Prosopagnosia

- Psychometric Properties of a Neuropsychological Assessment Scale for Diagnosing Alzheimer's Disease in the Illiterate and Low-Educated Subjects in Iran
- Delusion of Misidentifying of Parents as Infants as a Subtype of Intermetamorphosis Syndrome: A Case Report
- Unveiling Face Recognition Challenges and Awareness in Autism Spectrum Disorder: Insights from the Italian Famous Face Test (IT-FFT)
- Impairments for faces but not for abstract shapes in developmental prosopagnosia: Evidence from visual working memory tasks
- This condition impacts every aspect of my life: A survey to understand the experience of living with developmental prosopagnosia
- Neurocognitive manifestation after treatment of pediatric severe anaphylaxis
- Asymmetries run deep: the interplay between cradling bias, face recognition, autistic traits, and personality
- Exploring insight into unfamiliar face recognition ability: The case from developmental prosopagnosia

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Prosopagnosia /ˌprɒsəpægˈnoʊʒə/ (Greek: “prosopon” = “face”, “agnosia” = “not knowing”), also called face blindness, is a cognitive disorder of face perception where the ability to recognize faces is impaired, while other aspects of visual processing (e.g., object discrimination) and intellectual functioning (e.g., decision making) remain intact. The term originally referred to a condition following acute brain damage (acquired prosopagnosia), but a congenital or developmental form of the disorder also exists, which may affect up to 2.5% of the population.

The specific brain area usually associated with prosopagnosia is the fusiform gyrus, which activates specifically in response to faces. The functionality of the fusiform gyrus allows most people to recognize faces in more detail than they do similarly complex inanimate objects. For those with prosopagnosia, the new method for recognizing faces depends on the less-sensitive object recognition system. The right hemisphere fusiform gyrus is more often involved in familiar face recognition than the left. It remains unclear whether the fusiform gyrus is only specific for the recognition of human faces or if it is also involved in highly trained visual stimuli.

There are two types of prosopagnosia: acquired and congenital (developmental). Acquired prosopagnosia results from occipito-temporal lobe damage (See Etiologies and Affected Brain Areas) and is most often found in adults. This is further subdivided into apperceptive and associative prosopagnosia (See Types). In congenital prosopagnosia, the individual never adequately develops the ability to recognize faces.

Though there have been several attempts at remediation, no therapies have demonstrated lasting real-world improvements across a group of prosopagnosics. Prosopagnosics often learn to use “piecemeal” or “feature-by-feature” recognition strategies. This may involve secondary clues such as clothing, gait, hair color, body shape, and voice. Because the face seems to function as an important identifying feature in memory, it can also be difficult for people with this condition to keep track of information about people, and socialize normally with others. Prosopagnosia has also been associated with other disorders that are associated with nearby brain areas: left hemianopsia (loss of vision from left side of space, associated with damage to the right occipital lobe), achromatopsia (a deficit in color

perception often associated with unilateral or bilateral lesions in the temporo-occipital junction) and topographical disorientation (a loss of environmental familiarity and difficulties in using landmarks, associated with lesions in the posterior part of the parahippocampal gyrus and anterior part of the lingual gyrus of the right hemisphere).