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## Examining Procedural Working Memory Processing in Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder<sup>★</sup>

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### Abstract

Previous research has suggested that a deficit in working memory might underlie the difficulty of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) patients to control their thoughts and actions. However, a recent meta-analysis found only small effect sizes for working memory deficits in OCD.

Recently, a distinction has been made between declarative and procedural working memory.

Working memory in OCD was tested mostly using declarative measurements. However, OCD symptoms typically concerns *actions*, making procedural working-memory more relevant. Here, we tested the operation of procedural working memory in OCD. Participants with OCD and healthy controls performed a battery of choice reaction tasks under high and low procedural working memory demands. Reaction-times (RT) were estimated using ex-Gaussian distribution

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