



Professor Des Gorman

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Saturday, August 10, 2019

(Plenary)

8:55 - 9:15 Rehabilitation of The Injured Brain

COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT AFTER HEAD INJURY

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SURPRISINGLY, THE
PREVALENCE AND NATURE OF
COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT
AFTER HEAD INJURY ARE
UNKNOWN!

IN LARGE PART, THIS IS
BECAUSE OF:

(1) PROBLEMS IN DEFINING
WHAT CONSTITUTES A HEAD
INJURY;

(2) PROBLEMATIC SYNDROMES
SUCH AS POST-CONCUSSION
SYNDROME FOR WHICH THERE
IS NO DOSE-RESPONSE
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE
TRAUMA AND
CONSEQUENCE; AND,

(3) LITTLE AGREEMENT ABOUT
HOW TO MEASURE
COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT.

THERE ARE GOOD
REASONS WHY COGNITIVE
IMPAIRMENT IS
COMMONPLACE AFTER
HEAD INJURY.

STRUCTURAL DAMAGE.

DEPRESSION OF MOOD
AND ANXIETY.

ABULIA.

FATIGUE.

AND,

FACTITIOUS DISORDERS.

SOMATIC SYMPTOM
DISORDERS.

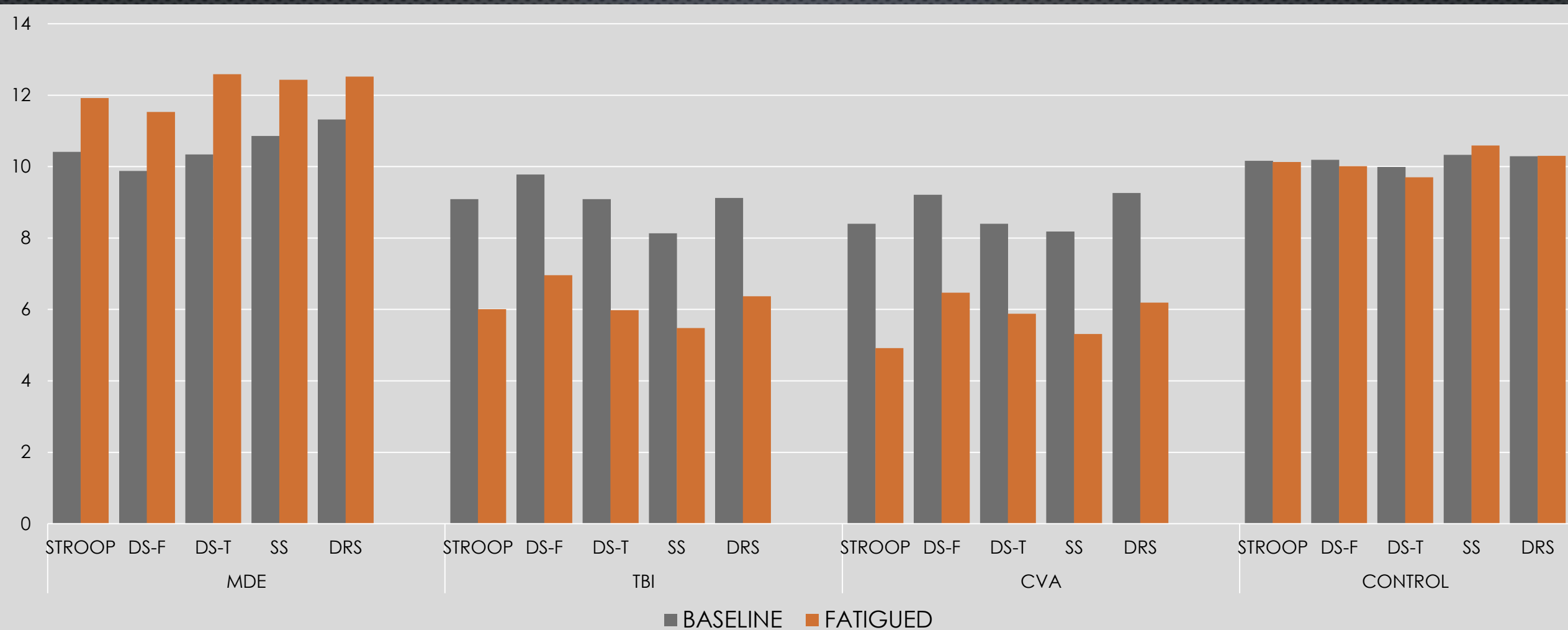
SOME OR ALL OF THE
ABOVE

THE AETIOLOGY OF ANY
COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT
MATTERS AS THIS DIRECTLY
AFFECTS MANAGEMENT.

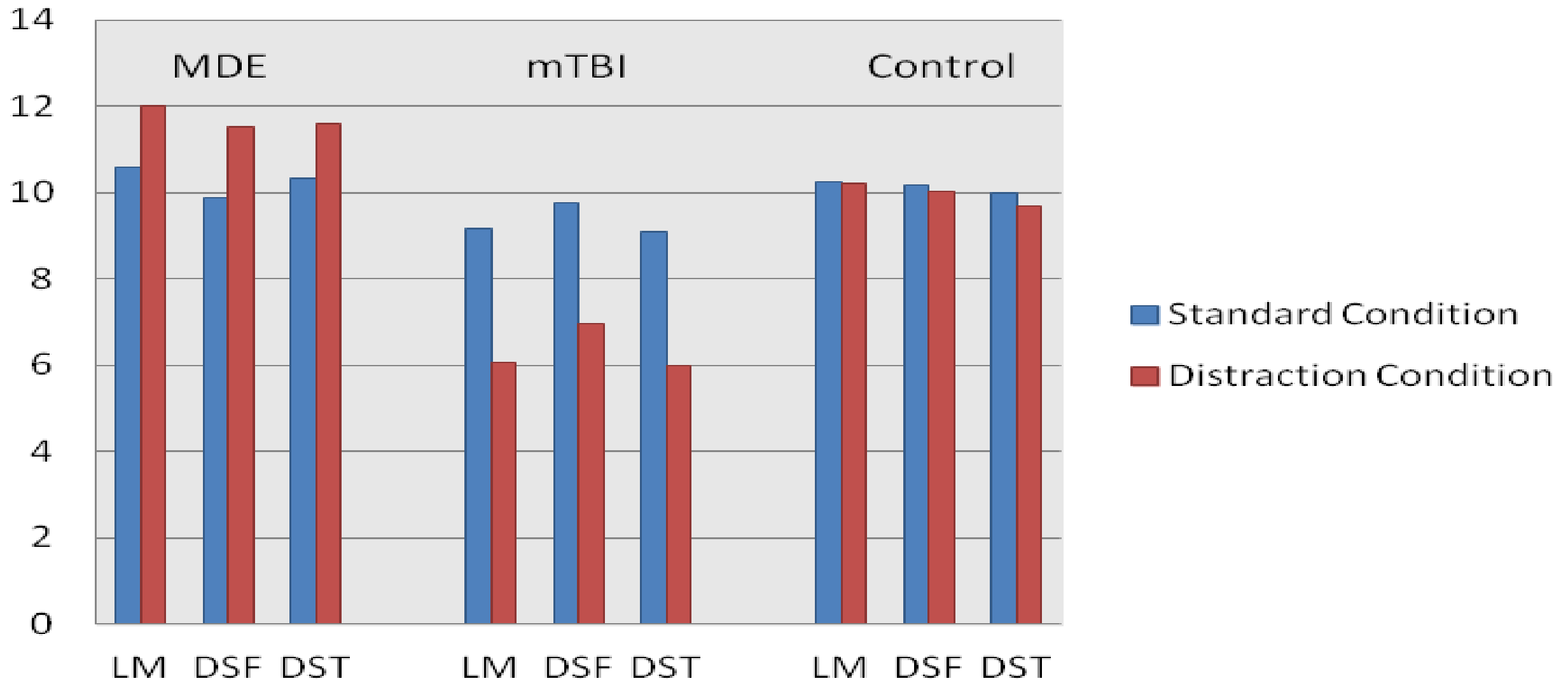
Causative Problem	Interventions for which there is some support
Structural damage	Exercise, SSRI Rx, graduated mobilization and RTW, CBT
Depression and anxiety	Conventional Rx, CBT, exercise, early RTW
Abulia	Exercise
Fatigue	Exercise
Factitious disorder	
Somatic symptom disorder	Psychotherapy

TOOLS THAT CAN AID DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

Change of Psychometric Performances with Fatigue (n=360)



Change of Performance in Standard vs. Distraction Condition (n=240)



***COGNITIVE
IMPAIRMENT
AFTER HEAD
INJURY***

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