

Moderate Reproductive History May Protect Against Certain Dementia Subtypes In Both Sexes

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Moderate reproductive history appears to offer late-life neuroprotection to both sexes, although different patterns of associations with NeuroCognitive Disorders are observed per sex.

INTRODUCTION

- Parental status (one's number of children) has been associated with Neurocognitive Disorder (NCD) in late-life.
- Evidence on sex-specific associations with the prevalence and sub-types of NCD remains limited.

In the present study, we examined associations between parental status and the prevalence and subtypes of NCD in both sexes.

METHODS

Sample:

- 914 naturally menopausal women (Mean^{AGE} = 72.65±5.57 years, Mean^{EDUCATION} = 7.57±4.89 years)
- 811 men (Mean^{AGE} = 74.43±5.37 years, Mean^{EDUCATION} = 8.92±5.28 years)

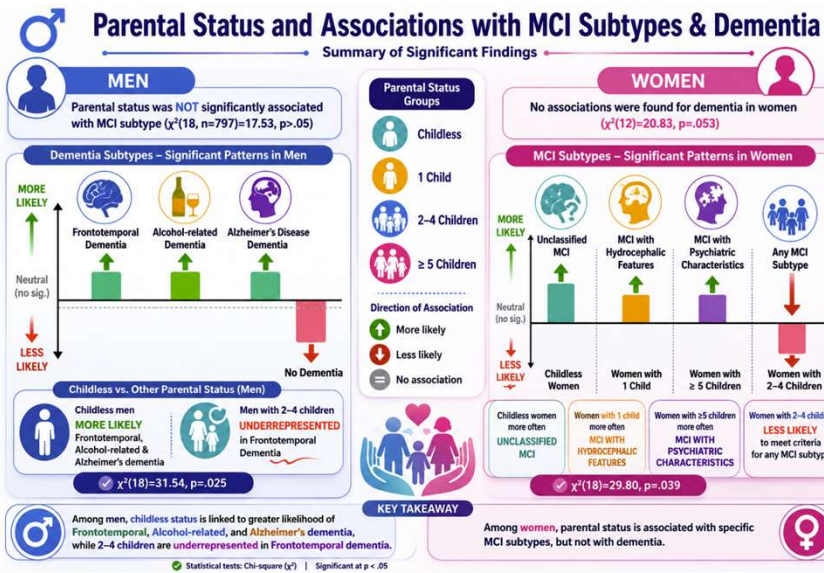
Source: Hellenic Longitudinal Investigation of Aging and Diet (HELIAD; Dardiotis et al., 2014).

Neuropsychological assessments and neurological exams were included in diagnostic consensus meetings to determine MCI and dementia diagnoses and their subtypes.

Participants were categorized per their self-reported number of children as childless, with one child, 2–4 children, or ≥5 children (parental status).

Associations between parental status and NCD diagnostic subtypes were examined using chi-square tests.

RESULTS



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CONCLUSION

- Parental status is differentially associated with dementia and MCI subtypes in men and women.
- it appears that moderate reproductive history (having 2-4 children) is associated with neuroprotection in both sexes.
- Further studies are needed to map sex-specific associations between reproductive history and cognitive aging.

REFERENCES

Dardiotis, E., Kosmidis, M. H., Yannakoulia, M., Hadjigeorgiou, G. M., & Scarmeas, N. (2014). The Hellenic Longitudinal Investigation of Aging and Diet (HELIAD): rationale, study design, and cohort description. *Neuroepidemiology*, 43(1), 9–14.

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