

Request #: 430 - PSY - Dissertation

Neurotrophin Polymorphisms in Progression of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders:
Cognitive Decline and Neuropsychiatric Symptoms

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Background

I will be using the CCSMA and DPS datasets to look at whether BDNF genetics influence cognitive decline and neuropsychiatric symptom progression in both incident and prevalent dementia cases. This project is a 2-paper dissertation.

Sample

CCSMA and DPS extent data. Sample size is approximately 930 individuals.

Hypothesis

Paper 1: Do BDNF genetics influence cognitive progression (measured via CERAD neuropsychological battery) in ADRD? Paper 2: Do BDNF genetics influence neuropsychiatric symptom presentation (measured via NPI) in ADRD?

Progress

I have downloaded several CCSMA and DPS datasets.

Request

I currently need assistance making sure I have the right datasets and have an understanding of the “shifted” vs “non-shifted” data in the DPS. As stated above, I am also requesting direction in where I can get info to freshen up my R skills.

Timeline

I would like to have my data cleaned, organized, and analyzed by December 2019. I plan to then spend the early part of the Spring 2020 semester to finish dissertation write-up and plan to defend late Spring/early Summer 2020.