

## STUDY ON THE WISCONSIN CARD SORTING TEST AMONG EARLY AND LATE ONSET SCHIZOPHRENIA: A COMPARATIVE CLINICAL STUDY

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### **ABSTRACT**

**Background** – WCST is the commonly and globally most widely used psychological test, which measures the executive function. Research related to WCST performance reveals that schizophrenia clients have consistently been shown to perform worse than normal controls on the WCST in all dimensional aspects. Hence, in this study, we have tried to investigate this relationship between the WCST performance and an early onset schizophrenic and late onset schizophrenia with a specific emphasis on the executive function dichotomy on this test. The purpose of present study was to compare the performance of clients with early and late onset schizophrenia and control clients on the Wisconsin Card Sorting. Data and related information elicited from Gajra Raja Medical Collage (GRMC) Gwalior. **Sample:** A group of forty male schizophrenic clients between the age ranges of eighteen to forty-two years were taken for this study. Twenty clients were of (EOS) eighteen to thirty years and twenty patients were of (LOS) thirty-one to forty-two. **Result** - It has been revealed that early onset schizophrenic patients and late onset schizophrenic patients showed greater cognitive dysfunctions in comparison to normal control subjects. In comparison, early onset schizophrenic patients and late onset schizophrenic patients had marginal executive dysfunction in comparison to early onset schizophrenia and difference was significant at 0.001 level.

**KEYWORDS:** Schizophrenia, Cognition, Executive Function, Early and Late Onset Schizophrenic



