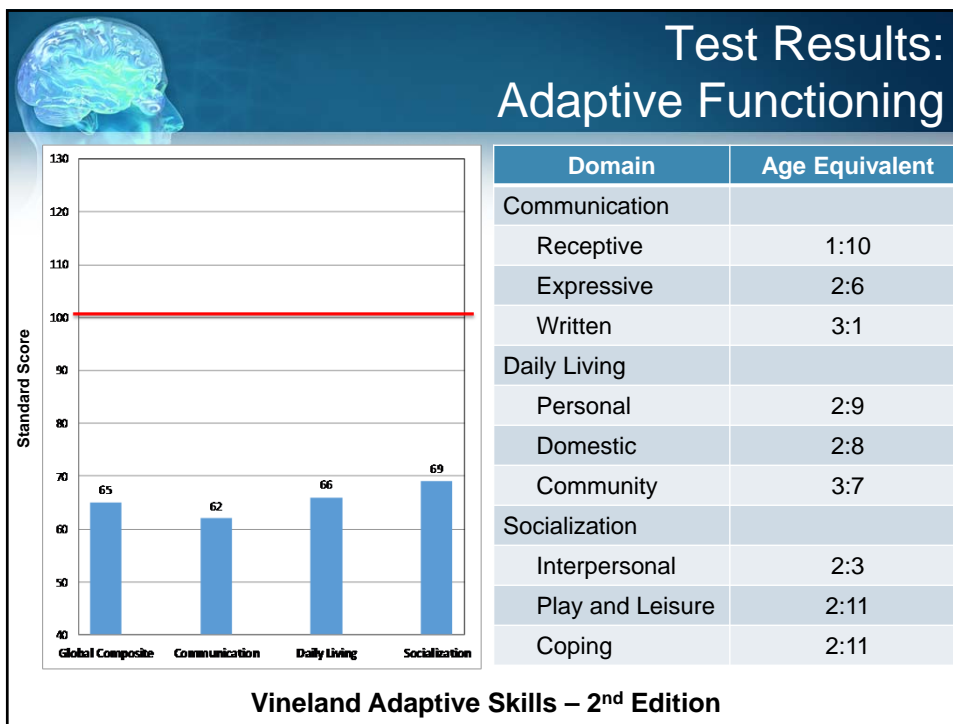
## Medical History

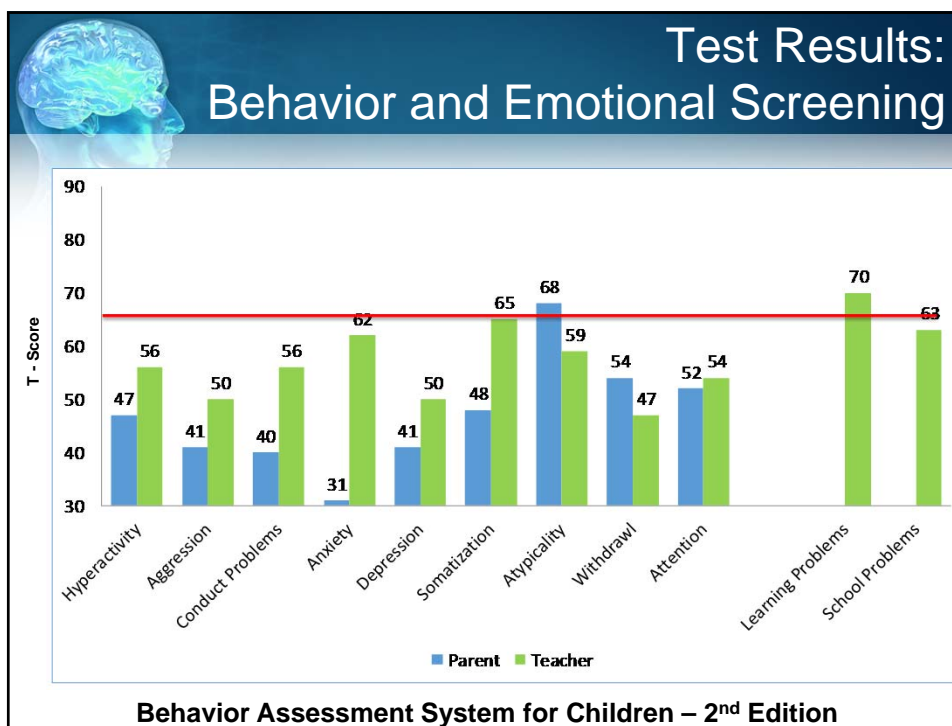
- **Neuroimaging (MRI) Findings:**
  - Brain asymmetry / left hemimegalencephaly
  - Hydrocephalus (shunt placements)
  - Chiari malformations
  - Distortion of cerebellar hemisphere
  - White matter signal hyperintensities














## Interpretation / Take Home

- Consistent with MCAP literature, Franny presented with multiple neurologic complications which should raise concerns and can impact cognitive development
- Testing demonstrated global developmental delays and many cognitive deficits
- Significant strength was evident in Frannys visual memory
- Most concerning was that cognitive performance had declined  
**NOT TYPICAL**
- Comorbid hearing impairment made for additional challenges




## Recommendations

- Educational Placement
  - Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
  - Hearing impaired specialist for teacher
  - Instruction should take place in a 1-on-1
  - Integration into general education
  - Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy
- Neurology Consultation
  - Urgent given regression
- Cognitive and Academic Recommendations:
  - Implement visual instruction / learning
  - Make learning meaningful
  - Focus on functionality
  - Repetition is key
  - Provide a structured and explicit learning environment
  - Attention
  - Reading
  - Rewards plan
- Neuropsychological Re-Evaluation.
  - Annually

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## Questions and Discussion

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## Neuropsychological Profile of Pediatric Pseudotumor Cerebri Syndrome: A Case Study

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<sup>2</sup>The University of Kansas Medical School- Wichita



## Introduction

- Pseudotumor cerebri syndrome (PCS) is a progressive disorder marked by increased intracranial pressure without a known cause.
- A rare disorder in children, particularly prior to the age of 11
- Research on PCS related cognitive deficits have almost exclusively investigated adults.
- This presentation will provide a case study of childhood PCS

## Pseudotumor Cerebri Syndrome (PCS)

### Symptoms

- Mimics sx of brain tumor
- Headache
- Papilledema
- Blurred vision
- Increased CSF pressure

### Course

- Develops over weeks or months
- Absence of enlarged ventricles or a mass
- Most common in obese adult women of childbearing age

### Treatment

- Lumbar-peritoneal shunting
- Lumbar puncture
- Corticosteroids
- Weight reduction

## Previous Literature

- Limited research into cognitive implications of PCS
  - Adult studies ranging from 20y – 56y, with one 15yo included
  - Almost exclusively female
- Most common findings
  - General verbal deficits in language, memory, and fluency
  - General memory deficits
  - Executive dysfunction and poor cognitive flexibility
  - Slowed processing speed and reaction time
  - Visual-spatial deficits
- Most patients do not show cognitive improvement, despite treatment
- No patients show evidence of brain damage/malformation on CT/MRI to indicate cause of impairment

## Case study: 12-year-old female “K”

### Reason for Referral

- Memory difficulties
- Academic difficulties
- Impaired sense of time
- Impaired hygiene
- Fatigue and poor sleep

### Demographics

- 6<sup>th</sup> grade with 504 plan
- Right-handed
- PCS diagnosed in 2011 (9yo)
  - Papilledema
  - Daily headaches
- BMI – 97<sup>th</sup> percentile

### Developmental history

- Unremarkable pregnancy/birth
- Milestones achieved within normal limits
- Medical history unremarkable

### Current medical issues



- Optic Nerve Drusen w/papilledema
- 1-2 headaches per month
- Snoring and daytime sleepiness
- No prescribed medications
- Unremarkable MRI/MRV (repeat studies)

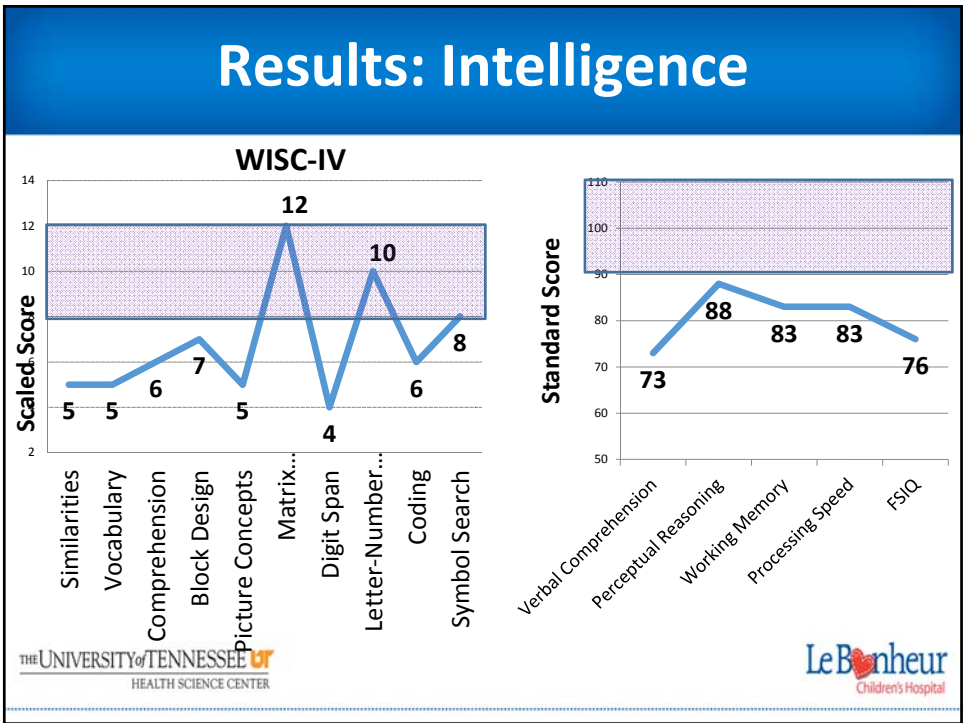
### Surgical history

- Strabismus 2013, 2014
- Lumbar peritoneal shunt 2013

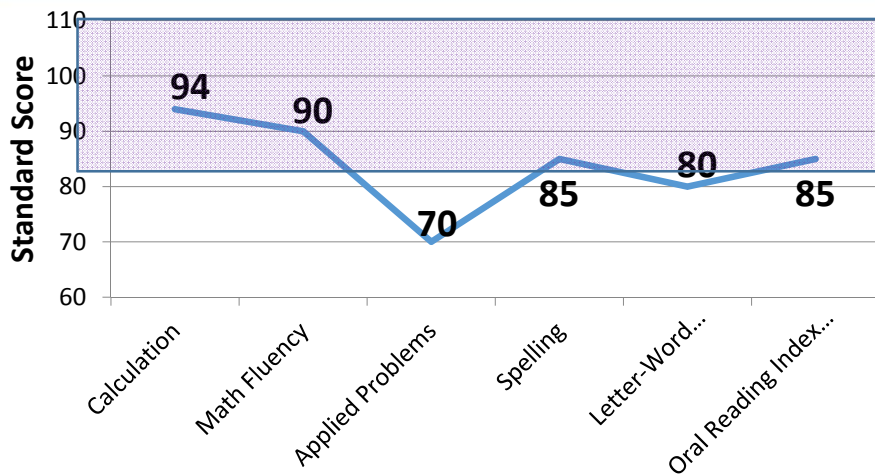
## Tests Administered

Domain	Tests
Intelligence	Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, Fourth Edition (WISC-IV)
Academic Achievement	Woodcock-Johnson Tests of Achievement, Third Edition (WJ-III) Gray Oral Reading Tests, Fifth Edition (GORT-5)
Language	Boston Naming Test Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test, Fourth Edition (PPVT-4) Expressive Vocabulary Test, Second Edition (EVT-2)
Motor	Grooved Pegboard Test
Visuoperceptual	Benton Judgment of Line Orientation (JLO) Beery Developmental Test of Visual Perception Beery Developmental Test of Visual-Motor Integration (VMI)
Memory	Test of Memory and Learning, Second Edition (TOMAL-2) Rey-Osterrieth Complex Figure Test (RCFT)
Executive Functioning	Delis-Kaplan Executive Function System (D-KEFS) Wisconsin Card Sorting Test (WCST)
Behavior and adaptive functioning	Adaptive Behavior Assessment System, Second Edition (ABAS-II) Behavior Rating Inventory of Executive Function (BRIEF) Behavior Assessment System for Children, Second Edition (BASC-2)



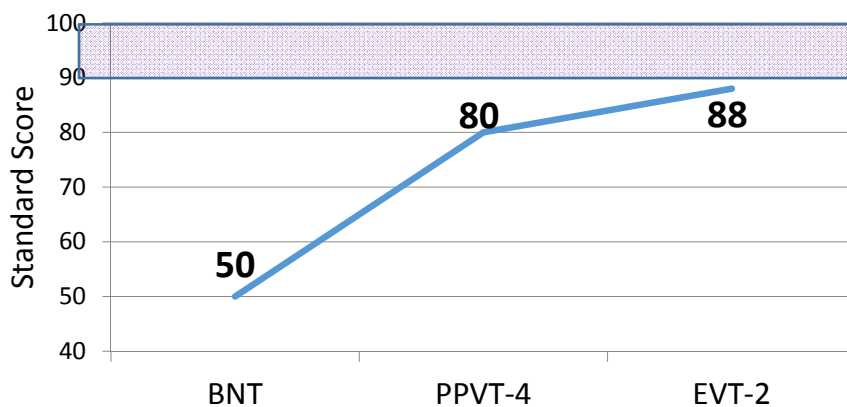
## Results: Academic Achievement



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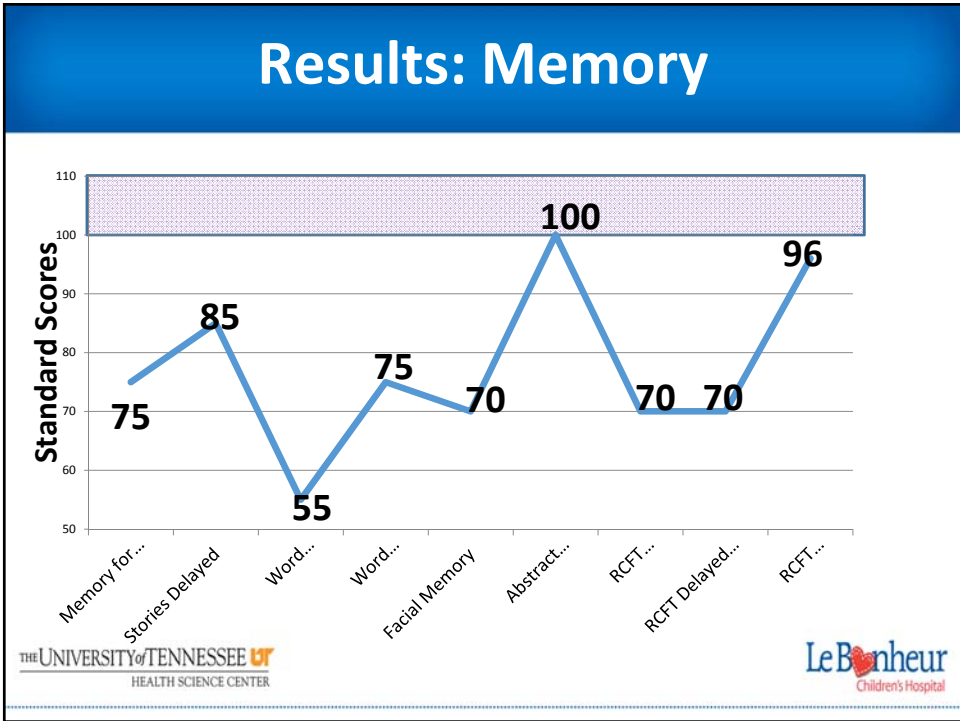
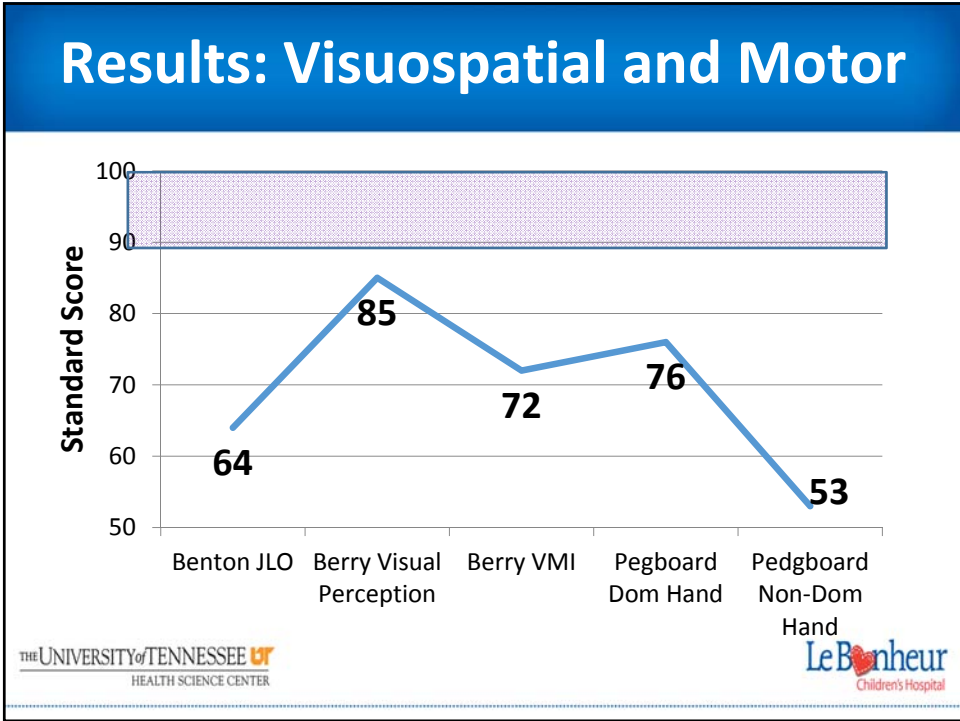
## Results: Language



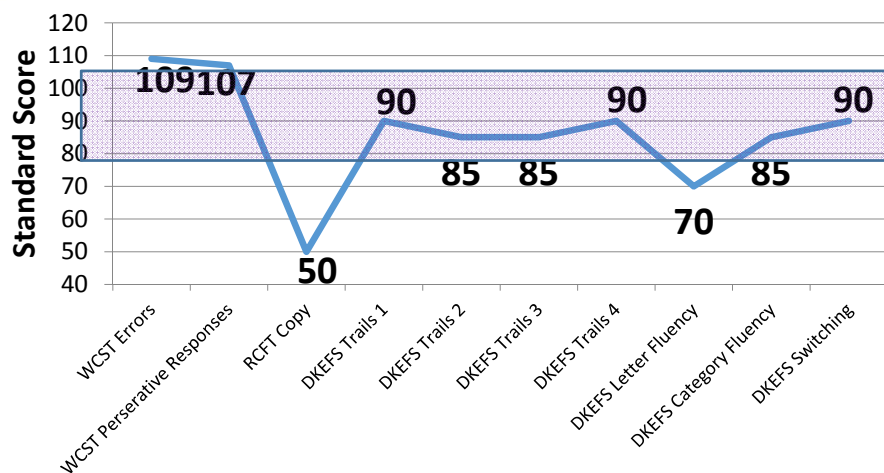
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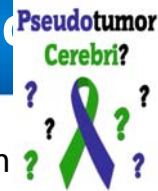
## Results: Executive Functioning



## Impressions

- Overall borderline impaired intellectual functioning and mildly impaired adaptive functioning
- Diffuse impairment in multiple areas of functioning
  - Comprehension
  - Memory across domains
  - Visual-perception and visual-construction
  - Motor speed/coordination
  - Confrontational visual naming/word retrieval
- Pockets of preserved cognition

## Treatment Recommendations



- Changes to modifications/accommodations on implementation of IEP
- Strategies for slow learners emphasizing dividing tasks in to smaller units, repetition with frequent practice
- Use of visual memory aids and routines to maintain consistency
- Mathematics tutoring and reading comprehension intervention
- Chart system for hygiene
- Referral to the Sleep Disorders Clinic

## Case in Context

- In comparison to previous literature
  - Pattern of deficits were largely consistent with previous literature.
  - Particularly notable is her Borderline IQ with greater deficits in Verbal Comprehension – many adults did not have general impairments in IQ
- Relevance to field
  - Although some view PCS as a “benign” condition, our findings suggest that diffuse cognitive deficits and impaired functioning are likely and will require intervention
  - Will the condition become more prevalent in children as childhood obesity rises?

## Questions



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## References

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## **The Princess and the P-Value: Functional Neurological Symptoms and Rare Neuroimmunological Disease**

Alison Wilkinson-Smith, Ph.D., ABPP  
Benjamin Greenberg, M.D.

Dallas, Texas

Privileged and Confidential

## **The Need for Collaboration**

- Pediatric neuroimmunology is a rapidly changing field with many unknowns.
- Functional neurological symptoms are also poorly understood in children, and often considered only when medical causes are ruled out.
- This case highlights the need for collaboration between neuropsychologists and neurologists.



Dallas, Texas

Privileged and Confidential

42

## Demographics and Reason for Referral

- Kate: 12 year old Caucasian girl with suspected autoimmune encephalitis
- Normal early history until onset of symptoms two years ago
- Withdrew from rigorous private school in order to homeschool
- Participation in competitive gymnastics league
- Only child, living with both parents
- Family history noncontributory

## Symptoms

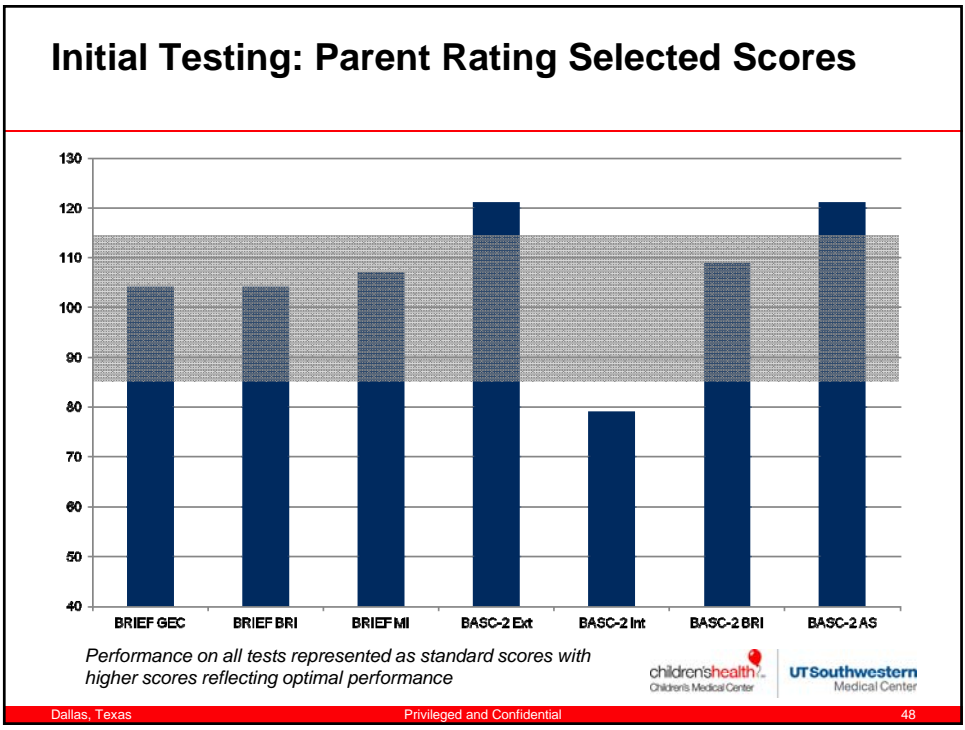
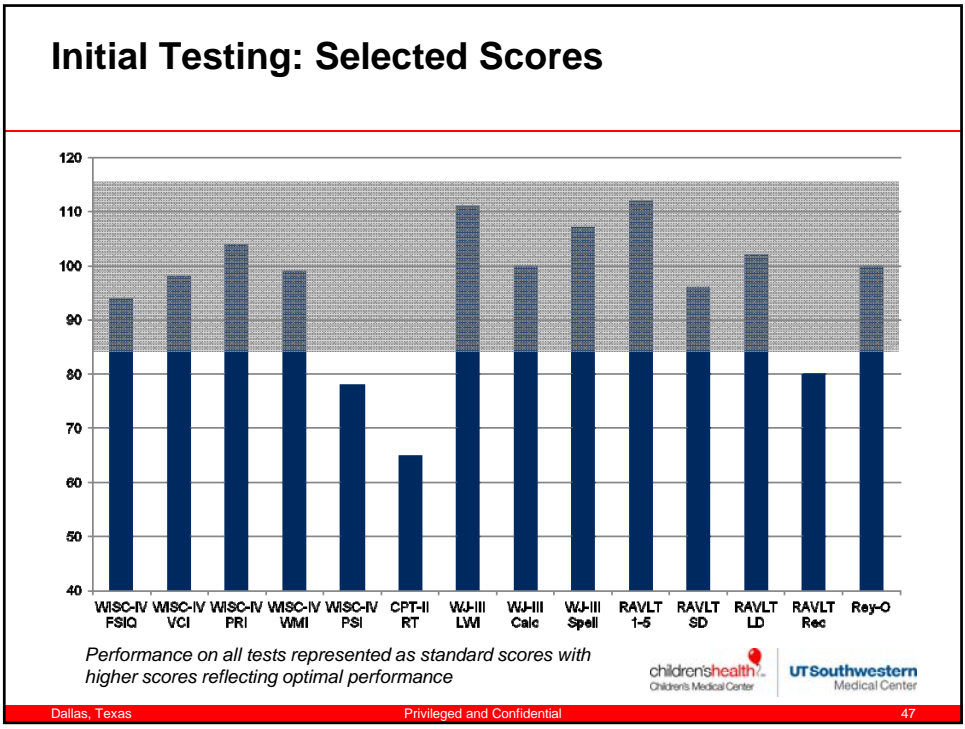
- “Disney Princess” voice and mannerisms appeared following strep throat infection
- Approximately six months later developed additional neurological symptoms following urinary tract infection and flu mist vaccine
  - Dilated pupils
  - Agitation
  - Repetitive and tic-like behaviors
  - Dizziness
  - Headaches
  - Cognitive changes (memory, math, “brain fog”)
  - Slurred/pressured speech
  - “Emotional fatigue”
- Symptoms worsened and she was “almost comatose”

## Medical Evaluations and Testing

- Multiple previous specialists
  - Neurology
  - Gastroenterology
  - Psychiatry
  - Infectious Disease
  - Chiropractic
  - Applied Behavior Analysis
  - Complementary and Alternative Medicine
- Negative strep titres
- Normal MRI of the brain
- Normal EEG
- **Abnormal CSF results**
  - **Elevated interleukin 6 and 8**
  - **S100B of unclear significance**

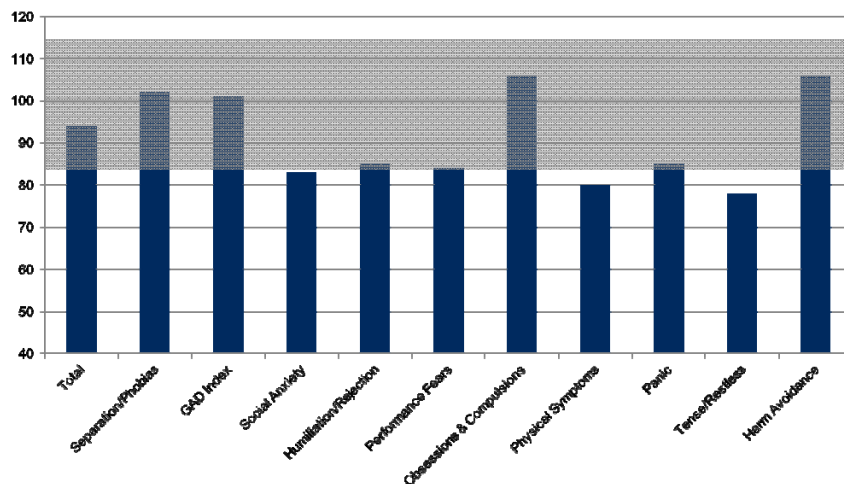
## Treatments

- Injection of rocephin (symptom improvement for 24 hours)
- Intravenous immunoglobulin (brief improvement)
- Plasmapheresis (brief improvement)
- Scheduled to undergo additional intravenous immunoglobulin treatments





## Initial Testing: Self-Report MASC-2



Performance on all tests represented as standard scores with higher scores reflecting optimal performance

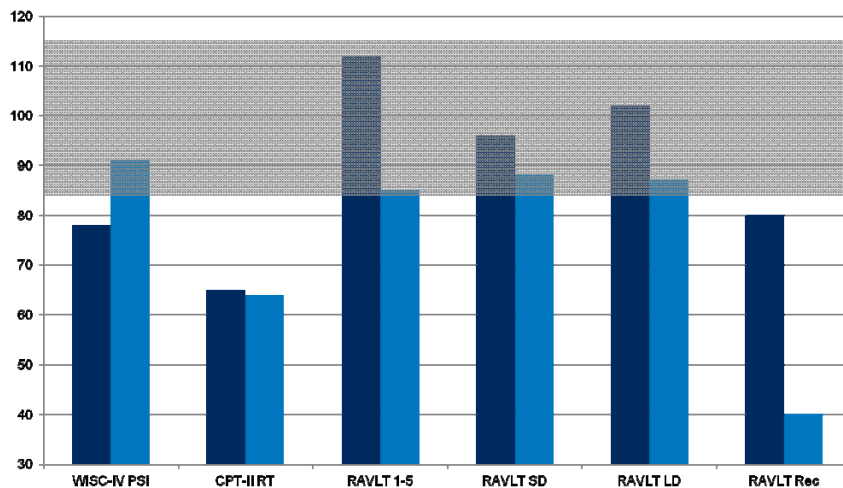
## Impressions and Recommendations

- Autoimmune encephalitis
  - Continue with plan for intravenous immunoglobulin
  - Neuropsychological re-evaluation post-treatment
- Functional neurological symptoms
  - Consider psychotherapy for stress management and coping skills

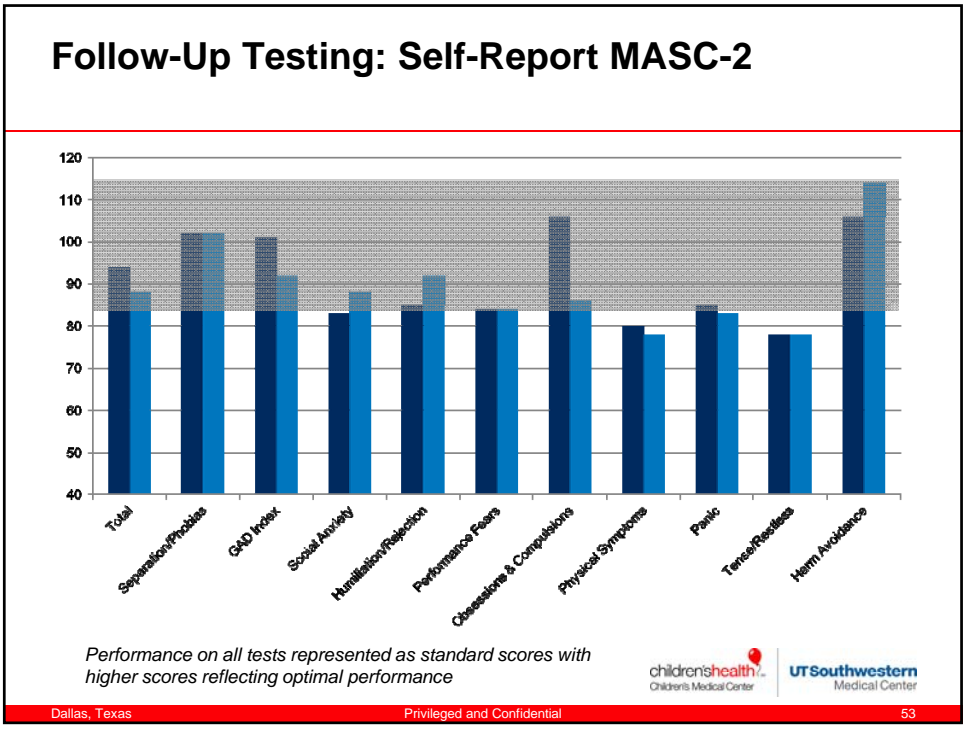
## Two Months Later

- Additional course of intravenous immunoglobulin completed
- No other treatments or changes
- Family reports improvements in symptoms
  - Memory problems and “brain fog”
  - Voice and mannerisms
  - Anxiety
- Improvements most noticeable immediately following treatment

## Follow-Up Testing: Selected Scores



Performance on all tests represented as standard scores with higher scores reflecting optimal performance



- ### Impressions and Recommendations
- Autoimmune encephalitis
    - Further treatment planning deferred to neurology
  - Functional neurological symptoms
    - Consider psychotherapy for stress management and coping skills
    - Mindful return to school
- Dallas, Texas

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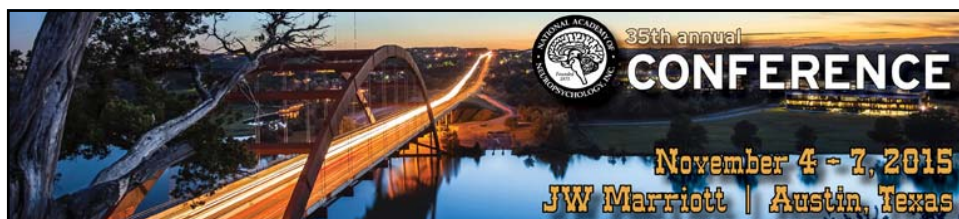
54

## Eight Months Later

- Enrolled in public school
- Non-competitive gymnastics club
- Noticeable improvements in voice and mannerisms
- Family complaints of residual mild memory deficits
- All other symptoms resolved

## Lessons Learned

- Assessment of rare neuroimmunological disease is inexact and ever-evolving, particularly in pediatrics
- Functional neurological symptom exacerbation can be considered alongside medical etiology
- Multidisciplinary collaboration can promote the best outcomes for patients and families



## Pediatric Grand Rounds

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