

# **Implications of Neuropsychological Functioning on Treatment**

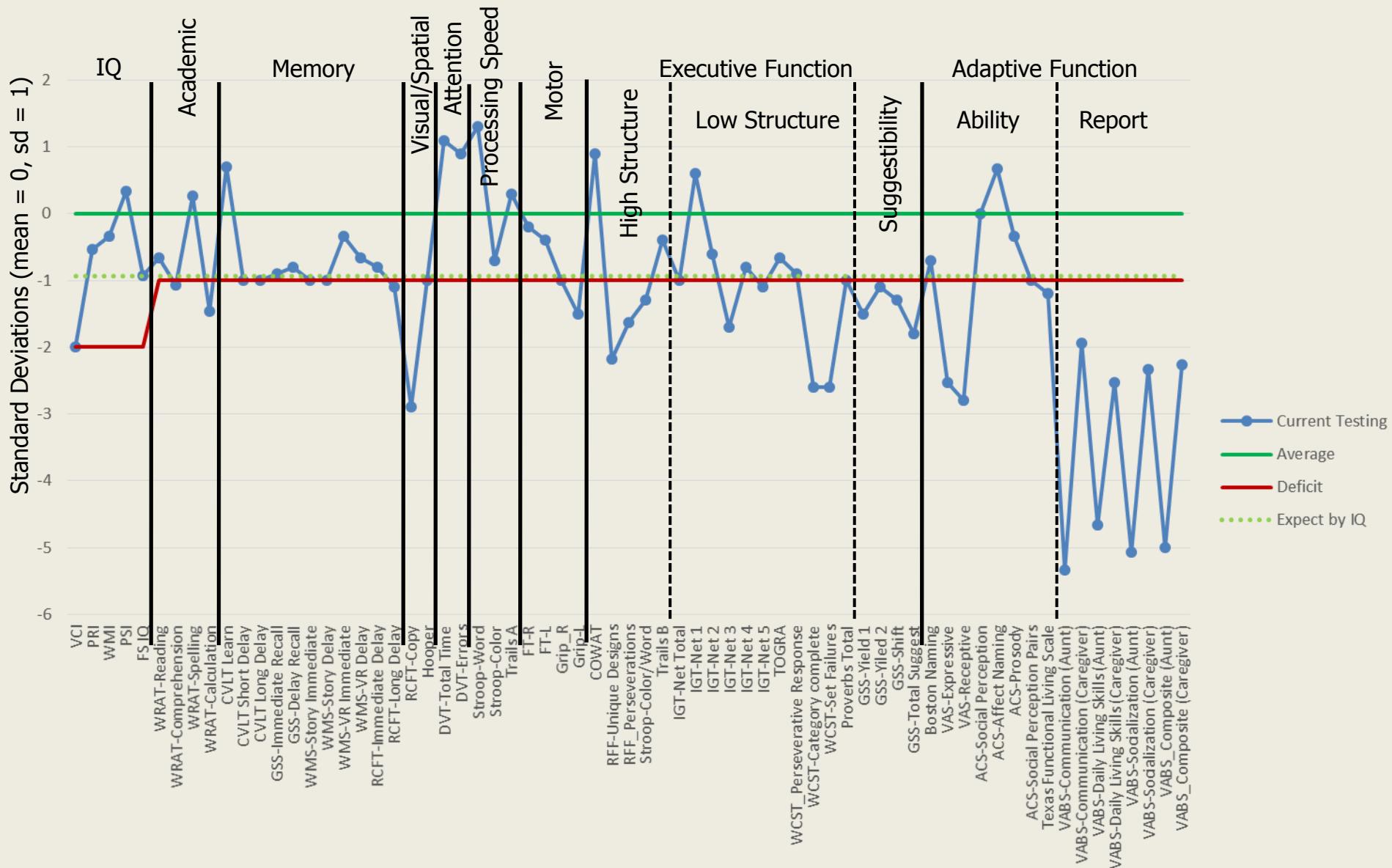
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**Let's Talk**  
**Adults with FASD Preconference**  
**April 18, 2018**

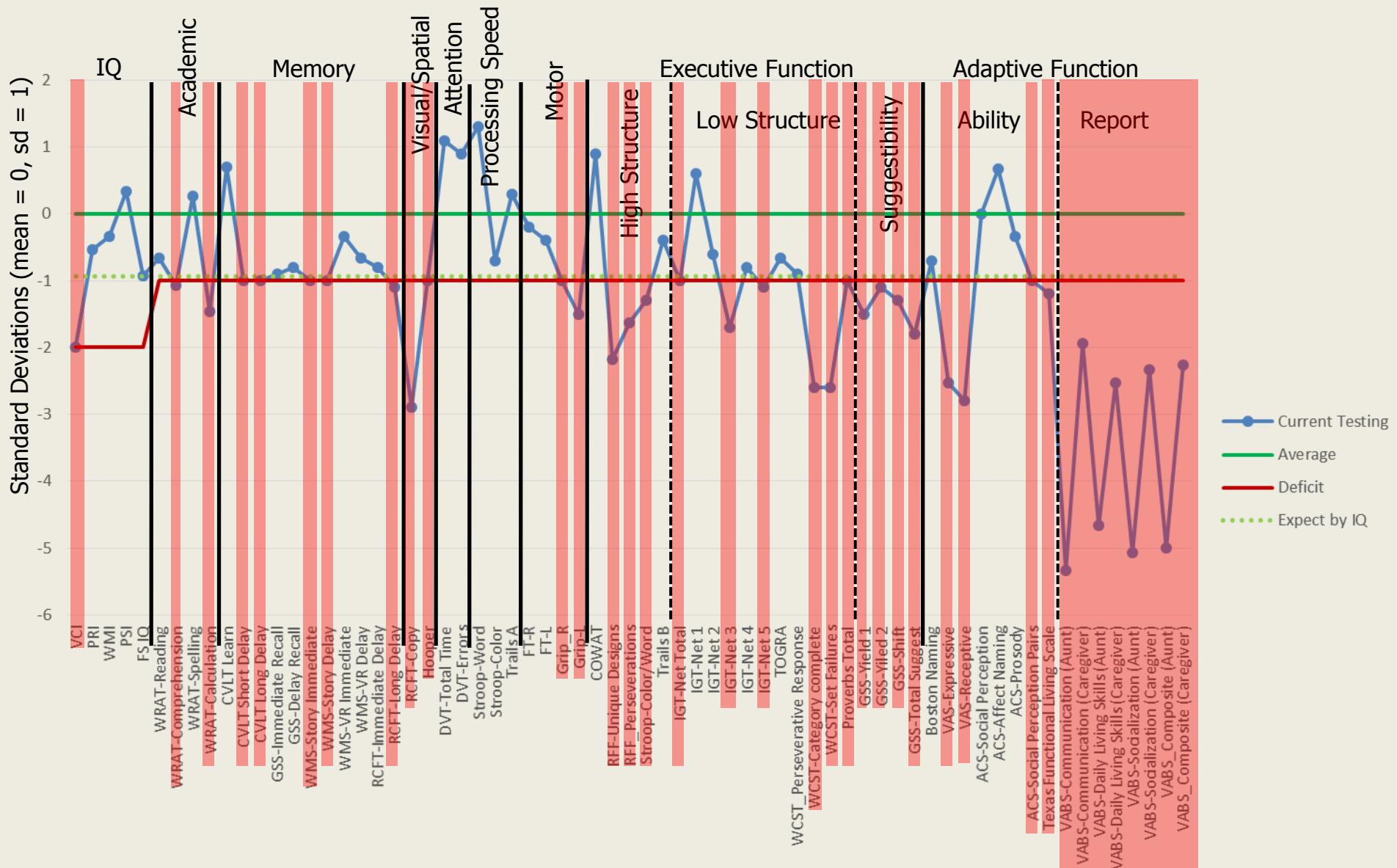
# **Neuropsychological Assessment when Diagnosing FASD**

- Focus is on:
  - Establishing the individual's current pattern of cognitive impairments
  - Establishing a historical pattern of similar cognitive functioning
- These patterns of deficit are critical in rendering a diagnosis of an FASD

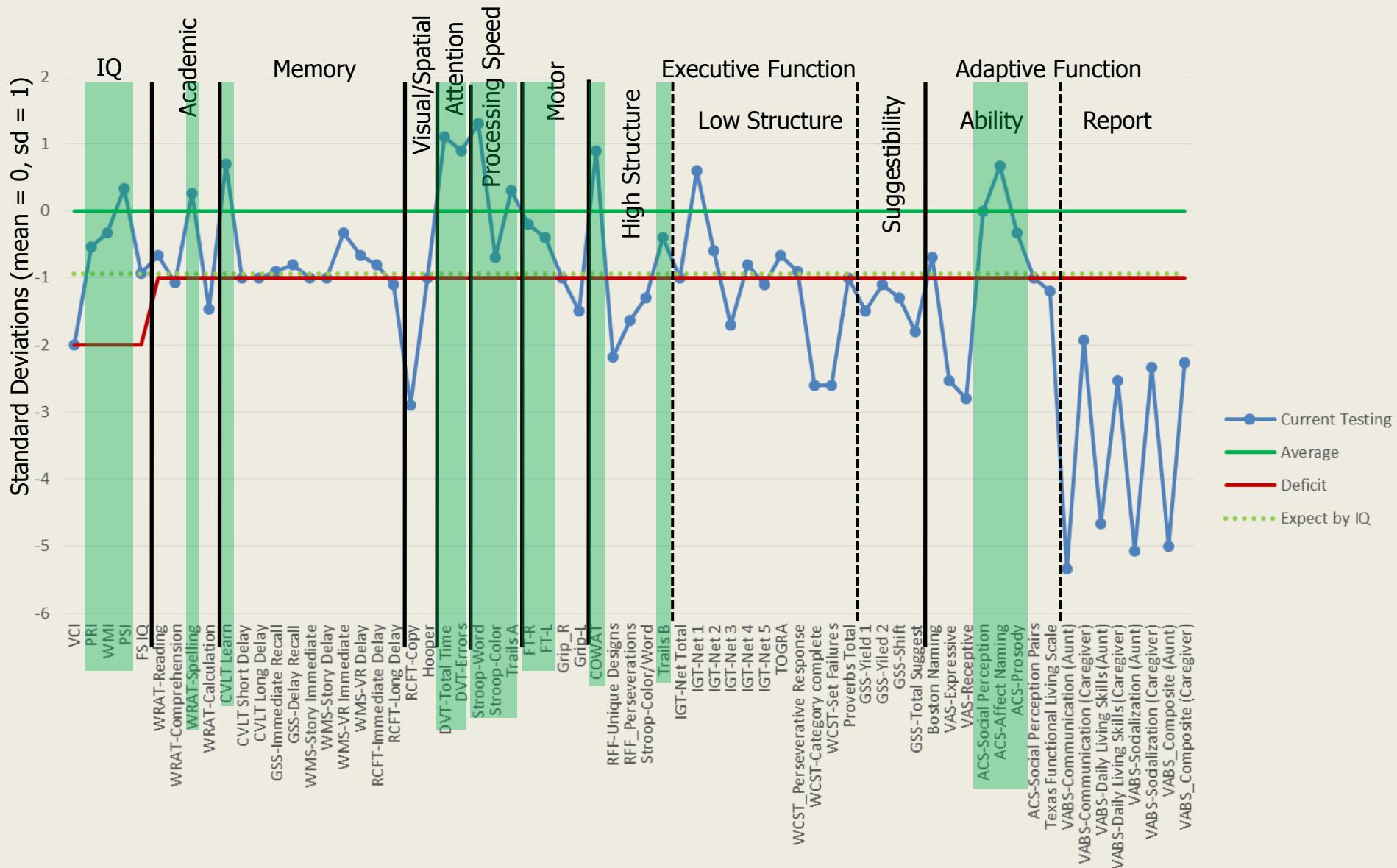
# Focus on the Impairments



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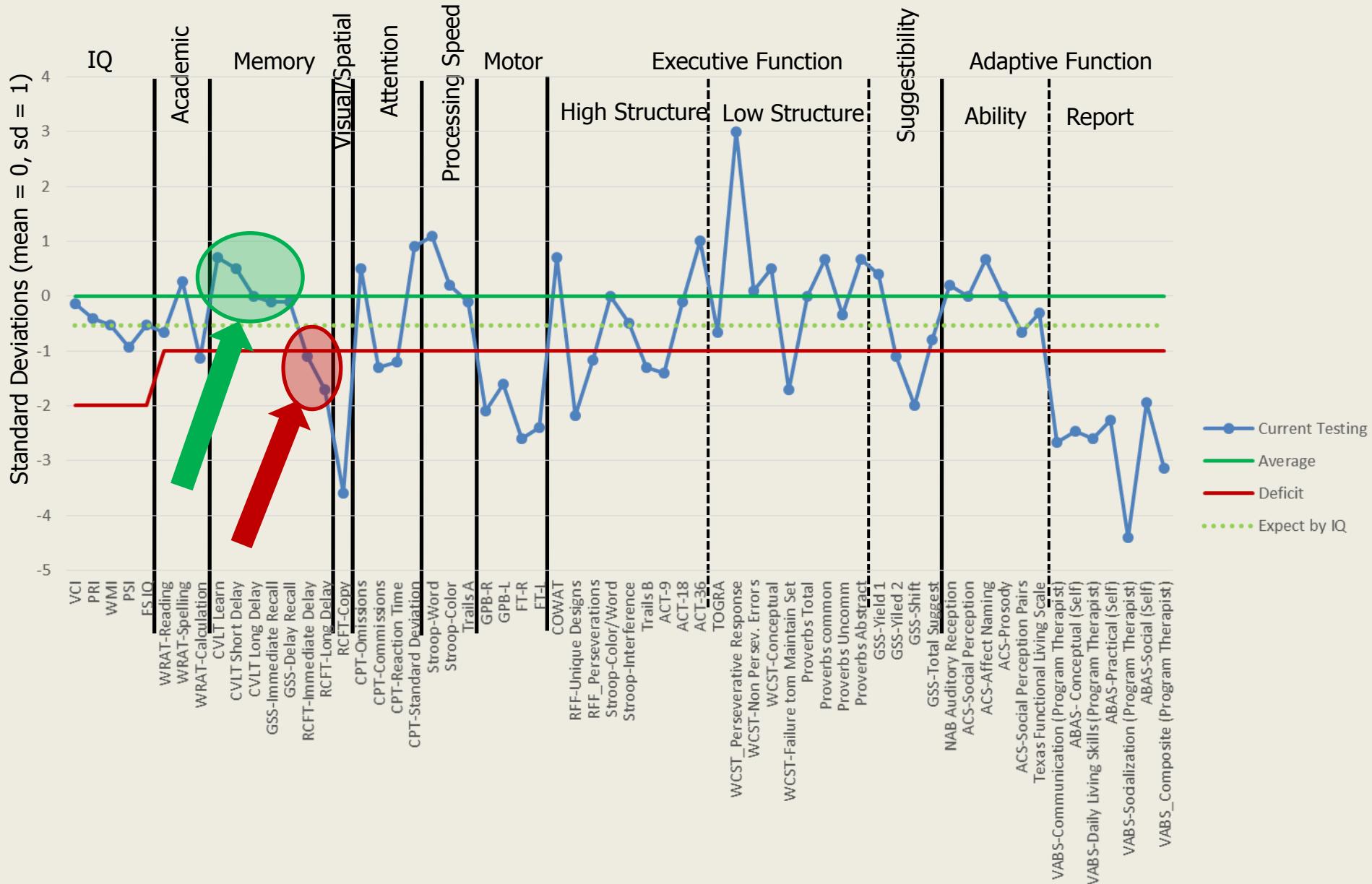
# Focus on the Strengths



# **Use of Neuropsychological assessment to Guide Treatment**

- The individual's pattern of neuropsychological functioning can also give ideas on how best to work with them therapeutically

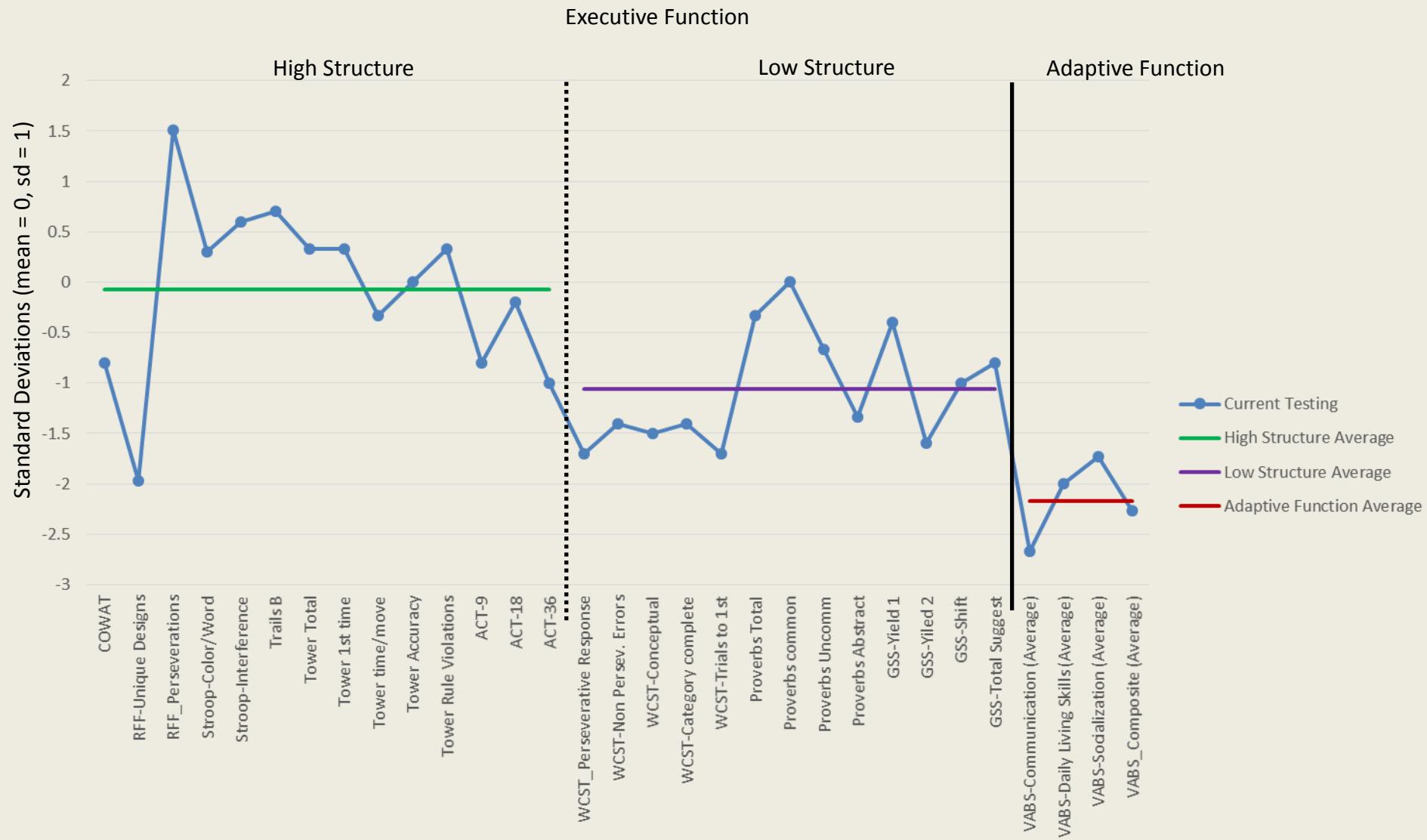
# Better Language-Based Learning and Memory



# Learning and Memory

- Differential learning/memory strengths
  - If verbal provide language based instruction
  - If visual, use pictographic cues and write down information
  - For both, role play and practice

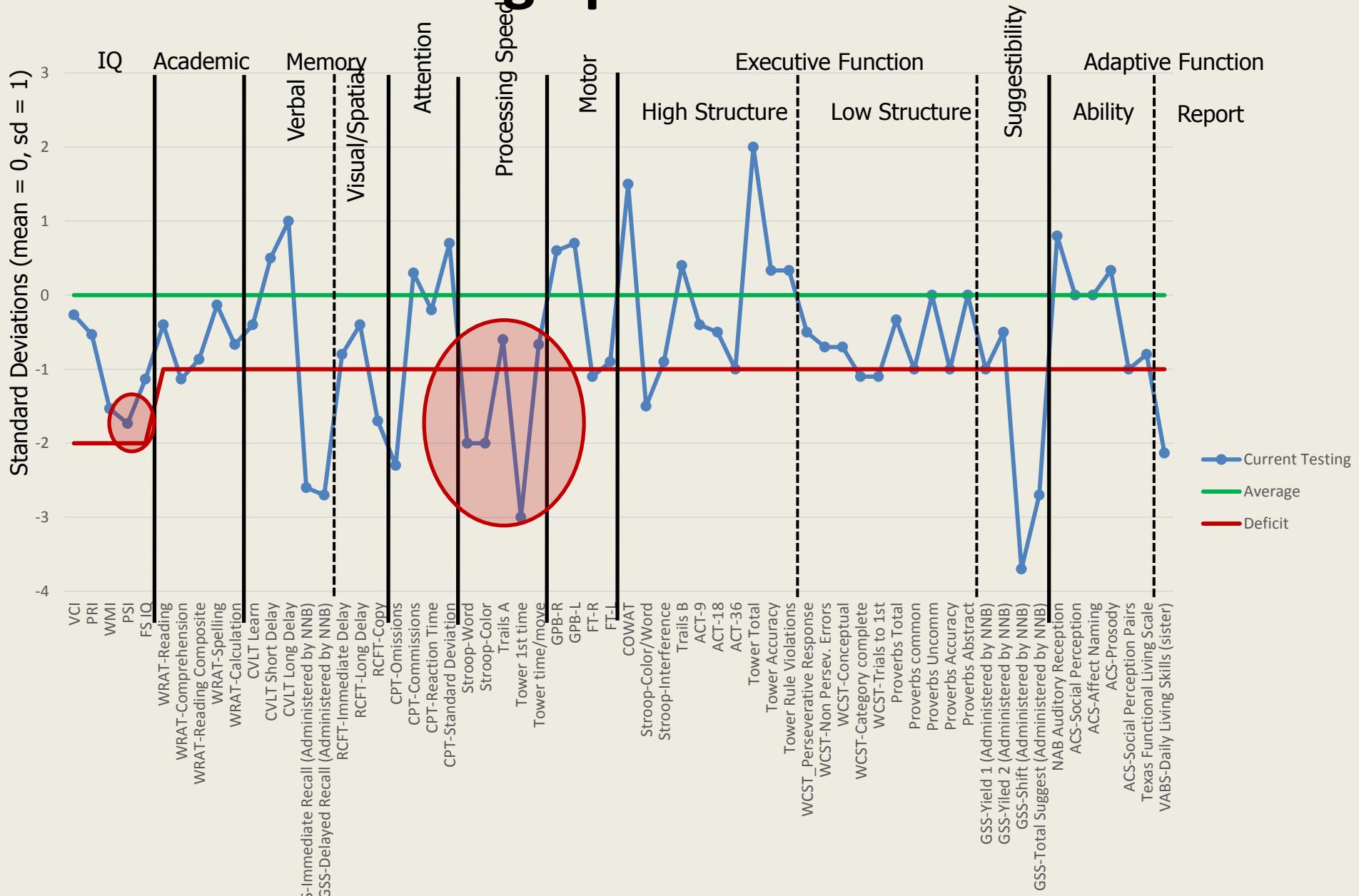
# Better on High Structure Tasks



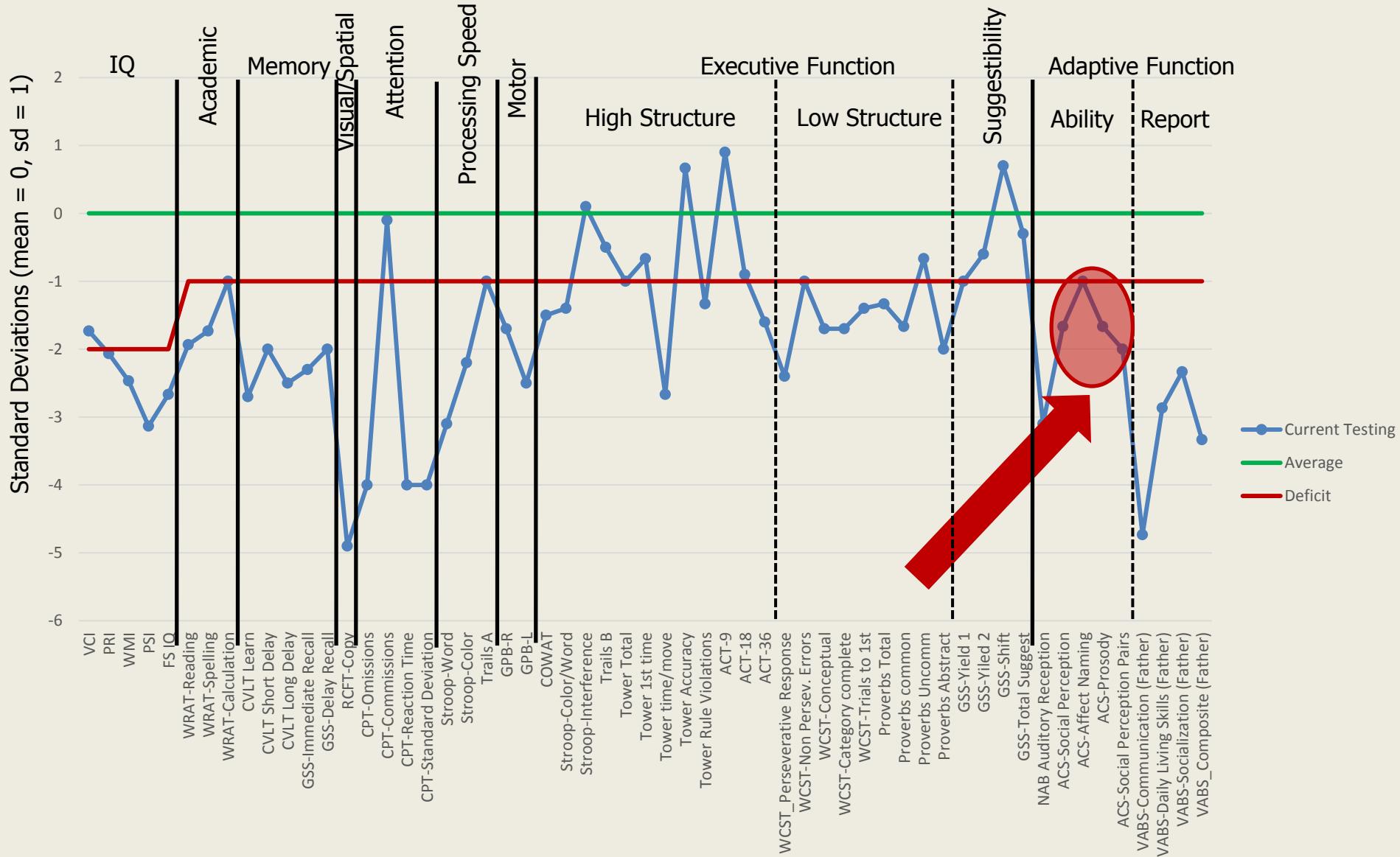
# **Does Better on High Structure Executive Functioning**

- When tasks are well structured and concrete, they can able to do better

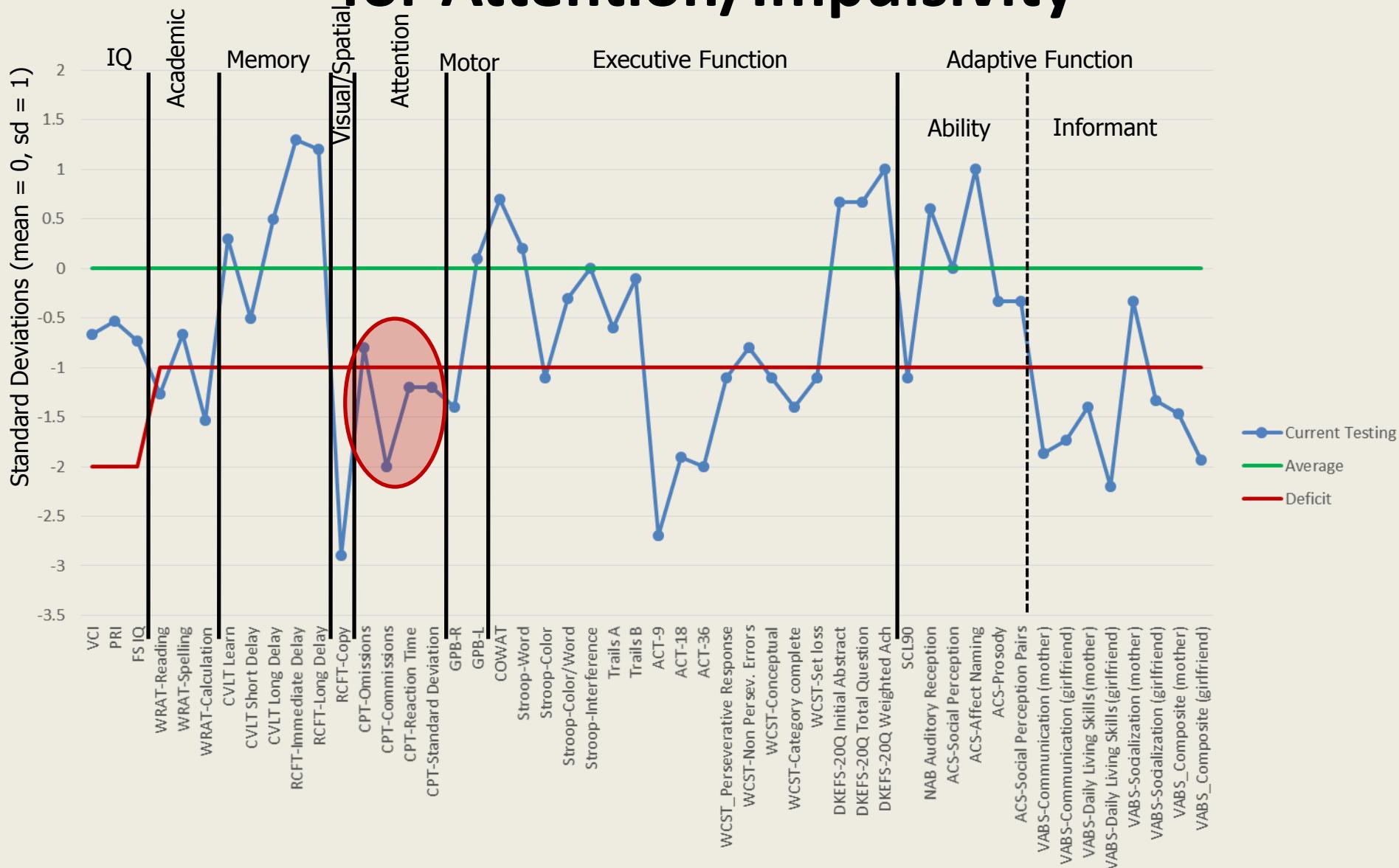
# Slow Processing Speed: Allow Extra Time



# Difficulty Understanding Emotions



# Potentially Benefit from Medications for Attention/Impulsivity



# In Conclusion

- The neuropsychological evaluation provides more than just diagnostic information
- It can focus on both strengths AND weaknesses
- It can be used to help tailor treatment strategies
  - To maximize strengths
  - To minimize the impacts of weaknesses

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