The Effect of Computer-Assisted Cognitive Remediation (CACR) and Psycho Stimulant Drugs on Clinical Symptoms of Children with Attention Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

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Introduction & Objectives: Attention deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a prevalent neuropsychological disorder in children. This research aimed to determine and compare the effect of computer-assisted cognitive remediation (CACR) and psycho stimulant drug in improving clinical symptoms of children with ADHD.

Method & Materials: The research design was pretest, post-test, and follow-up with two experimental groups. 23 ADHD children were selected by convenience sampling and inclusion-exclusion criteria. Two groups were matched according to the severity of their disorders and randomly assigned to drug therapy (n=11) and CACR (n=12) groups. The research tools were including Persian version of SNAP-IV scale, the short form of WISC-R and child syndrome inventory (CSI-4). The data were analyzed by RM-MANOVA, Mixed design ANOVA.

Results: The CACR had effective and enduring variation on clinical symptoms of ADHD. CACR in comparison to the Drug therapy had more and enduring effect to improve clinical symptoms; but that was non-significant.

Conclusion: Altogether, the effectiveness of cognitive trainings in improving motivational/motor symptoms was more than cognitive symptoms. Therefore, CACR can be used as an alternative technique of the psycho stimulant drugs in treatment of ADHD.