



Influence of gender and age on cognitive inhibition in late-onset depression: a case-control study

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Résumé en anglais	<p>ObjectiveTo compare cognitive inhibition performance between people with early-onset (EOD) or late-onset depression (LOD) and controls, and between women and men with LOD.</p> <p>MethodsOn the basis of a case-control design, global executive performance (Frontal Assessment Battery); verbal (Hayling), attention (Stroop), and motor (Go/No-Go) components of cognitive inhibition; mental shifting (Trail Making Test parts A and B); and updating in working memory (Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale) were assessed in 40 participants (10 depressed women with LOD (i.e., 60years old), 10 depressed women with EOD (i.e., <60years old), 10 healthy women and 10 depressed men with LOD (i.e., 60years old)).</p> <p>ResultsOlder depressed women, irrespective of age of depression onset, had greater cognitive inhibition impairments (attention and verbal component) compared with healthy women. LOD was significantly associated with the attention component of cognitive inhibition impairment, unlike EOD ($p=0.026$). No executive differences were found regarding age of first-onset depression in older depressed women, and between women and men with LOD.</p> <p>ConclusionCognitive inhibition impairment, and more specifically its attention component, was the main characteristic of depression in the studied sample of older adults, independently of gender and age of depression onset. It is essential to perform similar studies in both genders in view of future tailor-made therapeutic modalities.</p> <p>Copyright (c) 2013 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.</p>
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