



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

MONDAY MEMO

January 31, 2022

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DEPARTMENT NEWS

HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATION



Becker, S., Sharma, M.J., & Callahan, B.L. (2022). ADHD and neurodegenerative disease risk: A critical examination of the evidence. *Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience*, 13(826213): 1-17.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fnagi.2021.826213>



In this review, we undertake a critical appraisal of eight published studies providing first evidence that a history of attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) may increase risk for the later-life development of a neurodegenerative disease, in particular Lewy body diseases (LBD), by up to five-fold. Most of these studies have used data linked to health records in large population registers and include impressive sample sizes and adequate follow-up periods. We identify a number of methodological limitations as well, including potential diagnostic inaccuracies arising from the use of electronic health records, biases in the measurement of ADHD status and symptoms, and concerns surrounding the representativeness of ADHD and LBD cohorts. Consequently, previously reported risk associations may have been underestimated due to the high likelihood of potentially missed ADHD cases in groups used as “controls”, or alternatively previous estimates may be inflated due to the inclusion of confounding comorbidities or non-ADHD cases within “exposed” groups that may have better accounted for dementia risk. Prospective longitudinal studies involving well-characterized cases and controls are recommended to provide some reassurance about the validity of neurodegenerative risk estimates in ADHD.

New Director of the University of Calgary Psychology Clinic

Please join us in welcoming **Dr. Brae Anne McArthur** to the psych department as Director of the University of Calgary Psychology Clinic. Dr. McArthur is a registered psychologist who received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology: Applied Developmental Emphasis from the University of Guelph and completed her internship in Clinical Child and Pediatric Psychology at Alberta Children's Hospital. Dr. McArthur has experience working with children, adolescents, young adults, and their families. She has held clinical roles working in inpatient clinics, outpatient clinics, schools, and pediatric health settings. She is an active clinical supervisor and has a passion for supervising and teaching the next generation of psychologists.

Dr. McArthur's program of research focuses on understanding individual and family level risk and resiliency factors that influence child development and mental health. As an expert on child development and mental health, she has published over 40 peer-reviewed publications. Dr. McArthur's work has been widely covered in the media, including CNN, CBC, Global News, and Reuters, and she engages in knowledge translation to the public through community presentations, policy reports, and op-eds published in the Conversation Canada.



RESEARCH NOTES AND ACTIVITIES

Becker, S., Sharma, M.J., & Callahan, B.L. (2022). ADHD and neurodegenerative disease risk: A critical examination of the evidence. *Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience*, 13(826213): 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnagi.2021.826213>

Callahan, B.L., Ramakrishnan, N., Shammi, P., Bierstone, D., Taylor, R., Ozzoude, M., Goubran, M., Stuss, D.T., & Black, S.E. (in press). Cognitive and neuroimaging profiles of older adults with ADHD presenting to a memory clinic. *Journal of Attention Disorders*, Nov 16:10870547211060546. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10870547211060546>. Online ahead of print

Callahan, B.L., Plamondon, A., Gill, S. & Ismail, Z. (2021). Contribution of vascular risk factors to the relationship between ADHD symptoms and cognition in adults and seniors. *Scientific Reports*, Dec 20;11(1):24276. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-03782-y>

Callahan, B.L., Shammi, P., Taylor, R., Ramakrishnan, N., & Black, S.E. (2021). Longitudinal cognitive performance of older adults with ADHD presenting to a cognitive neurology clinic: A case series of change up to 21 years. *Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience*, 13(726374):1-16. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnagi.2021.726374>

Katy Celina Sandoval, Sarah E. Thackray, Alison Wong, Nicole Niewinski, Colten Chipak, Sukhjinder Rehal and **Richard H. Dyck**. Lack of vesicular zinc does not affect the behavioral phenotype of poly (I:C)-induced maternal immune activation mice. *Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience* (in press). <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnbeh.2022.769322>

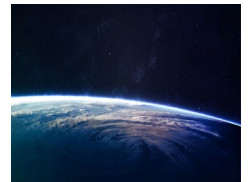
Beveridge, J. K., Yeates, K. O., Madigan, S., Stone, A. L., Wilson, A. C., Sumpton, J. E., ... & Noel, M. (2022). Examining parent adverse childhood experiences as a distal risk factor in pediatric chronic pain. *The Clinical journal of pain*, 38(2), 95-107

Soltani, S., van Ryckeghem, D. M., Vervoort, T., Heathcote, L. C., Yeates, K. O., Sears, C., & Noel, M. (2022). Clinical relevance of attentional biases in pediatric chronic pain: an eye-tracking study. *Pain*, 163(2), e261-e273

EVENTS

Canadian Space Health Research Network

Dr. Giuseppe Iaria will be on the panel discussion for the Canadian Space Health Research Network's discussing the commercialization of space, our hopes for the future of space health research, and the potential of private spaceflight – such as the impending Ax-1 mission – to advance scientific investigation. Event will take place February 16, 2022 from 9:00AM-10:30AM PST
Registration required: <https://www.canadianspacehealth.ca/webinars>



PSYCHOLOGY IN THE NEWS

The University of Calgary is offering free mental health support to Albertans who are struggling with the impacts of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Its Werklund School of Education has three programs offering virtual counseling to Albertans looking for support:

- The Strong Mind, Strong Me program offers counseling to children and youth who have been impacted by the pandemic.
- The Becoming Strong Adults: Transitioning to Adulthood program is being offered to support emerging adults ages 18 to 25 living in Alberta.
- The Strong Parents Strong Kids program works with a family unit to help parents learn how to support their child better.



Read more: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/free-virtual-counselling-werklund-school-education-1.6325813>

VOLUNTEER AND JOB POSTINGS

For Undergraduate Students

Presenter Opportunity

Rebecca Hay, in partnership with Alberta Children's hospital is recruiting students interested in assisting with teaching a program at schools in Calgary to educate them on Stress and the Brain, a program adapted from Society for Neuroscience Ottawa, along with the help of Madison Long. The goal of the presentation is to increase mental health literacy, destigmatize mental health and provide access to resources, by teaching both on mental health and the science behind it. The team is interested in recruiting trainees to be presenters! Position would require attendance at a brief training session, and occasional time at a school in Calgary (1.5hours) to deliver the presentation.

If you are interested in getting involved, please email Rebecca at: Rebecca.hay@albertahealthservices.ca

For Graduate Students, Faculty, & Staff

Post Doctoral Fellow Opportunity

A two-year post-doctoral position is available to assist with the Alberta Gambling Research Institute's National Project on Gambling and Problem Gambling (ANP) for more information please visit: <https://uleth.peopleadmin.ca/postings/5425>

Post Doctoral Opportunity

The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster University is seeking a postdoctoral scholar to work in the area of maternal postpartum depression prevention and treatment with a start date of September 2022. The position duration is one year with a possible renewal for a 2nd year. Interested applicants may send their cover letter and CV to Dr. Ryan Van Lieshout, Canada Research Chair in the Perinatal Programming of Mental Disorders and Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster University via email: vanlierj@mcmaster.ca. Applicants should also forward (or arrange for) 2 letters of reference to vanlierj@mcmaster.ca. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

MS - Counselling Psychology Opportunity

The University of Southern Mississippi's Counseling Psychology Master's of Science program is hosting a virtual informational session about our program and application process on February 8, 2022 from noon to 1p.m. CST. The MPCAC-accredited program is a 60-hour, full-time program grounded in the scientist-practitioner model. Those interested in learning more can register for this free virtual event at: https://usm-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZokcuqgqzgJE9bBRunMoRrXk-V_9vgtlvTI.

Happy Monday!

Congratulations to everyone included in the Monday Memo! The department recognizes your hard work and dedication. Keep it up!



Georgia (courtesy of Dana Watts)

Do you have something you would like to include in the Monday Memo newsletter? Please send it to samina.javeed@ucalgary.ca before Thursday at noon.

**Department of
Psychology**

**University of
Calgary**

**Pod Office:
ES 356**

<https://arts.ucalgary.ca/psychology/news/monday-memo>

For your pet to be featured in the Monday Memo, please email: dana.watts@ucalgary.ca
