

'Mind the gap': A systematic review of the factors influencing the discrepancy between subjective and objective daily functioning in older adults

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Why does this matter?

- Impairment in instrumental activities of daily living (IADL) due to cognitive decline is a diagnostic criterion for dementia, distinguishing it from mild cognitive impairment (1).
- Results of subjective and objective IADL assessments often differ, sometimes underestimating (2, 3) and sometimes overestimating (2, 4, 5) IADL impairment.
- Clinicians will continue relying on subjective IADL assessments, despite known biases.
- Understanding factors that influence the discrepancy can assist clinicians in determining when:
 - Subjective IADL is reliable.
 - Further evaluation using objective IADL methods may be warranted.

What are the key takeaways you need to know?

- Subjective IADL reports are clinically useful, but they are influenced by cognition, age, gender, mood, informant burden, and relationship to the participant.
- These factors should be considered when interpreting subjective reports in clinical practice.

Results

Self-reported vs objective IADL?

Participants predominantly **overestimated** their own IADL.

Influenced by



Cognition

Better cognition → less discrepancy



Depression

No effect



Age

Older age → overestimation



Dementia severity

More severe → less accuracy



Personality

Extraversion → underestimation
Neuroticism → underestimation
Conscientiousness → overestimation



Education

No effect

Informant-reported vs objective IADL?

Mixed, but informants had an overall trend toward **overestimating**.

Influenced by



Participant cognition

Better cognition → miss subtle IADL deficits
→ overestimation (but findings were mixed)



Participant gender

Male → overestimation



Relationship

Children → overestimation



Caregiver burden

Underestimation



Informant depression

Underestimation

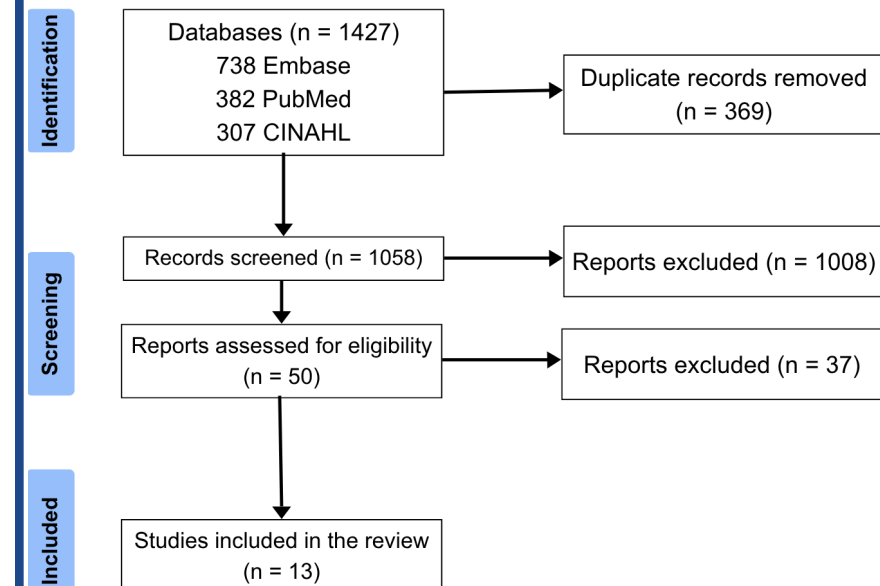


Dementia severity, age, living arrangement

No effect

Methods

Identification of studies via databases and registers



Quality assessment



Let's connect!



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