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8 **Association between Preeclampsia and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder:**  
9 **A Population-Based and Sibling-Matched Cohort Study**

10

11 **Running Title:** Preeclampsia and ADHD

12

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### 57 **Abstract**

58 **Objective:** Examine the association between preeclampsia and attention deficit hyperactivity  
59 disorder (ADHD), using a large Swedish-based registry cohort.

60 **Methods:** This study comprised 2,047,619 children, with 114,934 (5.6%) cases of ADHD.  
61 Preeclampsia was based on two alternate definitions: 1.Preeclampsia (using ICD-9/ICD-10)

62 2.Preeclampsia and small for gestational age (SGA) combined. ADHD was determined in one of  
63 two ways: 1.If a diagnosis of ADHD was present in the National Patient Register or 2.If an  
64 individual was in receipt of ADHD medication in the Prescribed Drug Register. Multivariate Cox  
65 proportional hazards regression analysis allowed adjustment for several  
66 perinatal/sociodemographic factors. Sibling-matched analysis further controlled for shared genetic  
67 and familial confounding.

68 **Results:** In the adjusted Cox model, preeclampsia was associated with an increase in likelihood of  
69 ADHD (HR: 1.15, 95% CI: 1.12, 1.19). The HR for preeclampsia and those born SGA was 1.43  
70 (95% CI: 1.31, 1.55) in the adjusted model, compared to those unexposed to preeclampsia/SGA.  
71 The sibling-matched analysis did not materially change these associations (HR: 1.13, 95% CI:  
72 1.05, 1.22) and 1.55 (95% CI: 1.28, 1.88).

73 **Conclusions:** Exposure to preeclampsia or preeclampsia/SGA was associated with ADHD,  
74 independent of genetic/familial factors shared by siblings. However, it is important to note that  
75 sibling-matched analysis can only adjust for factors that are constant between pregnancies,  
76 therefore residual confounding cannot be ruled out. Further research is needed to explore  
77 modifiable risk factors and identify those most-at-risk babies following delivery.

78

79 **Keywords:** Preeclampsia, Obstetric complications, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder,  
80 Epidemiology.

81

## 82 **Significant Outcomes**

- 83 • This population-based cohort study suggests that preeclampsia, as well as preeclampsia  
84 and small for gestational age (SGA) combined (i.e. SGA baby exposed to preeclampsia),  
85 are associated with an increase in the likelihood of ADHD, independent of genetic/familial  
86 factors shared by siblings.
- 87 • Placental pathology may be a common mechanism increasing the likelihood of ADHD as a  
88 stronger association was observed for preeclampsia/SGA, rather than preeclampsia alone.
- 89 • Further research is needed to explore modifiable risk factors and identify those most-at-risk  
90 babies following delivery.

91

## 92 **Limitations**

- 93 • A lack of robust data on gestational hypertension limited the analysis to preeclampsia-  
94 ADHD only; therefore, the comparison group may contain women with a diagnosis of  
95 gestational hypertension. However, a gestational hypertension-ADHD association would  
96 more likely bias our results towards the null.
- 97 • Outpatient data only started becoming available in 2001, meaning more severe cases of  
98 ADHD may have been overrepresented due to a reliance on inpatient data. However,  
99 restricting the study population to 2001-2010 did not have a large impact on findings.
- 100 • While sibling-matched analysis may have reduced confounding due to shared genetic and  
101 familial factors, the possibility of residual confounding cannot be ruled out in  
102 observational studies.
- 103

#### 104 **Data availability statement**

105 Authors are not permitted to share data due to GDPR restrictions.

#### 106 **Introduction**

107 Preeclampsia, which affects approximately 5% of all pregnancies<sup>1</sup>, is one of the leading causes of  
108 maternal morbidity and mortality, and was recently redefined by the International Society for the  
109 Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy (ISSHP) as gestational hypertension accompanied by at least  
110 two of the following: proteinuria and/or other maternal organ dysfunction and/or uteroplacental  
111 dysfunction<sup>2</sup>.

112 Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a neurodevelopmental disorder characterised  
113 by inattention, hyperactivity and impulsivity. ADHD has a global pooled prevalence of over 5%,  
114 and while this estimate varies significantly worldwide, the variability can mostly be explained by  
115 methodological differences between studies<sup>3, 4</sup>. Despite high heritability estimates, gene  
116 environment interactions may also play a role<sup>5</sup>.

117 Preeclampsia has been linked to adverse neurodevelopmental outcomes, including ADHD<sup>6, 7</sup>.  
118 Pooled results from a recent systematic review suggest that preeclampsia is associated with a 30%  
119 increase in odds of ADHD<sup>6</sup>. It is worth noting however, that while an apparent relationship exists  
120 in previous literature, residual confounding and quality of the studies may be a concern. For  
121 example, only one of ten studies included in the systematic review controlled for a combination of  
122 key potential confounders, such as maternal age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, and maternal  
123 mental illness<sup>6, 8</sup>.

#### 124 **Aim of the study**

125 The aim of this study was to examine the association between preeclampsia and ADHD using a  
126 large population-based cohort study, controlling for a wide range of potential confounding factors,  
127 as well as shared genetic and familial confounding through sibling-matched analysis.

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## 131 **Materials and Methods**

### 132 **Study Population**

133 All singleton live births in Sweden from 1990 to 2010, with a follow-up until December 2016,  
134 were included in the study. Data were obtained from Swedish National Registers. These included  
135 the Medical Birth Register, National Patient Register, Prescribed Drug Register, Multi-generation  
136 Register, Total Population Register and Register of Education, linked using personal identification  
137 numbers assigned to Swedish residents<sup>9</sup>.

138 Ethical approval was previously obtained from the Stockholm Regional Ethical Review Board  
139 (number 2010/1185-31/5), and informed consent was waived by the ethics committee.

140

### 141 **Exposures**

#### 142 **Preeclampsia**

143 Data on preeclampsia was obtained from the Medical Birth Register which contains data on over  
144 97% of all births in Sweden<sup>10</sup>. We used two alternate definitions of preeclampsia:

145 1. *Preeclampsia*: Blood pressure  $\geq 140/90$  mmHg on or after 20 weeks' gestation combined with  
146 proteinuria ( $\geq 0.3$  g/day or  $\geq 1$  on a urine dipstick on at least two occasions). Preeclampsia was  
147 classified using the Swedish version of the ICD, Ninth and Tenth Revision<sup>11</sup>: ICD-9 until 1996  
148 (codes 642E-G) and ICD-10 from 1997 (codes O14-O15)<sup>12, 13</sup>.

149 2. *Preeclampsia and small for gestational age (SGA) combined*: We combined preeclampsia (as  
150 above) and SGA as a proxy for preeclampsia with placental dysfunction<sup>2</sup>. SGA was defined as  
151 birthweight  $< 2$  standard deviations below the mean of the sex-specific and gestational age  
152 distributions<sup>14</sup>.

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### 156 **Outcome**

157 Data on ADHD were obtained from the National Patient Register and the Prescribed Drug  
158 Register. The National Patient Register was launched in 1964, contains inpatient psychiatric  
159 diagnoses from 1973, and outpatient data since 2001 (with increasingly better coverage until  
160 2006)<sup>15-17</sup>. The Prescribed Drug Register was expanded on 1st July 2005 to include personal  
161 identification numbers allowing linkage to other registers<sup>17,18</sup>.

162 A diagnosis of ADHD was determined in one of two ways:

163 1. If a diagnosis of ADHD was present in the National Patient Register, using ICD-10 (code F90  
164 and F98.8), available since 1997<sup>17</sup>.

165 2. If the subject was in receipt of ADHD medication in the Prescribed Drug Register. ADHD  
166 medication data was classified according to Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical classification  
167 system, and included amphetamine (N06BA01), dexamphetamine (N06BA02), psychostimulants  
168 methyphenidate (N06BA04) and noradrenergic reuptake inhibitor atomoxetine (N06BA09).

169

### 170 **Confounding Factors**

171 Potential confounders were based on previous literature. Year of birth, infant sex, maternal age,  
172 parental country of birth, parity, maternal smoking status, body mass index (BMI) at first antenatal  
173 visit and gestational weight gain were obtained from the Medical Birth Register. Parental  
174 depression, bipolar disorder, and non-affective psychiatric disorders were obtained from the  
175 National Patient Register. Family income and parental level of education data were obtained from  
176 the Total Population Register and Register of Education. Information on all cofounders was  
177 available for the entire study period. Where a variable had missing data, the data were added as a  
178 separate category and included in the various Cox regression analyses by means of an indicator  
179 variable to ensure that all cases were included in the analyses<sup>19</sup>. (See eMethods for description of  
180 confounders).

181

### 182 **Statistical Analysis**

183 All data were analysed using Stata/MP 14.2. We conducted Cox proportional hazards regression  
184 analysis to calculate a hazard ratio (HR) and 95% confidence interval for a preeclampsia-ADHD  
185 relationship, preeclampsia/SGA-ADHD (i.e SGA baby exposed to preeclampsia) relationship and  
186 the relationship between preeclampsia without SGA and ADHD.

187 Similar to a previous ADHD study conducted on this population (and because a diagnosis of  
188 ADHD is less likely to occur before this time)<sup>17</sup>, follow-up began from a child's third birthday, (or

189 1st January 1997 for children who turned three years of age before 1997). Children continued to  
190 be followed up until he/she received a diagnosis of ADHD, prescription for ADHD, death,  
191 emigration, or the study period had ended (31st December 2016).

192 Partially adjusted models were stratified for year of birth in order to satisfy the proportional hazard  
193 assumption (model 1). Fully adjusted models (model 2) controlled for year of birth, infant sex,  
194 maternal age, parental country of birth, parity, parental depression, bipolar disorder, and non-  
195 affective psychiatric disorder, family income, maternal smoking status, BMI at first antenatal visit,  
196 gestational weight gain and parental level of education.

197 *Sibling-matched analysis:* We conducted a sibling-matched analysis (model 3) to control for  
198 shared genetic and familial confounding, using stratified Cox regression. This analysis was  
199 matched on maternal ID and consisted of a separate stratum for each family in order to estimate  
200 the probability of ADHD within family<sup>20</sup>. We adjusted for the same potential confounders as  
201 model 2 with the exception of maternal country of birth as this is the same across sibling pairs.  
202 Finally, we repeated these analyses, firstly, including only those with both an ICD code for ADHD  
203 and if the subject was in receipt of ADHD medication, and secondly, including only those with an  
204 ICD code for ADHD.

205 *Post-hoc analysis:* We examined the association between SGA only and ADHD compared to non-  
206 exposure to SGA/non-exposure to preeclampsia.

207 *E-value:* We calculated the E-value for the statistically significant primary effect estimates and  
208 lower limits of their 95% confidence interval (CI) to examine the extent of unmeasured  
209 confounding, using the publicly available online E-value calculator:  
210 (<https://evaluate.hmdc.harvard.edu/app/>)<sup>21, 22</sup>. In summary, an E-value is a continuous measure that  
211 quantifies the minimum strength of association an unmeasured confounder would need to have  
212 with both preeclampsia and ADHD in order to explain away an effect estimate<sup>22</sup>.

213 *Sensitivity analyses:* We conducted several sensitivity analyses, decided *a priori*. For example,  
214 while classifying preeclampsia into mild/severe is not recommended in clinical practice because it  
215 is a complex disorder that can deteriorate rapidly, gestational age is sometimes used as a proxy for  
216 preeclampsia with severe features. As a result, preeclampsia could be considered severe if delivery  
217 occurred before 34 weeks' gestation<sup>23</sup>. Therefore, we examined the association between  
218 preeclampsia and ADHD by gestational age. In addition, it is possible that a mother's lifestyle  
219 factors could change between pregnancies. As a result, we excluded women who had preeclampsia  
220 in her first pregnancy, and examined a preeclampsia-ADHD relationship in women who had a



221 diagnosis of preeclampsia in subsequent pregnancies only. Additional sensitivity analyses  
222 included restricting the study population to 2001-2010 (when outpatient data on ADHD started to  
223 become available), and restricting the study population to 1994-2010 to ensure every child begins  
224 follow-up at their third birthday. Furthermore, we included ‘preeclampsia excluding chronic  
225 hypertension’ as the exposure, and ‘preeclampsia with chronic hypertension’ as the exposure. We  
226 examined preeclampsia-ADHD excluding those with a family history of mental illness. We  
227 analysed the relationship between preeclampsia with low/intermediate APGAR score at five  
228 minutes, while we also examined a preeclampsia-ADHD relationship by maternal age, in addition  
229 to preeclampsia-ADHD by BMI group at time of first antenatal visit. Finally, we investigated a  
230 preeclampsia-ADHD association by gender.

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253 **Results**

254 **Descriptive Statistics**

255 A total of 2,142,694 live births were recorded in the Swedish Medical Birth Register between  
256 1990 and 2010. After excluding 61,172 multiple births, 30,636 children who were censored before  
257 their third birthday, and 3267 children who turned three years of age before 1997 but were  
258 censored before follow-up began on 1st January 1997, a total of 2,047,619 children remained in  
259 the final cohort (Table 1).

260 There were 57,493 (2.8%) children exposed to preeclampsia and 7191 (0.4%) exposed to  
261 preeclampsia and SGA combined. There were 114,934 (5.6%) cases of ADHD. Of these 101,075  
262 (87.9%) cases were prescribed ADHD medication at some point, and 94,708 (82.4%) cases had an  
263 ICD diagnosis. A total of 80,849 (70.3%) cases were recorded with both an ICD code and  
264 medication, while there were 13,859 (12.1%) cases with an ICD code only, and 20,226 (17.6%)  
265 cases with medication only.

266

267 **Association between preeclampsia, preeclampsia/SGA and ADHD**

268 In the fully adjusted model (model 2), the results suggested an association between preeclampsia  
269 and ADHD (HR: 1.15, 95% CI: 1.12, 1.19) compared to those unexposed to preeclampsia. Result  
270 of the sibling-matched analysis (model 3) did not significantly change (HR: 1.13, 95% CI: 1.05,  
271 1.22). The HR for those born SGA and exposed to preeclampsia was 1.43 (95% CI: 1.31, 1.55) in  
272 the adjusted model (model 2), and 1.55 (95% CI: 1.28, 1.88) in the sibling-match model (model 3),  
273 while the HR for those exposed to preeclampsia but not born SGA was 1.12 (95% CI: 1.08, 1.16)  
274 in model 2, and 1.09 (95% CI: 1.01, 1.18) in model 3. Limiting the data to those with both an ICD  
275 code and medication data did not materially change results, while including only those with an  
276 ICD code for ADHD produced similar results (Table 2).

277 **Post-Hoc Analysis**

278 The adjusted HR for SGA only (i.e. SGA without preeclampsia) and ADHD was 1.32 (95% CI:  
279 1.27, 1.37), while the HR in the sibling-matched analysis was 1.29 (95% CI: 1.19, 1.39) compared  
280 to non-exposure to SGA/non-exposure to preeclampsia (Table 2).

281

282 **E-Values**

283 The E-values for significant primary effect estimates were 1.51 for preeclampsia, 2.47 for  
284 preeclampsia with SGA and 1.40 for preeclampsia without SGA, while the E-values for

285 corresponding lower limits of their 95% CI were 1.28, 1.88 and 1.11 respectively. (see eTable 1 in  
286 Supplement for worked example on preeclampsia-ADHD).  
287

## 288 **Sensitivity Analyses**

### 289 **Preeclampsia and ADHD by gestational age**

290 When we restricted analysis to children born  $\geq 39$  weeks' gestational age, the HR for a  
291 preeclampsia-ADHD relationship was 1.07 (95% CI: 1.02, 1.12). Among children born at 37-38  
292 weeks', the HR in those exposed to preeclampsia was 1.20 (95% CI: 1.13, 1.28), while the HR  
293 among those not exposed to preeclampsia was 1.09 (95% CI: 1.08, 1.11), when compared to non-  
294 exposure to preeclampsia in those born  $\geq 39$  weeks' gestational age. Exposure to preeclampsia  
295 (among children born 34-36 weeks') was associated with a 24% increase in likelihood of ADHD  
296 (HR: 1.24, 95% CI: 1.14, 1.35), while those unexposed to preeclampsia had a 14% increased  
297 likelihood of ADHD among those born at a similar gestational age (HR: 1.14, 95% CI: 1.11, 1.18).  
298 Finally, the HR among those exposed to preeclampsia (born  $< 34$  weeks' gestational age) was 1.74  
299 (95% CI: 1.60, 1.91), while the HR among those not exposed to preeclampsia (born  $< 34$  weeks'  
300 gestational age) was 1.49 (95% CI: 1.42, 1.96) when compared to non-exposure to preeclampsia  
301 among those born  $\geq 39$  weeks' gestational age (Table 3).  
302

### 303 **Additional sensitivity analyses**

304 Results of additional sensitivity analyses are outlined in eResults and eTable 2 in the Supplement  
305 and were not materially different from the primary analysis. In sum, when we excluded women  
306 who had preeclampsia in their first pregnancy, the adjusted HR was 1.21. When we restricted the  
307 study population to 2001-2010 and 1994-2010, the HR was 1.21 and 1.14 respectively. The fully  
308 adjusted HR for preeclampsia (excluding chronic hypertension) and preeclampsia (with chronic  
309 hypertension) were 1.15 and 1.18 respectively. The HR for preeclampsia (excluding those with a  
310 family history of mental illness was 1.16. Preeclampsia (with low/intermediate APGAR at 5  
311 minutes) increased the likelihood of ADHD by 13% when compared to non-exposure to  
312 preeclampsia in those with a low/intermediate APGAR score. Results of the subgroup analysis  
313 suggested that preeclampsia was significantly associated with ADHD at each category of maternal  
314 age and at each category of BMI at first antenatal visit. The HR for preeclampsia-ADHD in males  
315 was 1.18 compared to non-exposure to preeclampsia in males, while the HR for preeclampsia-  
316 ADHD in females was 1.10 compared to non-exposure to preeclampsia in females. Finally,

317 exposure to preeclampsia in males was associated with a 9% increase in likelihood of ADHD  
318 when compared to exposure to preeclampsia in females.

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## 325 **Discussion**

326 The aim of this study was to examine the association between preeclampsia and  
327 preeclampsia/SGA and ADHD, using a large population-based cohort study. We have yielded  
328 three principal findings. First, after controlling for known potential confounding factors,  
329 preeclampsia was associated with a 15% increase in likelihood of ADHD when compared to non-  
330 exposure to preeclampsia. This finding was similar in the sibling-matched analysis suggesting that  
331 this apparent preeclampsia-ADHD relationship was not due to shared genetics or familial  
332 environment. This result is in line with the pooled estimate from a systematic review, which  
333 suggested that preeclampsia was associated with a 30% increase in odds of ADHD, with  
334 individual study estimates ranging from 1.19 to 1.50<sup>6</sup>.

335 Second, as SGA is associated with uteroplacental dysfunction<sup>24</sup>, and due to recent guidelines put  
336 forward by ISSHP to include uteroplacental dysfunction in the definition of preeclampsia, we  
337 combined preeclampsia and SGA into a single exposure as a crude proxy for preeclampsia with  
338 placental dysfunction. Being an SGA baby and exposed to preeclampsia was associated with a  
339 43% increase in likelihood of ADHD in the fully adjusted model, and a 55% increase in likelihood  
340 of ADHD in the sibling-matched analysis, when compared to non-exposure to preeclampsia or  
341 SGA. This may suggest that placental pathology may be a common factor increasing the  
342 likelihood of ADHD given the stronger association with preeclampsia/SGA than preeclampsia  
343 alone.

344 Third, while preeclampsia was associated with ADHD, independent of gestational age, the  
345 likelihood of ADHD increases with decreasing gestational age. For example, preeclampsia was  
346 associated with a 7% increase in likelihood of ADHD when we restricted the analysis to those  
347 born  $\geq 39$  weeks' gestation. However, the HR increases to 1.74 among those exposed to  
348 preeclampsia and born at  $< 34$  weeks' gestation.

349

350 This apparent preeclampsia-ADHD association may lack specificity however, as preeclampsia is  
351 associated with several neurodevelopmental outcomes such as autism spectrum disorder (ASD),  
352 cognitive impairment and intellectual disability (ID) in previous literature<sup>6</sup>. Therefore,  
353 preeclampsia could in fact be a risk factor for poor neurodevelopmental outcome in general, with  
354 the specificity of outcome (e.g. ADHD, ASD, ID etc.) being determined by underlying genetic risk  
355 factors<sup>25</sup>.

356

### 357 **Potential Mechanisms**

358 The molecular basis of a preeclampsia-ADHD relationship remains unknown, and there are few  
359 studies that address the potential biological mechanisms of ADHD specifically. Animal models  
360 have shown that activation of interleukin-17a (IL-17a) in the fetal brain, in response to maternal  
361 immune activation, is associated with behavioural disturbances and an abnormal cortical  
362 phenotype in affected offspring<sup>26, 27</sup>. Therefore, we can speculate that maternal inflammation may  
363 be one such mechanism given the role of preeclampsia in chronic immune activation and elevated  
364 levels of inflammatory cytokines such as IL-17a<sup>26, 28, 29</sup>. In a separate study, maternal depressive  
365 symptoms throughout pregnancy were shown to be associated with ADHD in offspring<sup>30</sup>. As  
366 prenatal depression is linked to an increase in levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines<sup>31</sup>, it is possible  
367 that the inflammatory response observed in preeclampsia may have a similar inflammatory  
368 mediated effect on ADHD-risk.

369 However, it may also be possible that lifestyle factors not available in the registers, such as  
370 maternal alcohol consumption may also play a role. Alcohol consumption during pregnancy has  
371 been shown to affect placentation, fetal growth, and likelihood of ADHD<sup>32, 33</sup>. As preeclampsia is,  
372 at least in part, a disease of placentation, leaving the fetus vulnerable to the effects of placental  
373 pathology, particularly fetal growth restriction<sup>2</sup>, it is plausible that maternal alcohol consumption  
374 during pregnancy may contribute the observed preeclampsia-ADHD association.

375

### 376 **Strengths and Limitations**

377 There are several strengths in this study. To our knowledge, it is the largest epidemiological study  
378 to examine the association between preeclampsia-ADHD to date. Use of National Registers  
379 minimised recall bias, while also allowed us to control for a wide range of confounding factors. In  
380 addition, the sibling-matched analysis allowed us to adjust for unmeasured confounding factors

381 shared by siblings such as family environment, diet, lifestyle factors, maternal characteristics, and  
382 genetic factors<sup>14</sup>. Furthermore, use of the E-value allowed us to quantify Bradford-Hill's  
383 consideration of 'strength of association' in an attempt to investigate the robustness of our effect  
384 estimates to unmeasured confounding<sup>22</sup>.

385 However, this study also contains several limitations. First, sibling-matched analysis may have  
386 reduced confounding due to shared genetic and familial factors. However, this method can only  
387 adjust for factors that are constant between pregnancies<sup>34</sup> and the possibility of residual  
388 confounding cannot be ruled out in observational studies. Taking preeclampsia-ADHD as an  
389 example: (E-value for effect estimate = 1.51), an unmeasured confounder associated with both  
390 preeclampsia and ADHD by a risk-ratio of 1.51 may potentially explain away our preeclampsia-  
391 ADHD effect estimate of 1.13. However, the effect-estimate for preeclampsia/SGA combined is  
392 less likely to be explained away by unmeasured confounding with an E-value of 2.47.  
393 Nonetheless, we cannot dismiss the potential effect of factors such as maternal alcohol  
394 consumption could have on findings. Second, a lack of robust data on gestational hypertension  
395 limited our analysis to preeclampsia-ADHD only. Therefore, our comparison groups may contain  
396 women with a diagnosis of gestational hypertension, and while previous literature suggests a  
397 positive gestational hypertension-ADHD association<sup>35</sup>, this would likely bias our results towards  
398 to the null. Third, as outpatient data only started becoming available in 2001, more severe cases of  
399 ADHD may have been overrepresented in our data. However, when we restricted the study  
400 population to 2001-2010, results were not materially different from our main findings suggesting  
401 that the inclusion of less severe cases after 2001 may not have had a large impact on findings.

402 In conclusion, this population-based cohort suggests that preeclampsia as well as  
403 preeclampsia/SGA was associated with ADHD. Placental pathology may be a common  
404 mechanism increasing the likelihood of ADHD given the stronger association with  
405 preeclampsia/SGA, rather than preeclampsia alone. Further research is needed in order to clarify  
406 this association, explore modifiable risk factors and identify those most-at-risk babies following  
407 delivery.

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**Table 1: Perinatal and Sociodemographic Characteristics Related to Preeclampsia and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Among Singleton Live Births in Sweden between 1990 and 2010**

Characteristic	No. (%) of Infants	
	Total Population	Preeclampsia
Total Population	2047619	57493 (2.8)
ADHD	114934 (5.6)	3941 (6.9)
SGA	46719 (2.3)	7191 (12.6)
First-born child	879954 (42.9)	37642 (65.5)
Sex (male)	1052095 (51.4)	29938 (52.1)
<b>Maternal age, years</b>		
<20	41285 (2.0)	1535 (2.7)
20-29	1015666 (49.6)	29354 (51.1)
30-39	935055 (45.7)	24569 (42.7)
≥40	55613 (2.7)	2035 (3.5)
<b>Gestational age, weeks</b>		
<34	23538 (1.1)	5048 (8.8)
34	12181 (0.6)	1702 (3.0)
35	20845 (1.0)	2337 (4.1)
36	41472 (2.0)	3868 (6.7)

37	98759 (4.8)	6385 (11.2)
38	277445 (13.6)	9153 (15.9)
39	472125 (23.1)	10632 (18.5)
40	580209 (28.4)	10128 (17.6)
>40	519037 (25.4)	8162 (14.2)
<b>5-Minute Apgar score</b>		
0-3 (low)	3419 (0.2)	228 (0.4)
4-6 (intermediate)	15330 (0.8)	1251 (2.2)
7-10 (high)	2013115 (99.0)	55464 (97.4)
<b>Mother's country of birth</b>		
Sweden	1597528 (78.0)	47286 (82.2)
Other Nordic country	44704 (2.2)	1301 (2.3)
Other country	278978 (13.6)	5709 (9.9)
Missing	126409 (6.2)	3197 (5.6)
<b>Father's country of birth</b>		
Sweden	1577672 (77.1)	46891 (81.6)
Other Nordic country	42429 (2.1)	1184 (2.0)
Other country	287522 (14.0)	5820 (10.1)
Missing	139996 (6.8)	3598 (6.3)
<b>Maternal depression</b>		
Never	1763485 (86.1)	49730 (86.5)
Previously diagnosed	157876 (7.7)	4574 (7.9)
Missing	126258 (6.2)	3189 (5.6)
<b>Maternal bipolar disorder</b>		
Never	1904427 (93.0)	53772 (93.5)
Previously diagnosed	16934 (0.8)	532 (0.9)
Missing	126258 (6.2)	3189 (5.6)
<b>Maternal nonaffective disorder</b>		
Never	1909156 (93.2)	53923 (93.8)
Previously diagnosed	12205 (0.6)	381 (0.6)
Missing	126258 (6.2)	3189 (5.6)
<b>Paternal depression</b>		
Never	1831285 (89.4)	51886 (90.2)
Previously diagnosed	90076 (4.4)	2418 (4.2)
Missing	126258 (6.2)	3189 (5.6)
<b>Paternal bipolar disorder</b>		
Never	1911454 (93.3)	54058 (94.0)

Previously diagnosed	9907 (0.5)	246 (0.4)
Missing	126258 (6.2)	3189 (5.6)
<b>Paternal nonaffective disorder</b>		
Never	1909156 (93.2)	53980 (93.9)
Previously diagnosed	12205 (0.6)	324 (0.5)
Missing	126258 (6.2)	3189 (5.6)
<b>Income quintile</b>		
First	362540 (17.7)	8168 (14.2)
Second	383691 (18.7)	9542 (16.6)
Third	388138 (19.0)	11044 (19.2)
Fourth	390219 (19.1)	12509 (21.8)
Fifth	384890 (18.8)	12772 (22.2)
Missing	138141 (6.7)	3458 (6.0)
<b>Smoking at first antenatal visit</b>		
No	1683882 (86.4)	49417 (90.7)
1-9 cigarettes/day	178176 (9.1)	3576 (6.5)
≥10 cigarettes/day	87699 (4.5)	1515 (2.8)
<b>BMI at first antenatal visit</b>		
<20	172519 (8.4)	3048 (5.3)
20-24.9	868599 (42.4)	19449 (33.8)
25-29.9	372026 (18.2)	13037 (22.7)
≥30	154136 (7.5)	9415 (16.4)
Missing	480339 (23.5)	12544 (21.8)
<b>Optimal gestational weight gain by BMI group at first antenatal visit<sup>36</sup></b>		
<20		
Optimum	15910 (0.8)	211 (0.4)
Inadequate/Excessive	49130 (2.4)	891 (1.6)
20-24.9		
Optimum	75448 (3.7)	1003 (1.7)
Inadequate/Excessive	254217 (12.4)	5855 (10.2)
25-29.9		
Optimum	25752 (1.3)	527 (0.9)
Excessive	115893 (5.7)	4260 (7.4)
≥30		
Optimum	12147 (0.6)	461 (0.8)
Excessive	48240 (2.3)	3180 (5.5)

Missing	1450882 (70.8)	41105 (71.5)
<b>Highest parental level of education at child's birthyear</b>		
Pre-high school	131210 (6.4)	3304 (5.7)
High school	886656 (43.3)	26603 (46.3)
Post high school	877980 (42.9)	23844 (41.5)
Missing	151773 (7.4)	3742 (6.5)
<p>Categories were collapsed if cell count &lt;10, for example, inadequate/excessive weight gain in women categorised as BMI&lt;20 were combined for the purpose of displaying data only.</p> <p>If missing data &gt;5%, number (%) of missing data reported.</p> <p>Abbreviations: SGA, small for gestational age; BMI, body mass index.</p>		

**Table 2: Association between Preeclampsia and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Among Singleton Live Births in Sweden between 1990 and 2010**

	Total population			Sibling pairs
	Exposed cases	Model 1 HR (95% CI) <sup>†</sup>	Model 2 HR (95% CI) <sup>‡</sup>	Model 3 HR (95% CI) <sup>§</sup>
<b>All ADHD (n=114934)</b>				
Preeclampsia	3941	1.22 (1.18, 1.26)	1.15 (1.12, 1.19)	1.13 (1.05, 1.22)
Preeclampsia and SGA <sup>¶</sup>	582	1.49 (1.37, 1.61)	1.43 (1.31, 1.55)	1.55 (1.28, 1.88)
Preeclampsia without SGA	3322	1.19 (1.15, 1.23)	1.12 (1.08, 1.16)	1.09 (1.01, 1.18)
SGA without Preeclampsia	3205	1.51 (1.45, 1.56)	1.32 (1.27, 1.37)	1.29 (1.19, 1.39)
<b>ADHD (ICD code and in receipt of medication) (n=80849)</b>				
Preeclampsia	2795	1.23 (1.18, 1.27)	1.16 (1.11, 1.20)	1.11 (1.02, 1.21)
Preeclampsia and SGA <sup>¶</sup>	399	1.44 (1.31, 1.59)	1.37 (1.25, 1.52)	1.54 (1.23, 1.92)
Preeclampsia without SGA	2370	1.21 (1.16, 1.26)	1.13 (1.08, 1.18)	1.07 (0.98, 1.17)
<b>ADHD (ICD code only) (n=94708)</b>				
Preeclampsia	3267	1.23 (1.18, 1.27)	1.16 (1.12, 1.20)	1.11 (1.03, 1.20)
Preeclampsia and SGA <sup>¶</sup>	480	1.48 (1.35, 1.62)	1.41 (1.29, 1.55)	1.48 (1.21, 1.82)
Preeclampsia without SGA	2757	1.20 (1.16, 1.25)	1.13 (1.09, 1.18)	1.07 (0.99, 1.17)
Abbreviations: HR, hazard ratio; 95% CI, 95% confidence interval; SGA, small for gestational age; ICD, International Classification of Disease;				
†Adjusted for year of birth.				
‡Adjusted for year of birth, infant sex, maternal age, parental country of birth, parity, parental depression, bipolar disorder, and non-affective psychiatric disorders, family income, maternal smoking status, BMI at first antenatal visit, gestational weight gain and parental level of education.				
§Adjusted for same potential confounders as above with the exception of maternal country of birth.				
¶Reference=no preeclampsia/no SGA.				
Missing data on SGA for 37 cases of ADHD (full cohort). Missing data on SGA for 26 cases of ADHD (with both ICD code and medication data). Missing data on SGA for 30 cases of ADHD (with ICD code).				

**Table 3: Association between Preeclampsia and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Among Singleton Live Births in Sweden between 1990 and 2010 by Gestational Age**

	Total population		
	Exposed cases	Model 1 HR (95% CI) <sup>†</sup>	Model 2 HR (95% CI) <sup>‡</sup>
<b>All ADHD (n=114934)</b>			
No Preeclampsia, ≥39 weeks' gestational age (ref)	82844	1.00	1.00
Preeclampsia, ≥39 weeks' gestational age	1808	1.14 (1.09, 1.20)	1.07 (1.02, 1.12)
No Preeclampsia, 37-38 weeks' gestational age	21742	1.13 (1.12, 1.15)	1.09 (1.08, 1.11)
Preeclampsia, 37-38 weeks' gestational age	1066	1.28 (1.20, 1.36)	1.20 (1.13, 1.28)
No Preeclampsia, 34-36 weeks' gestational age	4545	1.28 (1.24, 1.32)	1.14 (1.11, 1.18)
Preeclampsia, 34-36 weeks' gestational age	568	1.32 (1.22, 1.44)	1.24 (1.14, 1.35)
No Preeclampsia, <34 weeks' gestational age	1703	1.78 (1.70, 1.87)	1.49 (1.42, 1.56)
Preeclampsia, <34 weeks' gestational age	491	1.85 (1.69, 2.02)	1.74 (1.60, 1.91)
Abbreviations: HR, hazard ratio; 95% CI, 95% confidence interval; ref, reference; SGA, small for gestational age			
†Adjusted for year of birth.			
‡Adjusted for year of birth, infant sex, maternal age, parental country of birth, parity, parental depression, bipolar disorder, and non-affective psychiatric disorders, family income, maternal smoking status, BMI at first antenatal visit, gestational weight gain and parental level of education.			
Missing data on gestational age for 167 cases of ADHD.			