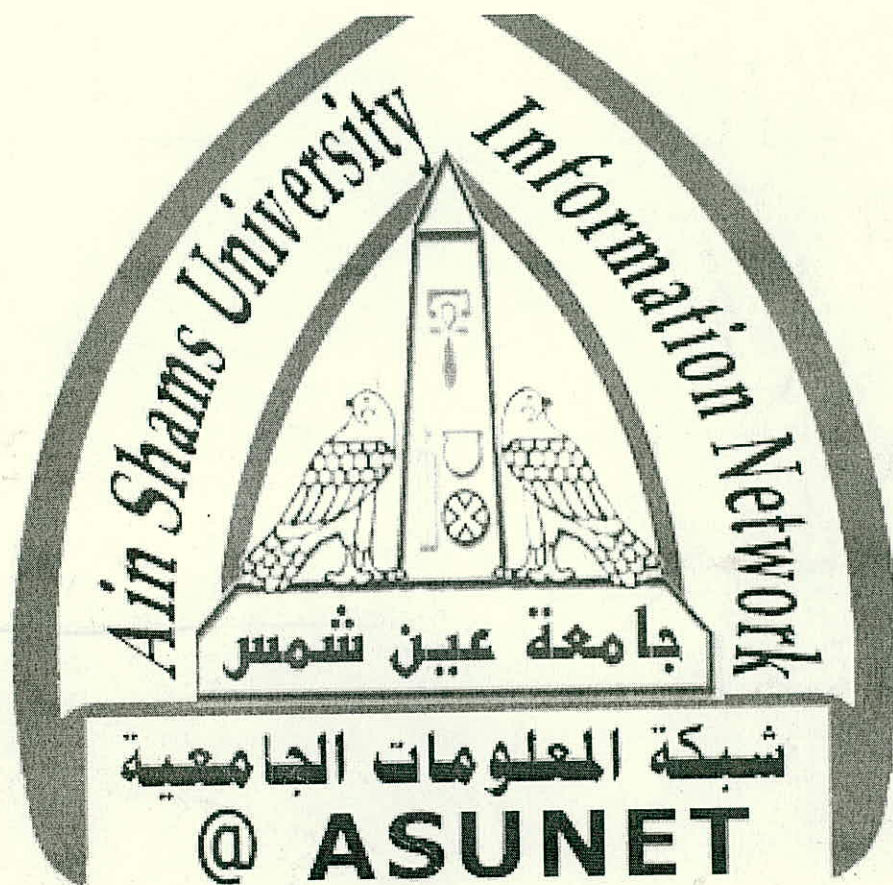




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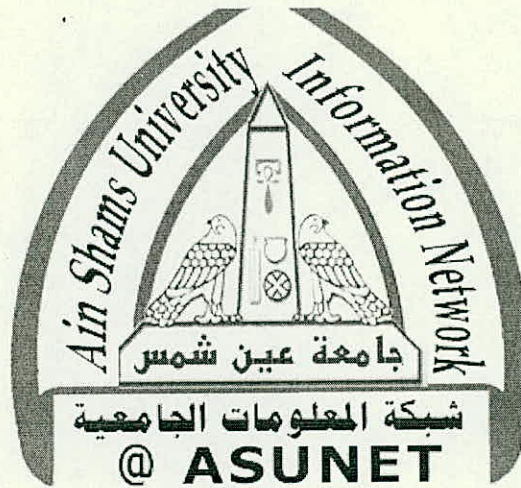
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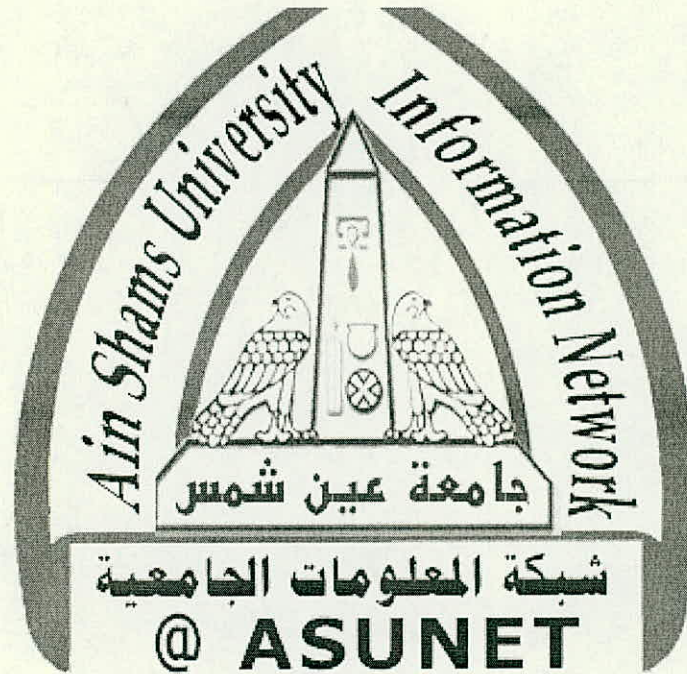
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بعض الوثائق الأصلية تالفة

*P300 auditory Event-Related potentials
in Normal Adults and Geriatric population*

Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of M.D degree in
Audiology

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(Index)

Introduction & rationale.....	1
Objectives	4
Review of Literature	
Cognition.....	5
Cerebral localization of cognition.....	5
Development of cognitive process.....	13
Neuro-transmitter mechanisms of cognitive function.....	15
Assessment of cognition.....	19
Late evoked potentials.....	27
Description and Possible Neural generators.....	30
Automatic and controlled processes of ERP's.....	41
P300 Event Related Potential.(ERP) (P3).....	55
Aud. P300 recording procedure.....	59
P300 response parameters.....	65
Variables affecting Aud. P300	69
Clinical applications	83
Aging.....	89
Age changes of the nervous system.....	92
Cognitive psychophysiological analysis of aging.....	95
Materials and Method	98

Results	108
Discussion	151
Conclusions	173
Recommendations	174
Summary	175
References	179

INTRODUCTION & RATIONALE

Introduction and Rationale

P300 is an endogenous component of the late evoked response to visual, somatosensory or auditory task-relevant stimuli. This event-related potential closely reflects cognitive functions such as stimulus discrimination and processing as well as attention capabilities (Kugler et al., 1996).

It was originally thought that P300 was cortical in origin. However, research employing the "odd-ball" paradigm and measuring intracranial brain activity with multicontact electrodes has implicated subcortical brain structures, such as hippocampal formation and amygdala (Halgren et al., 1980; Wood & McCarthy, 1984)

The auditory P300 can be obtained with number of task relevant stimuli. The most common of which is the tonal "odd-ball" paradigm that consists of detecting rare occurrences of a target tone embedded in a series of more frequently occurring standard tones. The information supplied to the subject with the occurrence of the relevant target tone produces the large positive going component with about 300 msec latency (Sutton et al., 1965 and Polich, 1996).

As the task is not a difficult one and requires minimal subject cooperation. Thus, P300 could be relevant for clinicians in evaluating central auditory processing. This is particularly

important in patients who cannot perform adequately on tasks that depend on memory of verbal materials, or those which are more complex than the covert counting of tones (**Musiek, 1992**).

Cognition can be grossly evaluated by means of Minimental Status Test (Six-Item Orientation-Memory-Concentration test). This simple test discriminates between, mild, moderate and severe cognitive defects (**Kugler et al., 1996**). **Howard et al. (1985)** and **Polich et al. (1983)** studied the correlation between P300 measures with short-term memory skills. They found increased amplitude and decreased latency correlated with better short-term memory skills.

Since the number of people aged over 65 is expected to be the fast growing segment of population by the middle of the next century. It has been suggested that the memory deficits observed in the elderly are due to deficiencies at the time of information acquisition, and in the process of encoding (**Anderer et al., 1996**). One of the most common uses of P300 is to assess the neurophysiological basis that underlie changes which take place during normal and physiologic aging setting (**Gracia et al., 1996**).

Individual P300 measures depends very critically on subject's age (**Polich & Kok, 1995**). So it is necessary to