

Absence of sex differences in mental rotation performance in autism spectrum disorder

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Females and males differ in their ability to mentally rotate three-dimensional objects in their mind. Studies involving females with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) are rare so it is unclear to what extent these findings apply to females and males with ASD. In this study, a mental rotation task corroborated the sex differences usually found between typically developing females and males, but revealed no sex differences among individuals with ASD. Moreover, no difference was found between the performance of those with ASD and those who were typically developing in this study. These findings suggest that we need more research and information about the characteristics of females with ASD.