

There is also consistent concordance between self- and study partner report of SCD across groups, despite differences in study partner relationships. SCD may be considered a valid predictor of subtle cognitive change across groups in the A4 sample. Limitations include small group sizes relative to the large NHW sample. Future work with larger, more representative samples are needed to further validate these findings.

Categories: Aging

Keyword 1: cognitive functioning

Keyword 2: memory complaints

Keyword 3: aging (normal)

Correspondence: Talia Robinson, PhD
Brigham and Women's Hospital/Massachusetts
General Hospital trobinson17@bwh.harvard.edu

70 Childhood SES and Midlife CVD on Late-life Cognition

Tamare V. Adrien¹, Andrew Hirst², Ai-Lin Tsai², Ruijia Chen³, Eleanor Hayes-Larson⁴, Shellie-Anne Levy¹, Laura Zahodne⁵, Paul K. Crane⁶, Rachel Peterson⁷, Paola Gilsanz², Indira Turney⁸

¹University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA.

²Kaiser Permanente Northern California, Oakland, CA, USA. ³University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA. ⁴University of California, Los Angeles, San Francisco, CA, USA. ⁵University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA. ⁶University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA. ⁷University of California, Davis, Davis, CA, USA. ⁸Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York, NY, USA

Objective: Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is a well-known risk factor for cognitive impairment and dementia, particularly among minoritized groups that have experienced a history of low childhood socioeconomic status (SES). Although previous literature has linked all levels of SES to varying degrees of stress exposure, children raised in higher SES households have more access to resources and services that encourage optimal growth and development than children who grow up in lower SES households. Given the disproportionate burden of dementia and cognitive deficits within minoritized groups, the present study examined

whether childhood SES is associated with later life cognition among Black and White older adults and if this association persists after accounting for hypertension, a possible mediator of the relationship between childhood SES.

Participants and Methods: 1,184 participants were from the first wave of the STAR (n = 397 Black [Mage= 75.0 ±6.8 years]) and KHANDLE (386 Black [Mage= 76.2 ±7.2 years] and 401 White [Mage= 78.4 ±7.5 years]) cohorts. We used general linear models to examine the relationship between childhood SES and later-life executive function, semantic memory, and verbal memory scores, and midlife hypertension. Childhood SES was measured by self-reported perceived financial status (with participants given the following options: 'pretty well off financially', 'about average', 'poor', or 'it varied'). These models were assessed in the full sample and also stratified by race.

Results: In the full sample, childhood financial status was not associated with semantic memory, verbal episodic memory, or executive function. Financial status was associated with semantic memory in Black adults ($\beta = -.124$, $t(771) = -2.52$, $p = .01$) and this association persisted after accounting for hypertension ($\beta = -.124$, $t(770) = -2.53$, $p = .01$). There was no association between childhood financial status and later life semantic memory among White adults. There was no association between childhood financial status and later life verbal episodic memory or executive function in either Black or White adults in models with or without adjustment for hypertension.

Conclusions: Our findings showed no relationship between childhood SES and cognition, except for semantic memory in Black participants; this relationship persisted after accounting for midlife CVD. Future analyses will assess both direct and indirect effects of more predictive measures of childhood SES on late-life cognition with midlife CVD as a mediator.

Categories: Aging

Keyword 1: aging (normal)

Correspondence: Tamare V. Adrien, University of Florida, tadrien@ufl.edu

71 Effect of Dementia Experience on the Relationship Between Dementia Worry, Knowledge of Dementia, and Age

Taylor D Lambertus¹, Matthew R Calamia², Julie A Suhr¹

¹Ohio University, Athens, Oh, USA. ²Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, USA

Objective: Dementia worry (DW) is anxious rumination about personal risk for dementia. Personal experience with dementia may affect DW, such that individuals with personal experience with dementia may have higher worry about developing dementia themselves. Further, dementia knowledge (DK), including what may increase one's dementia risk as well as treatment options for dementias, may be influenced by one's dementia experience. Prior studies have suggested that personal experience alters the relationship of age to DW; no prior studies have examined this for DK. In the present study, we examined whether DW and/or DK were differentially related to age in older adults.

Participants and Methods: Adults (≥ 50 years old; $N=252$) in Ohio and Louisiana completed an online survey. 94 participants reported no personal dementia experiences, and 158 participants endorsed having a biological relative with dementia. The sample ranged in age from 23 to 92 ($M=65$, $SD=9.3$), with 96% identifying as White and 76% holding advanced degrees. DW was measured with the Dementia Worry Scale. Dementia knowledge was measured with true or false questions about causes and treatments for dementia.

Results: Groups did not differ in age ($p=.73$), education ($p=.50$), or perceived SES ($p=.28$), but did differ in gender ($p=.06$). The experience group had higher dementia knowledge ($p=.02$). In those with biological dementia experience, lower age was related to higher dementia worry ($r=-.24$, $p=.003$) and greater dementia knowledge ($r=-.18$, $p=.03$). However, in those with no experience, age was not related to either dementia worry ($r=.04$) or to dementia knowledge ($r=.16$). Dementia worry did not relate to dementia knowledge in either group (no experience $r=.03$, experience $r=.13$).

Conclusions: Findings suggest that younger individuals who have personal experience with dementia are highly worried about personal risk for dementia, despite having higher knowledge of dementia. Further, these results demonstrate that dementia knowledge is not related to dementia worry in older individuals with or without biological dementia experience. Findings

may be important for informing dementia prevention education efforts.

Categories: Aging

Keyword 1: dementia - Alzheimer's disease

Keyword 2: aging disorders

Correspondence: Taylor D. Lambertus, Ohio University, tl043419@ohio.edu

72 Dietary Fat and Measures of Attention and Learning in Middle-Aged Adults

Taylor M McMillan, Fayeza S Ahmed
University of Maine-Orono, Orono, Maine, USA

Objective: Research examining dietary fat in relation to physical and cognitive health is mixed. Generally, it has been hypothesized that polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs) have vascular, anti-inflammatory, and neuroprotective effects^{1,2,3}. Monounsaturated fatty acids (MUFAs) commonly occur with saturated fatty acids (SFA) in certain foods, and some research suggests that consumption is associated with increased vascular risk⁴; however, there is limited research examining combined MUFAs and SFAs consumption from traditional Western diet foods (e.g., pizza, desserts) compared to animal (e.g., butter, cow milk, salmon) and plant products (e.g., coconut oil, cocoa butter). Furthermore, much of the research examining dietary components/supplementation and cognition is in older adult or at-risk samples, with limited research examining the relationships among middle-aged and cognitively unimpaired adults. We present preliminary data from an ongoing pilot study.

Participants and Methods: 39 middle-aged (40-65 years, inclusive) cognitively unimpaired individuals were recruited from the community. The Food Frequency Questionnaire (Short-Form; SF-FFQ) was used to calculate diet components and servings during a "typical week." Attention and working memory were measured using trial one of the California Verbal Learning Test - Third Edition (CVLT-III), Oral Trail Making Test Part B, Number Span (forward and backward), Stroop Color and Color-Word trials. Genetic and other plasma-based data for 25 participants have also been obtained, and analysis is in progress; we plan to analyze these additional components in greater detail once we have achieved our target sample size.