

## **Normal and pathological language control in bilinguals**

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Diverse phenomena point to the need to understand the nature of language control in bilingual speakers. Can we give a unified account? I think so. Do we have one yet? No. We know some of the neural regions involved based on functional imaging and neuropsychological data. Control is achieved through the working together of frontal-subcortical and cerebellar structures. Such a network of regions underlies language control in monolingual speakers too.

Thinking about how control works leads us to assess the dichotomy between language processes and non-language processes. The interplay between representational and control processes is deep ranging from the conceptual to the sensori-motor. It leads us to consider how the contexts of acquisition, and the ecology in which bilingual speakers operate, shape the system. Such consideration leads to further questions: What is the nature of the variety created? How does this variety affect the process of language control and the pattern of deficit following stroke? And, ultimately, how may we think about this question productively so that we can develop a unified account?