

Don't Forget About Memory Loss

Throughout the last week of ISM, I have done a lot of research related to my topic. Through my annotated bibliography, I was able to focus my research by looking at mainly dementia, specifically Alzheimer's. Looking at Alzheimer's and how it affects a person, including symptoms, I decided to mainly look at memory loss. I have learned about the effect of the hippocampus on a person's memory as well how the chemical acetylcholine plays a major role in communication throughout the brain and keeping all regions of the brain connected. In a person with Alzheimer's, there is less acetylcholine in the brain and this causes certain parts of the brain to start to degenerate as they cannot communicate with other parts of the brain and gain the proper attention they need to survive. This degeneration in areas, such as the hippocampus, affects its ability to correctly control memories, resulting in severe memory loss in people with Alzheimer's. I have also found that cholinesterase inhibitors can help with trying to inhibit the loss of acetylcholine and the amount of memory loss. With this information, I would like to do further research on how cholinesterase inhibitors may have different effects in adults vs in children or the difference in the productivity of these chemicals in adults vs in children.