



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

MONDAY MEMO

February 7, 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.

HONOURABLE MENTIONS

Congratulations to Dr. Tavis Campbell and the Behavioural Medicine Lab for receiving CIHR funding for their project entitled “A Behavioural Weight Loss Intervention delivered in Cardiac Rehabilitation for Patients with Atrial Fibrillation and Obesity: TheBeWEL IN CR-AF Study”!

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>

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

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>

Kam, J.W.Y., Mittner, M., & Knight, R.T. (2022). Mind wandering: Mechanistic insights from lesion, tDCS and iEEG. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1364661321003132?dgcid=author>

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>

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

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>

EVENTS

Spark After Dark

Dr. Kathleen Hughes will be presenting at Telus Spark's, Spark After Dark on February 10th. This will be an evening focused on heart-to-heart topics and include an opportunity to dissect a real heart. Dr. Hughes's talk will be about friendships in young adults, and how they change in intimacy, activity, and quantity over our 20s and 30s. For more information, check out <https://www.sparkscience.ca/whats-on/spark-after-dark>



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>



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/tZokcuqgqzgiE9bBRunMoRrXk-V_9vgtlvTL.

Assistant Professor in Clinical Neuroscience-Tenure track

The Department of Psychology at the University of New Brunswick in Saint John, N.B., invites applications for a tenure-track position in Clinical Neuroscience at the rank of Assistant Professor, commencing July 1, 2022, subject to final budgetary approval. Candidates must have a Ph.D. in Neuroscience or in Psychology specializing in any area of clinical neuroscience; priority will be given to a candidate with plans to continue to conduct research in basic or applied neuroscience. The successful candidate will be expected to maintain an externally-funded programme of research. The successful candidate will be expected to teach a range of undergraduate courses, including Neuroscience, Neuropsychology, Clinical Neuroscience, and Psychopharmacology as well as a fourth-year seminar focused on the candidate's research specialization. **Closing date for receipt of applications is March 1, 2022.** Applicants are requested to submit electronically (as a single PDF) a curriculum vitae, a statement of research interests, a statement of teaching philosophy, and up to three reprints of recent publications to galbral@unb.ca. Three confidential letters of reference should be forwarded directly by the referees to the Chair or Laura Galbraith at galbral@unb.ca.

The Garden - Casting Callout

We're looking for academics at Ph.D level or above to host virtual talks on our online platform. It's a great way to build up the profile of the fabulous scholarship happening at the University of Calgary, and an opportunity to demonstrate public engagement with your department's work. Our contributors are all paid for their work.

The Garden is a global community for the curious - a platform that connects people who love to learn with academics and experts for live talks and conversation circles. We are creating a place that brings the joy of curiosity into learning and a way for experts to make their work relevant and accessible to the world.

We are launching a series of online talks on "The unconscious mind" and aim to bring experts from a range of disciplines to deliver fascinating talks about neuroscience, psychology and related topics. We are looking for academics and researchers who feel comfortable speaking about their work in front of the camera. We highly value the expertise of the scholars we work with, so as I mentioned, the academics who give talks on our platform are paid a fee for each talk they give, and they retain control over their intellectual property.

To Apply please visit: [The Garden casting call \(typeform.com\)](https://typeform.com/the-garden-casting-call)

Happy Monday!

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



Milo (courtesy of Soomin Son)

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.

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

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