**Supplement 2 – detailed description of cognitive tests**

The **Finger Tapping test** \(^1\) from the Halstead-Reitan Neuropsychological Battery measures psychomotor speed. The test requires the participant to tap a mechanical counter with the index finger of each hand for five 10-second trials.

The **Digit Span**, a subtest of the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale (WAIS) \(^2\) measures verbal attention and verbal working memory. Participants are presented with a series of random numbers at a rate of one per second and are required to reproduce the numbers (forward or backward).

The **Digit Symbol** is also a subtest of the WAIS \(^2\) and measures psychomotor speed, sequencing ability, and implicit memory functions. Participants are presented with 100 symbols, which they have to code into numbers, and the number of correct substitutions in one minute is measured.

The **Trail Making Test part A and part B** \(^3\) evaluates processing speed, visual attention, working memory, and mental flexibility (part B only) and takes approximately 5-10 minutes to complete. Participants are required to connect by 25 randomly placed and encircled numbers in a page in a proper order (part A), and 25 randomly placed and encircled numbers and letters in alternate alphanumeric order (part B).

The **Verbal Fluency Test** \(^4\) requires participants to name as many words as possible starting with a specified letter (e.g., F, A, S) or semantic (e.g., animal) categories over the span of one or two minutes, and is an indicator of capacity for organized verbal processing and mental flexibility.
The Stroop Colour Word Test ⁵ was used in a single study ²³, and uses visual interference to measure selective visual attention and processing speed.

The Attentive Matrices Test (or attentive test) ⁶ requires participants to identify target numbers amongst numeric matrices (columns of numbers) in a set time.

References


