

gestalts and measures of the level of abstraction in thinking should show high loadings in the same direction upon one of the extracted factors.

2. Measures of constancy of perception and measures of autism should show high loadings in the same direction upon one of the extracted factors.

The second factor extracted offered evidence in support of Hypothesis 1. No supporting evidence was found regarding Hypothesis 2.

REFERENCES

1. Weckowicz, T. E. and Blewett, D. B.; Size constancy and abstract thinking in schizophrenic patients. *J. Ment. Sci.* 105:909-934, 1959.
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3. McGaughran, L. S. and Moran, L. J.: Conceptual level vs. conceptual area analysis of object sorting behavior of schizophrenic and non-psychiatric groups. *J. Abnorm. & Social Psychol.* 52:43-50, 1956.
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L-Dopa

Editor's Note:

In the last issue* I referred to L-dopa as another hallucinogen. This being the case, it would be unwise to give it to schizophrenic patients either for research or as a treatment. Recently I received a letter from an unhappy father who wrote, "My son, age 19, developed schizophrenia in September, 1968. He made steady improvement until we took him to a hospital in Boston for a few laboratory tests.

"While there the chief of the service gave him large doses of L-dopa. My son got much worse and developed symptoms he had never had before."

Schizophrenia is a contraindication for L-dopa. Several reports have already appeared in the medical press describing its toxic properties for these cases. It seems in fact to be more dangerous than LSD for patients suffering from schizophrenia.

-A. Hoffer, M.D., Ph.D.

* Hoffer, A.: L-Dopa: A Hallucinogen. *Schizophrenia* 2:1, 1970.