

Migraine diagnoses positively associated with all-cause dementia

August 14 2019

Several studies have recently focused on the association between migraine headaches and other headaches and dementia and found a positive migraine-dementia relationship. However, most of these studies have failed to simultaneously adjust for several common comorbidities, thus potentially introducing bias into their findings.

The goal of the present study, which will be published in the next issue of the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*, was to investigate the association between [migraine](#) diagnoses and [dementia](#) in patients followed in [general practices](#) in the United Kingdom.

This study was based on data from the Disease Analyzer database (IQVIA), which compiles drug prescriptions, diagnoses, and basic medical and [demographic data](#) obtained directly and in anonymous format from computer systems used in the practices of general practitioners and specialists.

The current study sample included patients who had received a migraine diagnosis in one of 67 general practices in the UK between January 1997 and December 2016 (index date). Inclusion criteria were as follows: an observation time of at least 12 months prior to the index date; a follow-up time of at least 12 months after the index date; aged between 60 and 80 years at the index date; and no diagnosis of dementia or [mild cognitive impairment](#) prior to or at the index date. After applying similar inclusion criteria, patients without migraine diagnoses were matched 1:1 to patients with migraine diagnoses based on propensity scores using a

greedy algorithm and derived from the [logistic regression](#) using age, sex, index year, and co-diagnoses (i.e. [diabetes mellitus](#), hyperlipidemia, [coronary heart disease](#), stroke including transient ischemic attack, depression, intracranial injury, mental and behavioral disorders due to alcohol use, epilepsy, Parkinson's disease, osteoporosis). The index date for participants without migraine diagnoses was a randomly selected visit between January 1997 and December 2016. The main outcome of the study was the incidence of dementia as a function of migraine diagnosis within 10 years of the index date.

The present study included 3,727 individuals with and 3,727 individuals without a migraine diagnosis. Mean age was 67.7 years and 72.9% of patients were women. Within 10 years of the [index](#) date, 5.2% of the participants with and 3.7% of the participants without migraine diagnoses were diagnosed with dementia (p-value

Citation: Migraine diagnoses positively associated with all-cause dementia (2019, August 14) retrieved 26 April 2024 from

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2019-08-migraine-positively-all-cause-dementia.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--