EPP0252
An investigation of depression and inflammation as potential mediators linking adverse childhood experiences with cognitive decline in adulthood: results from a prospective cohort study

E. Lowry1, A. Mc Inerney2, N. Schmitz2 and S. Deschenes1*
1University College Dublin, Psychology, Belfield, Ireland and 2University of Tübingen, Medicine, Tübingen, Germany
*Corresponding author.
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Introduction: Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) have been associated with numerous health consequences in adulthood including cognitive decline. However, the underlying mechanisms implicated remain unclear.

Objectives: In this study, depressive symptoms and systemic inflammation were investigated as potential independent mediators of the association between ACEs and cognitive decline.

Methods: Participants were adults aged 50+ from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (N = 3,029; 54.8% female). Measures included self-reported ACEs at wave 3 (2006-2007), C-reactive protein (CRP) and depressive symptoms at wave 4 (2008-2009), and cognitive function at waves 3 and 7 (2014-2015). Mediation analyses examined the direct associations between ACEs and cognitive function at wave 7 and the indirect associations via depressive symptoms and CRP at wave 4 and were conducted using ordinary least squares regression models with the SPSS PROCESS macro. In Step 1, models were adjusted for sociodemographic factors and baseline cognitive function. Models in Step 2 were additionally adjusted for obesity and health behaviours (n = 1,874).

Results: Cumulative ACEs exposure was shown to positively predict later-life depressive symptoms, which in turn predicted cognitive decline. ACEs were also shown to positively predict systemic inflammation as measured by CRP. However, CRP did not mediate the association between ACEs and cognitive decline.

Conclusions: These findings suggest that ACEs are related to cognitive decline partly via depressive symptoms and corroborate prior research linking ACEs with adult systemic inflammation. Efforts towards screening for, preventing, and mitigating the effects of ACEs may therefore represent an important avenue for improving health outcomes in later life.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: adverse childhood experiences; inflammation; Depression; cognitive decline

EPP0253
Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on maternal mental health during pregnancy: The CONCEPTION study – Phase I

A. Berard1,4, A. Lacasse2, Y.-H. Gomez3, J. Gorgui1, S. Côte4, S. King2, V. Tchuenté3, F. Muanda1, Y. Lumu1, I. Boucoiran4, A.-M. Nuyt1, C. Quach1, E. Ferreira1, P. Kaul1, B. Winquist1, K. O’Donnell9, S. Eltonsy3, D. Château10, J.-P. Zhao11, G. Hanley11, T. Oberlander12, B. Kassal13, S. Mainbourg13, S. Bernatsky4, É. Vinet1, A. Brodeur-Doucet13, J. Demers13, P. Richebé16, V. Zaphiratos17, C. Wang18 and X. Wang18
1CHU Sainte-Justine, Research Center, Montreal, Canada; 2 Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Health Sciences Department, Rouyn-Noranda, Canada; 3McGill University, Faculty Of Medicine, Montreal, Canada; 4Western University, Department Of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, London, Canada; 5Protestant University in Congo, Family Medicine, Kinshasa, Congo, Republic of; 6University of Alberta, Department Of Medicine, Edmonton, Canada; 7University of Saskatchewan, College Of Medicine, Saskatoon, Canada; 8McGill University, Douglas Research Center, Montreal, Canada; 9University of Manitoba, College Of Pharmacy, Winnipeg, Canada; 10University of Manitoba, Manitoba Center For Health Policy, Winnipeg, Canada; 11University of British Columbia, Department Of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Vancouver, Canada; 12University of British Columbia, Department Of Pediatrics, Vancouver, Canada; 13Claude Bernard University Lyon 1, Department Of Clinical Epidemiology, Lyon, France; 14Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, Faculty Of Medicine, Lyon, France; 15Montréal Diet Dispensary, Dispensaire Diététique De Montréal, Montréal, Canada; 16Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital, Department Of Anesthesiology And Pain Medicine, Montréal, Canada; 17Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital, Research Center, Montréal, Canada and 18Zhengzhou University, College Of Public Health, Zhengzhou, China
*Corresponding author.
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Introduction: Mental health regional differences during pregnancy through the COVID-19 pandemic is understudied.

Objectives: We aimed to quantify the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on maternal mental health during pregnancy.

Methods: A cohort study with a web-based recruitment strategy and electronic data collection was initiated in 06/2020. Although Canadian women, >18 years were primarily targeted, pregnant women worldwide were eligible. The current analysis includes data on women enrolled 06/2020-11/2020. Self-reported data included mental health measures (Edinburgh Perinatal Depression Scale (EPDS), Generalized Anxiety Disorders (GAD-7)), stress. We