Vascular markers linked to cognitive decline in diabetes

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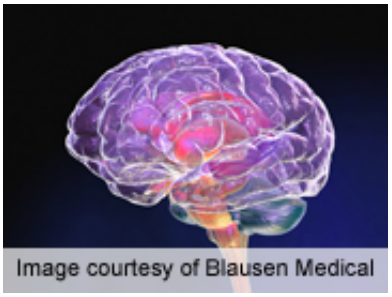

Stroke and subclinical markers of macrovascular disease are associated with cognitive decline in older adults with type 2 diabetes, according to a study published online April 11 in *Diabetes Care*.

(HealthDay)—Stroke and subclinical markers of macrovascular disease are associated with cognitive decline in older adults with type 2 diabetes, according to a study published online April 11 in *Diabetes Care*.

Insa Feinkohl, from the University of Edinburgh in the United Kingdom, and colleagues measured signs of macrovascular disease in 831 cognitively healthy older adults with type 2 diabetes. Subjects underwent seven neuropsychological tests at baseline and after four years. Lifetime cognitive change was estimated by adjustment for vocabulary.

The researchers found a significant association between measures of cognitive decline and stroke, N-terminal probrain natriuretic peptide,

ankle brachial index, and carotid intima-media thickness. There was a significant association between stroke and increased estimated lifetime cognitive decline, as well as between subclinical markers and actual four-year decline. Adjusting for vascular risk factors had little effect. There was no association found between measures of cognitive decline and non-stroke vascular events.

"Stroke and subclinical markers of cardiac stress and generalized atherosclerosis are associated with cognitive decline in older patients with type 2 diabetes," Feinkohl and colleagues conclude.

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More information: Abstract
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