

# Kognition hos voksne med cerebral parese - visuoperceptuelle vanskeligheder

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## Formål med ph.d.-projektet

- At beskrive hvilke typer for visuelle vanskeligheder voksne med CP oplever
- At undersøge hvilke typer af visuoperceptuelle vanskeligheder som voksne med CP kan have, med et neuropsykologisk testbatteri

# Ph.d.-projektet - delprojekter

## Projekt 1:

- **Sand, K.**, Starrfelt, R., & Robotham, R. J. (2024). Cognitive Functioning and Assessment in Adults with Cerebral Palsy: A Scoping Review. *Developmental Neurorehabilitation*, 27(1–2), 57–67.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/17518423.2024.2347991>

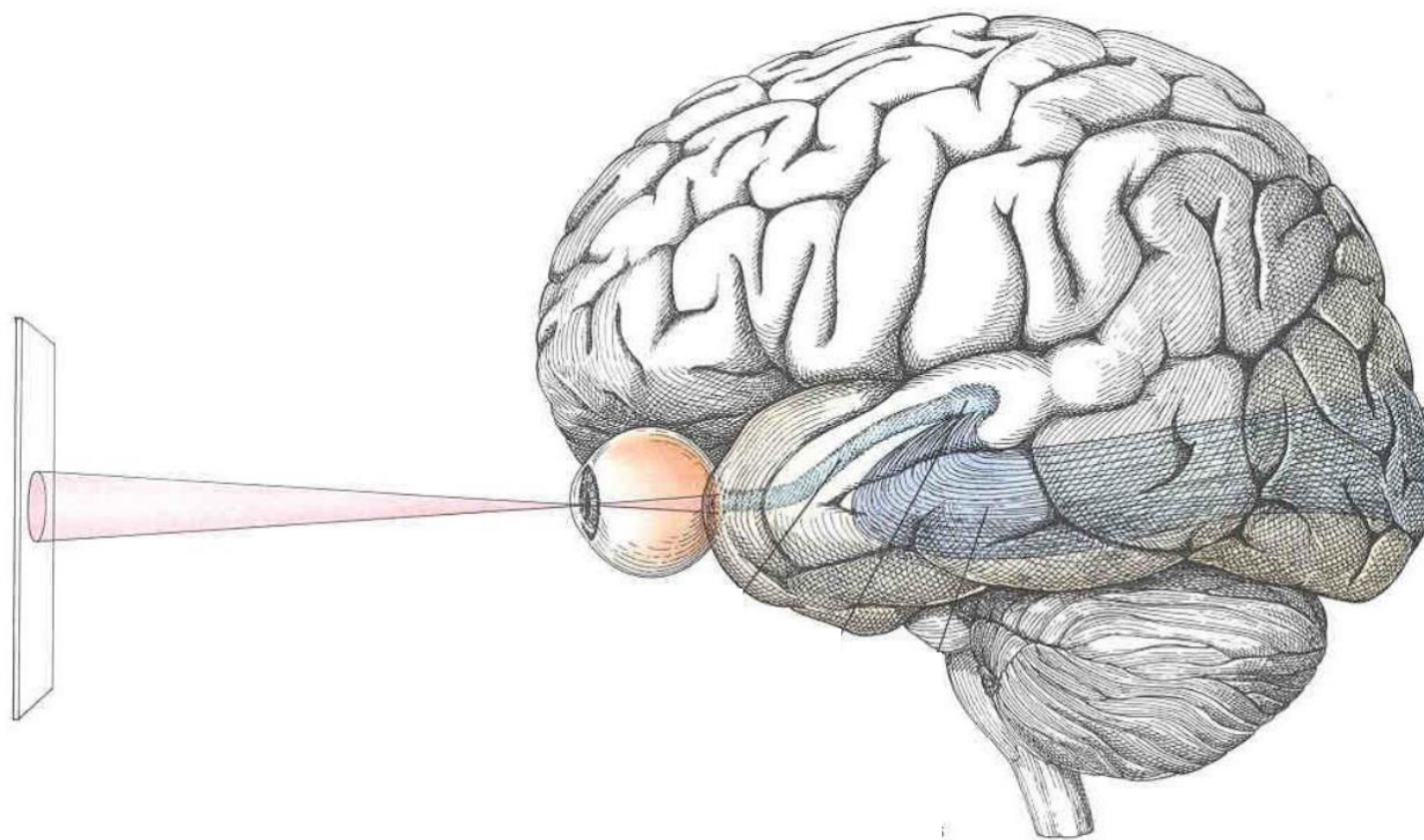
## Projekt 2:

- **Sand, K.**, Starrfelt, R., & Robotham, R. J. (in prep). Visual impairments in adults with cerebral palsy: First person experiences.

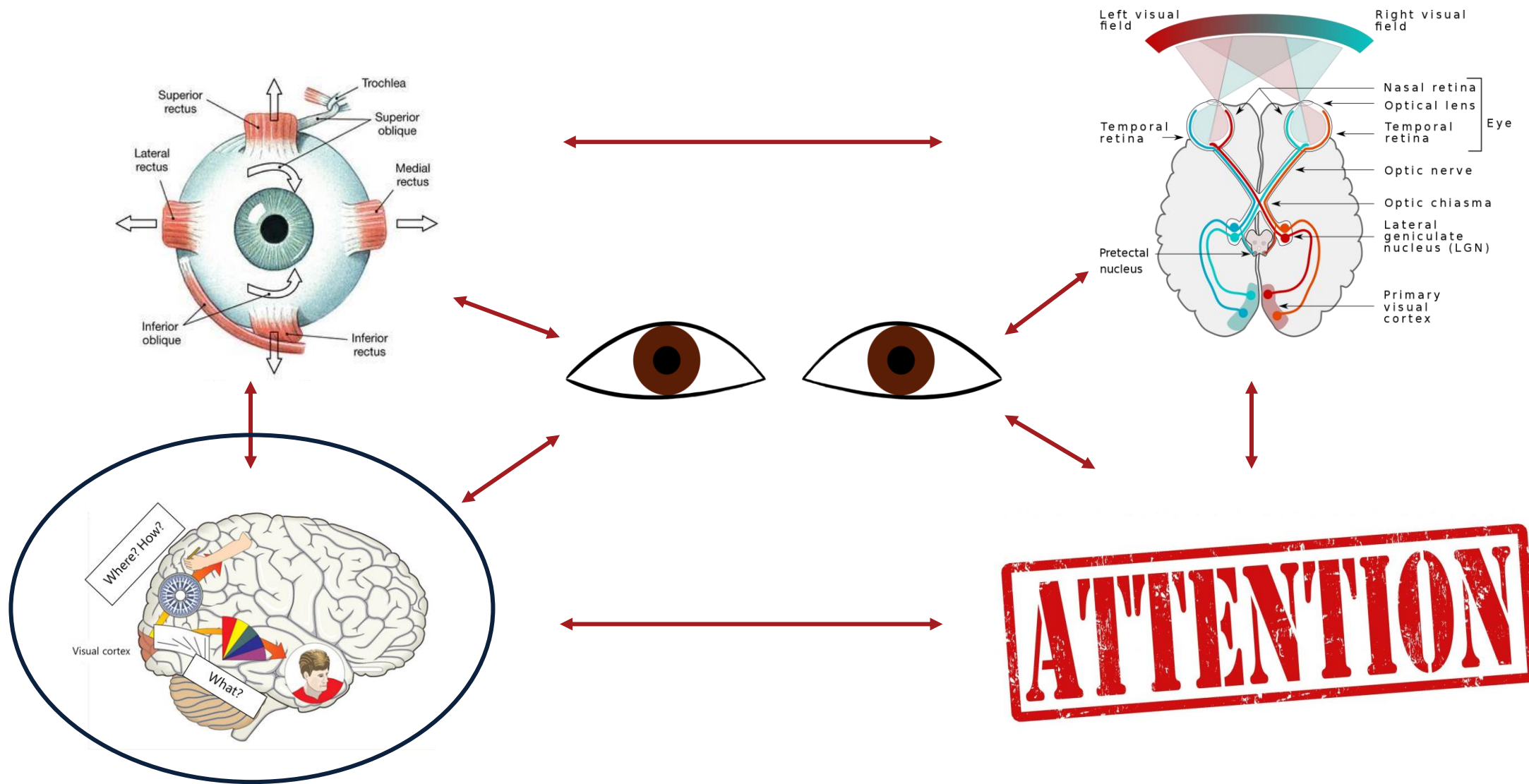
## Projekt 3:

- **Sand, K.**, Vancleef, K., Starrfelt, R., & Robotham, R. J. (2025). Visual perception in adults with CP - assessment and individual differences: An exploratory study. *The Clinical Neuropsychologist*, 1–21.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13854046.2025.2596803>

# Synet og hjernen



# Det visuelle system



# CVI/Hjernebetinget synsnedsettelse

## **Widely used definition:**

“Cerebral Visual Impairment is a verifiable visual dysfunction which cannot be attributed to disorders of the anterior visual pathways or any potentially co-occurring ocular impairment.”

*Sakki et al. (2018)*

## **New working definition:**

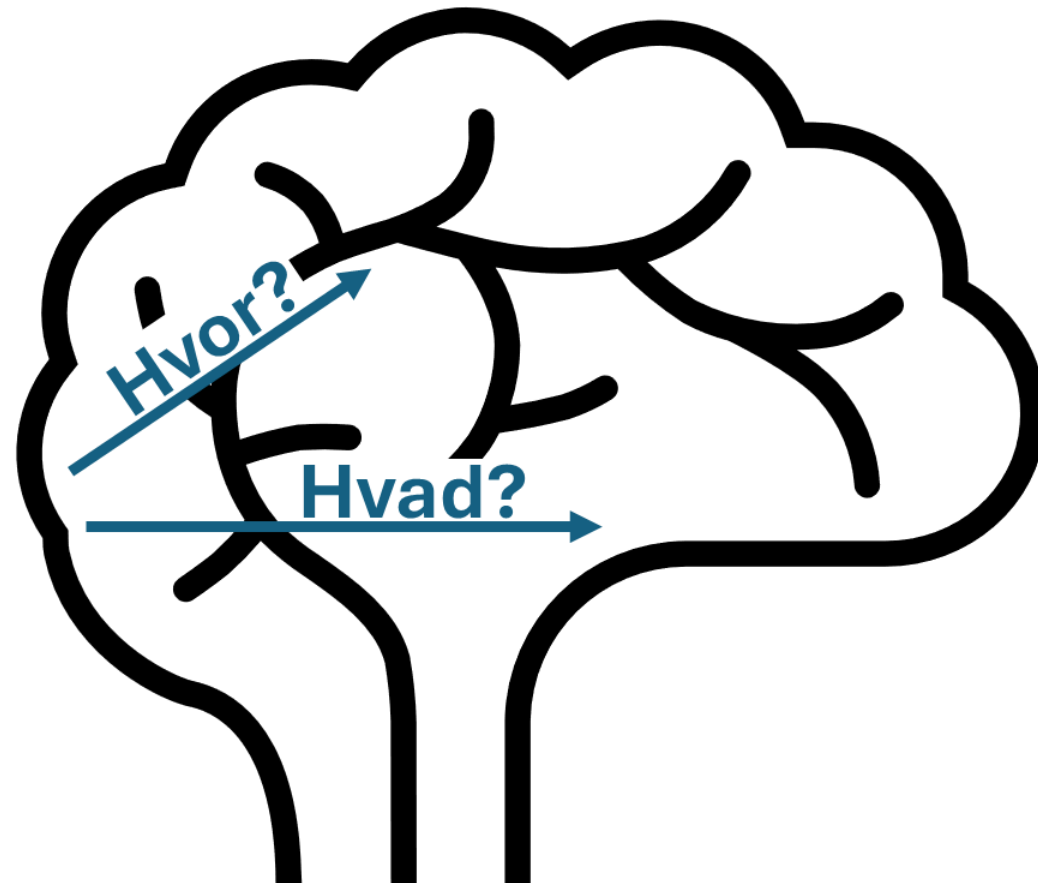
- (1) CVI encompasses a spectrum of visual impairments caused by an underlying brain abnormality that affects the development of visual processing pathways and is characterized by deficits in visual function and functional vision.
- (2) The visual dysfunction in CVI is greater than expected by any comorbid ocular conditions alone.
- (3) The visual dysfunction in CVI may manifest as lower-order or higher-order afferent visual deficits, or both, leading to characteristic behaviors in affected individuals.
- (4) Although CVI may be comorbid with other neurodevelopmental disorders, CVI is not primarily a disorder of language, learning, or social communication.
- (5) The underlying neurologic insult of the developing brain may go unrecognized or undiagnosed until later in life.

*Chang et al. (2024)*

# CVI/Hjernebetinget synsnedsettelse

- Ca. 50% af børn med CVI har også CP
- Antallet af børn med CP+CVI afhænger af hvordan CVI defineres:
  - Nedsat synsskarphed: 10%-16%
  - Visuoperceptuelle vanskeligheder: 40-50%
  - Alle typer synsvanskeligheder: 70%

# Visuoperceptuelle vanskeligheder og CVI



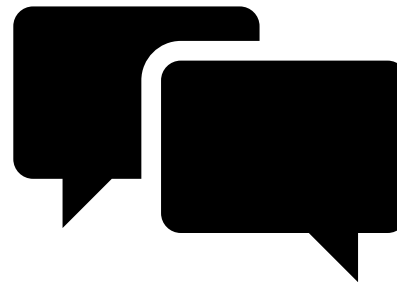
# Sværhedsgrad af CP hos deltagerne



Grovmotorisk funktion (GMFCS)  
Niveau I-V

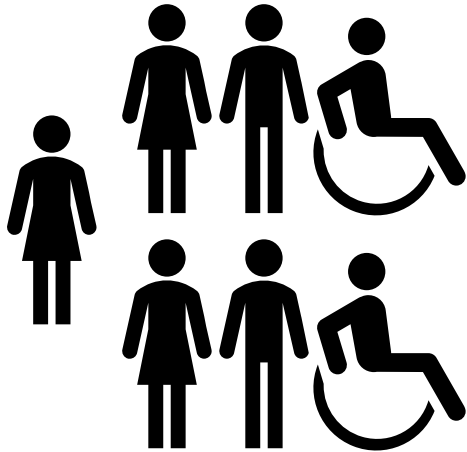


Finmotorisk funktion (MACS)  
Niveau I-V

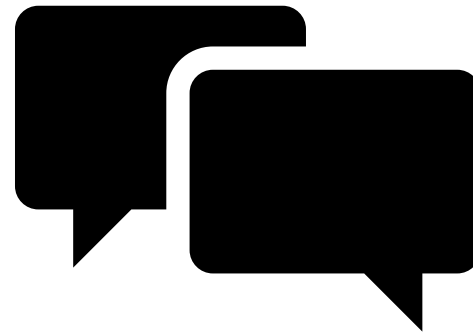


Kommunikation (CFCS)  
Niveau I-III

## Projekt 2: Subjektive oplevelser af visuelle vanskeligheder hos voksne med CP



7 deltagere  
Alder: 21-50

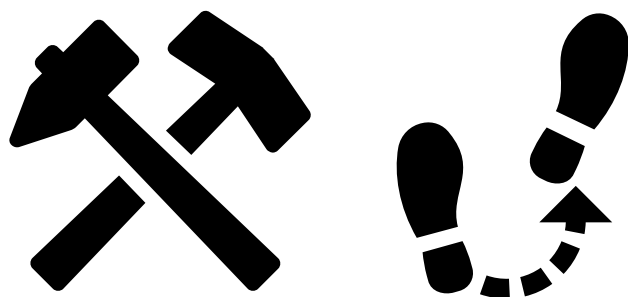
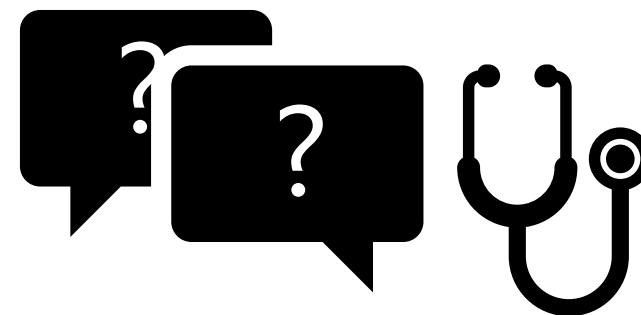
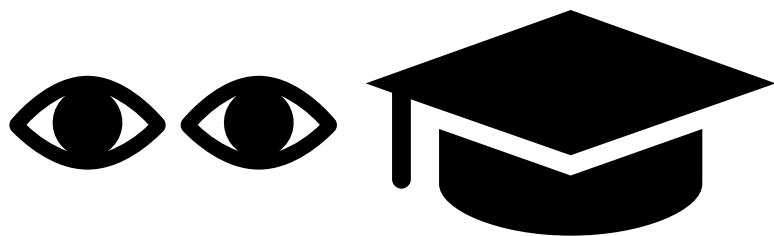


Semistrukturerede interviews

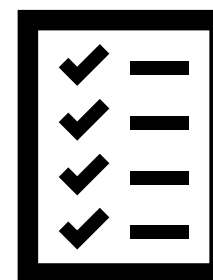


Tematisk analyse

# Resultater - generelt



Projekt



# Projekt 2: Resultater

## Wide range of visual impairments reported

"[...] I is simply because I sometimes find it difficult to find out the distance from A to B, and what am I actually looking at? I am not that good at finding landmarks. Like, you know, so that you know that when you reach the yellow signpost you must turn right."

*Maria, 35 years*

## Varying amounts of support and interventions

"They threw a pair of glasses my way and said: 'well there you go', but these glasses, they did not work and they [the health professionals] more or less did not care, as they [the glasses] were the only thing they had to offer."

*Thomas, 34 years*

## That is just the way it is

"I have gotten used to, that is because, you are used to your vision being as it is, so it is just the way it is."

*Laura, 27 years*

## Wishes for improving services provided in relation to visual impairments in CP

"[...] I can sometimes think, 'I wish I had known that when my parents' (pauses) or, I wish they had known, so it would not just have become something that was attached to me, but actually something, that was attached to my diagnosis. Instead of me as a person."

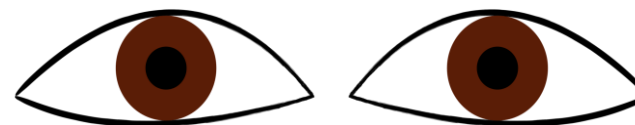
*Christina, 36 years*

## The impact of visual impairments

"No, no, it (pauses) no, it hasn't really stopped me in that way. I think I just accept the consequence and try to (pauses) then you must work harder to get through it."

*Peter, 24 years*

# Projekt 2: Konklusion



# Projekt 3:

## Neuropsykologisk undersøgelse af visual perception hos voksne med CP



21 deltagere med CP

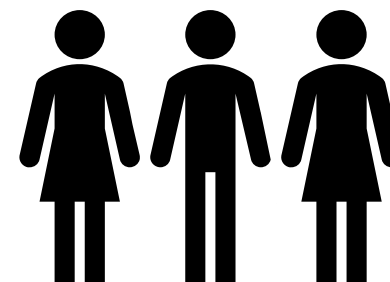
Alder: 18-40

Alle CP subtyper

Alle sværhedsgrader ift. GMFCS og MACS

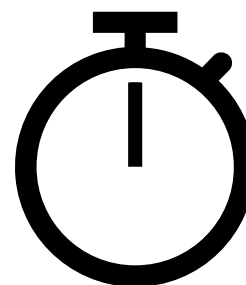
Kan bruge hjælpemidler til kommunikation

Intet krav om synsvanskeligheder



40 kontroldeltagere

Alder: 18-40




Tidsforbrug

1.5 – 2 timer


# Projekt 3: Testbatteri

Visuospatial index  
 Face recognition index  
 Object recognition index  
 Reading index

**Low and intermediate visual processing**




VOSP Shape detection




Pelli-Robson contrast sensitivity


**CORVIST CROWDING**



Biological motion detection

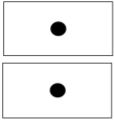


Fragmented outline L-POST

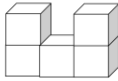


Embedded figure detection


**Dorsal stream processing**




Position discrimination



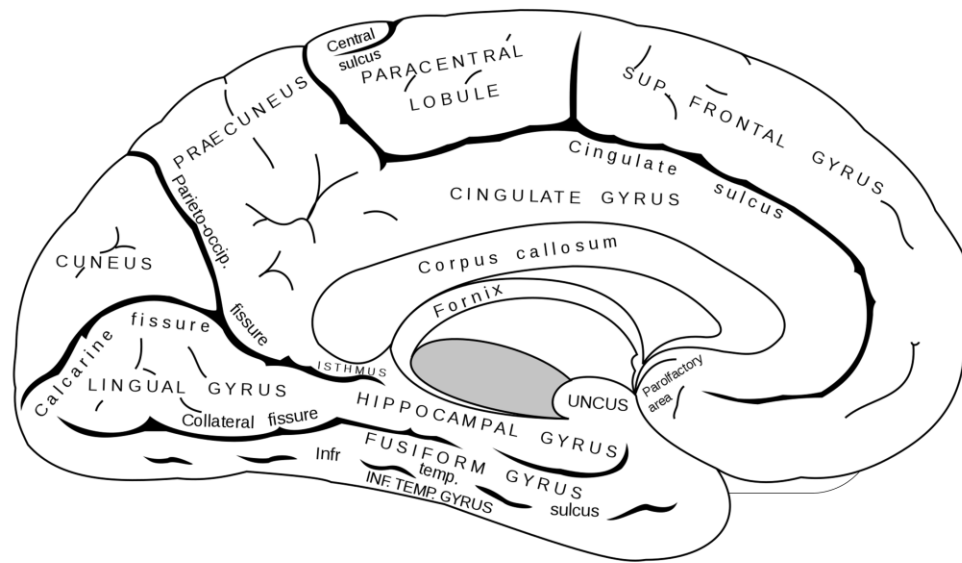
Cube analysis VOSP




Dot counting




Heart cancellation OCS



**Sensory vision**




Acuity: LogMar



Visual fields: Copenhagen perimetry and confrontation test


**Ventral stream processing**

**Face recognition**



CFMT OxVPS

**Object recognition**



OxVPS L-POST VOSP

**Reading**

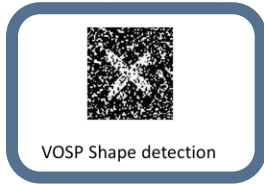
Text reading Word reading

Radner Reading OxVPS CAT

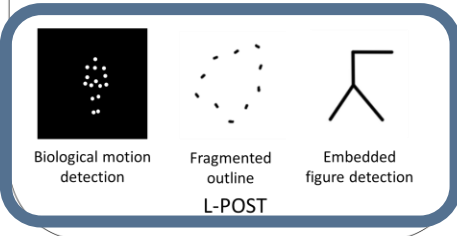
# Projekt 3: Testbatteri

Visuospatial index  
 Face recognition index  
 Object recognition index  
 Reading index  
 Overall accuracy index

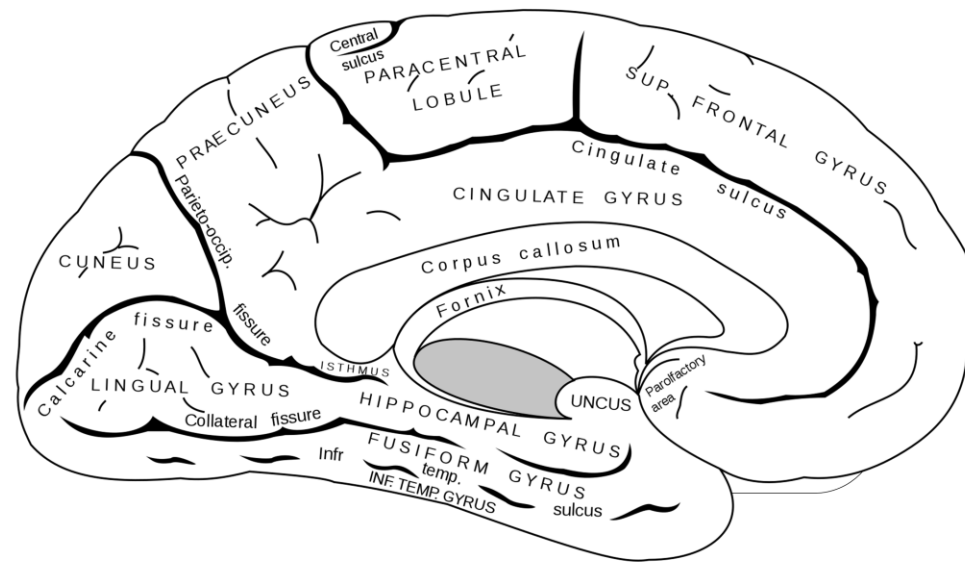
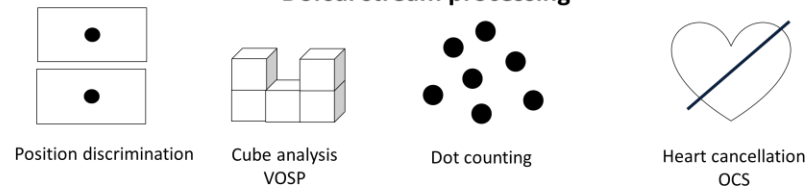
## Low and intermediate visual processing



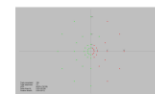
## CORVIST CROWDING



## Dorsal stream processing

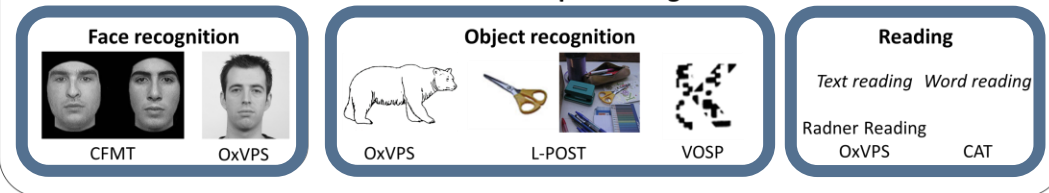


## Sensory vision

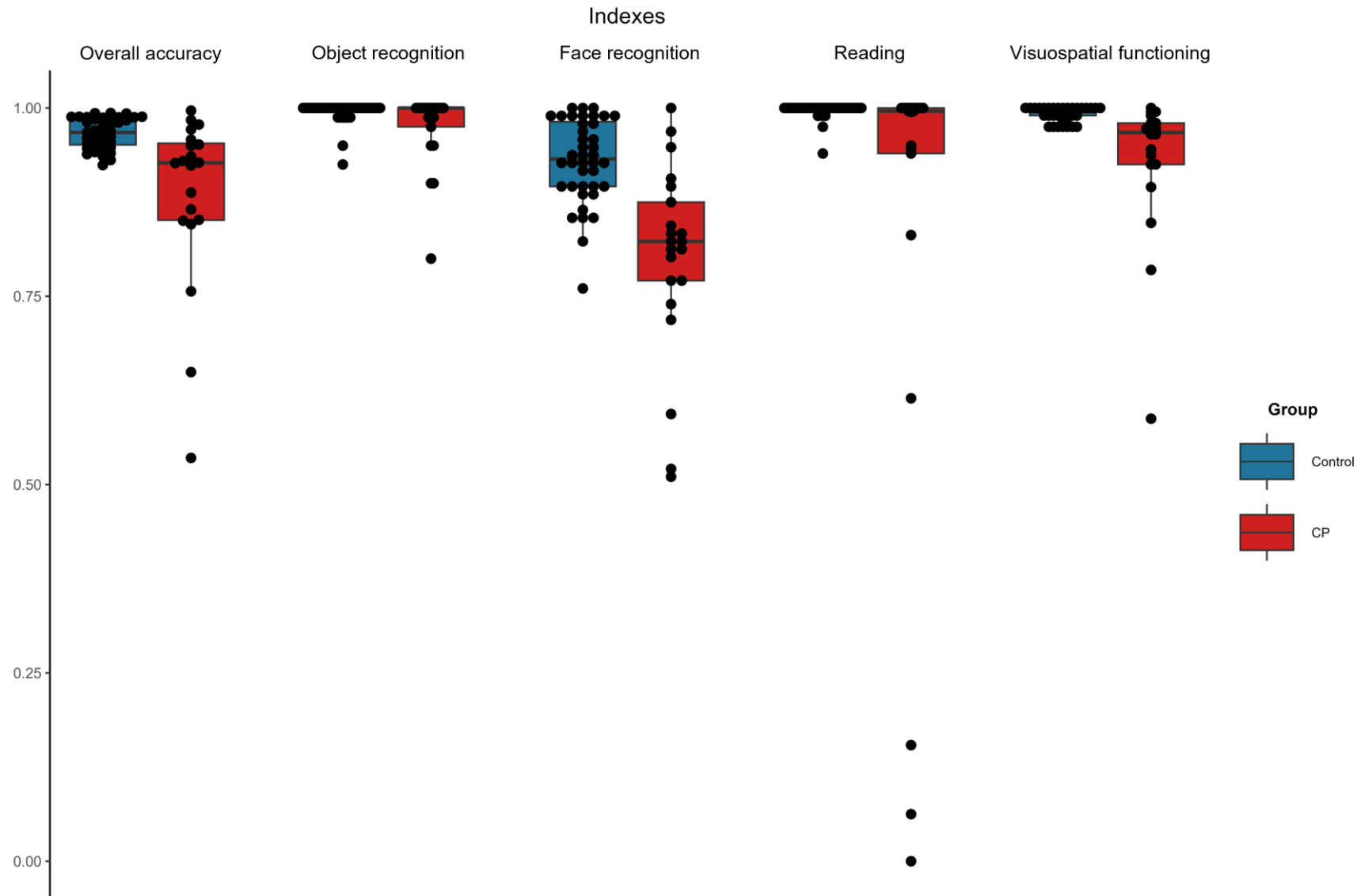


Visual fields: Copenhagen perimetry and confrontation test

## Ventral stream processing



# Projekt 3: Gruppeanalyser

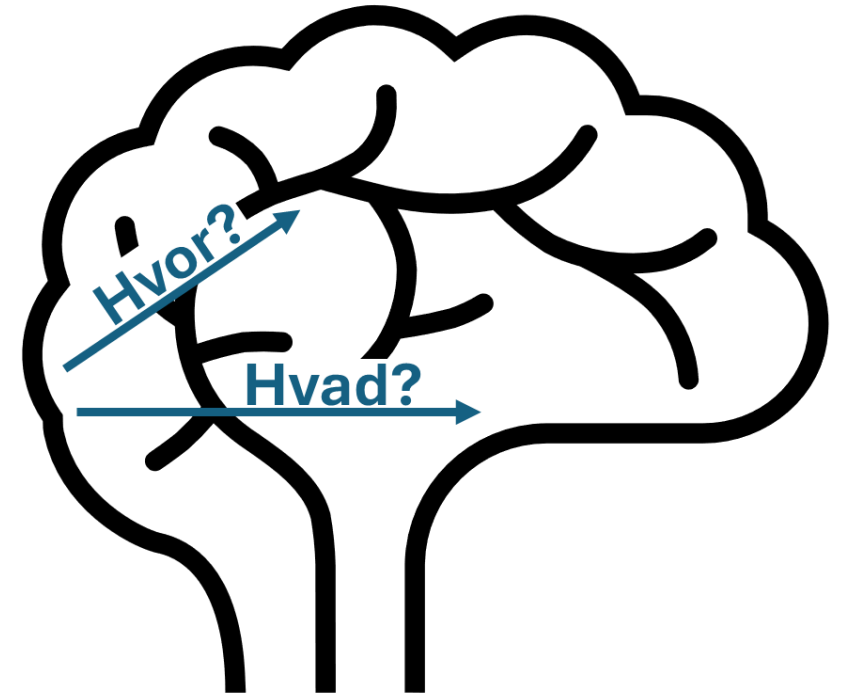


# Projekt 3: Individuelle resultater

ID	GMFCS	L-POST Recognition of objects in isolation	L-Post Recognition Of Objects in a scene	OxVPS Picture naming	VOSP Incomplete letters	CFMT*	OxVPS Face recognition	CAT Single words	CAT Complex words	CAT Non words	OxVPS Reading accuracy	OCS Broken hearts Accuracy	VOSP Dot counting	VOSP Position discrimination	VOSP Cube analysis	VOSP Shape detection	L-POST RFP fragmented outline	L-POST Biological motion	L-POST Embedded figure detection	OxVPS Reading wpm*	Radner reading wpm*	OCS Broken hearts Alloentric	OCS Broken hearts Egocentric
Max score		5	5	4	20	48	4	48	6	10	60	50	10	20	10	20	5	5	5	8	8	+50	+50
Cut-off		<5	<4	<4	<18		<4	<44	<6	<8	<58	<47	<9	<19	<10	<18	<4	<5	0			+0	+0
CP01	II																						
CP06	III																						
CP12	II																						
CP14	I																						
CP09	V																						
CP16	I																						
CP17	I																						
CP08	II																						
CP15	I																						
CP20	II																						
CP11	I																						
CP19	II																						
CP03	V																						
CP05	II																						
CP10	V																						
CP07	III																						
CP04	II																						
CP18	II																						
CP02	V																						
CP13	IV																						
CP21	III																						
		Object index			Face index		Reading index				Visuospatial index					Not in index							
		Overall accuracy index																					

## Projekt 3: Konklusion

- På gruppeniveau klarede deltagerne med CP sig signifikant dårligere end kontrolgruppen.
- Stor variation i gruppen: Nogle deltagere klarede sig på niveau som kontrolgruppen, andre havde svære vanskeligheder.
- Tegn på påvirkning af både den dorsale og/eller den ventrale strøm.



# Samlet konklusion

Projekt 2

Project 2 features a set of faded icons. At the top are two eyes. Below them are a question mark, a doctor with a stethoscope, and a person in a wheelchair. At the bottom are a pair of glasses and a foot with a dashed arrow pointing upwards.

Projekt 3

Project 3 features a set of icons. At the top are two eyes. Below them is a group of three people (two standing, one in a wheelchair) with a double-headed arrow pointing to a group of three standing people. At the bottom is a person in a wheelchair next to a heartbeat line.

# Tak for opmærksomheden

## Ph.d.-vejledere

Primær vejleder: Professor Randi Starrfelt

Projektvejleder: Lektor Ro J. Robotham

## International samarbejdspartner

Lektor Kathleen Vancleef, Durham University, UK

E-mail: [ksa@elsassfonden.dk](mailto:ksa@elsassfonden.dk)

## Særligt tak til:

Deltagere med CP og kontroldeltagere

Professor Jens Bo Nielsen, Københavns Universitet og  
Elsass Fonden

Medarbejdere hos Elsass Fonden

