

Do Perspectives Matter? Comparing Patient, Informant, and Clinician Subjective Cognitive Decline

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BACKGROUND

- Subjective Cognitive Decline (SCD) describes the subjective experience of a decrease in cognitive function in the absence of objective cognitive decline¹.
- Many definitions of SCD have been used in research, including Patient, Informant, and Clinician SCD².
- Reporting SCD has been associated with a higher likelihood of subsequent cognitive decline¹.
- Little is known about how each of these definitions could be associated with predicting decline in different cognitive domains

OBJECTIVES

- To investigate the differences in cognitive decline profiles between SCD+ and SCD- participants across three definitions of SCD (patient, informant, and clinician)
- To investigate the relationship between SCD and domain-specific cognitive decline across these definitions

REFERENCES

1. Jessen et al., (2014). *Alzheimer's & Dementia*.
2. Rabin et al., (2017). *Annual Review of Clinical Psychology*.



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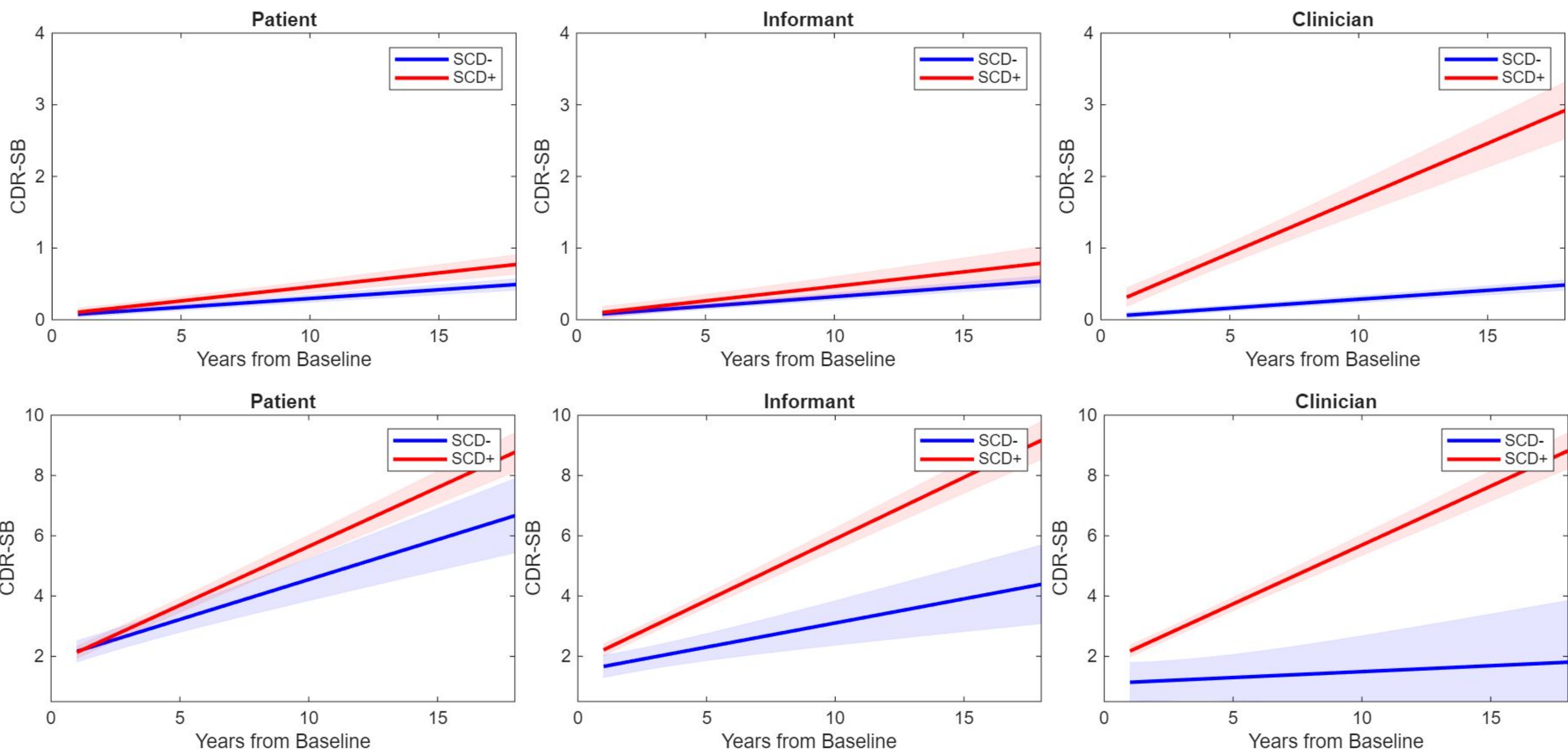
RESULTS

Baseline Results:

- **Patient SCD** was associated with **worse** cognitive performance in the **MCI** and **AD** groups, while **no** differences were found in the **NC** group
- **Informant** and **clinician SCD** were both individually associated with **worse** cognitive performance **across** the diagnostic groups

Longitudinal Results:

- **Patient SCD** was associated with **increased** cognitive decline over time **across** all diagnostic groups
- **Informant SCD** was associated with **increased** cognitive decline over time in the **MCI** and **AD** groups, while **no** differences were found in the **NC** group
- **Clinician SCD** was associated with **increased** cognitive decline over time **across** all diagnostic groups



- At **baseline** and **over time**, **language** was the cognitive domain which was the **most commonly** associated with worse cognitive performance and cognitive decline in **SCD+** participants **across** the three SCD definitions.
- Overall, **SCD+ participants** displayed **worse** cognitive performance at **baseline** and decline **over time** on multiple cognitive measures compared to **SCD- participants**

METHODS

- 4290 older adults (1690 normal controls (NC), 840 mild cognitive impairment (MCI), 1760 Alzheimer's disease (AD)) between the ages of 55 and 80 from the NACC database were included
- Patient, informant, and clinician SCD endorsement were determined using NACC questions and participants were categorized as either SCD+ or SCD- for each definition
- Cognitive variables measuring multiple cognitive domains were included

Baseline Analysis:

$$\text{Cognitive Variable} \sim \text{Education} + \text{Sex} + \text{Age} + \text{SCD_Status}$$

Longitudinal Analysis:

$$\text{Cognitive Variable} \sim \text{Education} + \text{Sex} + \text{Age_Baseline} + \text{Time_From_Baseline} + \text{SCD_Status} + \text{Time_From_Baseline} : \text{SCD_Status} + (1 | \text{NACCID})$$

CONCLUSION

- Clinician SCD is useful in predicting cognitive decline, and should be included in future research alongside patient and informant reports
- The combination of the three SCD definitions would provide an optimal overview of the likelihood of cognitive decline in SCD+ patients
- Future research should focus on monitoring declines in language in individuals with any SCD definition