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Do prenatal factors shape the risk for dementia?

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1 Shaping the risk for late-life
2 neurodegenerative disease: A
3 systematic review on prenatal risk
4 factors for Alzheimer's disease-related
5 volumetric brain biomarkers
6

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27

28 Declarations of interest: none

29

30 Abstract

31 Environmental exposures including toxins and nutrition may hamper the developing
32 brain in utero, limiting the brain's reserve capacity and increasing the risk for
33 Alzheimer's disease (AD). The purpose of this systematic review is to summarize all
34 currently available evidence for the association between prenatal exposures and AD-
35 related volumetric brain biomarkers. We systematically searched MEDLINE and
36 Embase for studies in humans reporting on associations between prenatal
37 exposure(s) and AD-related volumetric brain biomarkers, including whole brain
38 volume (WBV), hippocampal volume (HV) and/or temporal lobe volume (TLV)
39 measured with structural magnetic resonance imaging (PROSPERO;
40 CRD42020169317). Risk of bias was assessed using the Newcastle Ottawa Scale. We
41 identified 79 eligible studies (search date: August 30th, 2020; Ntotal=24,784; median
42 age 10.7 years) reporting on WBV (N=38), HV (N=63) and/or TLV (N=5) in exposure
43 categories alcohol (N=30), smoking (N=7), illicit drugs (N=14), mental health
44 problems (N=7), diet (N=8), disease, treatment and physiology (N=10), infections
45 (N=6) and environmental exposures (N=3). Overall risk of bias was low. Prenatal
46 exposure to alcohol, opioids, cocaine, nutrient shortage, placental dysfunction and
47 maternal anemia was associated with smaller brain volumes. We conclude that the
48 prenatal environment is important in shaping the risk for late-life neurodegenerative
49 disease.

50

51 Keywords 3-12

52 Brain reserve; Alzheimer's disease; MRI; developmental programming; systematic
53 review

54

55 1 Introduction

56 The fetal brain grows and develops at a remarkable speed. At three weeks post-
57 conception, primitive cerebral hemispheres have already developed. By mid-
58 gestation, the fetal brain has largely achieved the adult neuronal number (Dobbing
59 and Sands, 1973; Prayer et al., 2006). As a result of this exceptional growth rate, the
60 prenatal period is a critical period during which the developing brain is especially
61 vulnerable to adverse exposures (Whalley et al., 2006).

62 Adverse exposures during prenatal development may impact the brain,
63 hampering developmental processes and preventing it from developing to its full
64 potential. For instance, prenatal exposure to alcohol or tobacco restricts fetal brain
65 growth, mostly observed as reduced whole brain and regional brain volumes (e.g.
66 Banderali et al., 2015; Caputo et al., 2016; Ekblad et al., 2015; Popova et al., 2021).
67 Exposure to adverse prenatal circumstances is also negatively associated with
68 cognitive functioning in (early) childhood. For example, maternal cannabis, cocaine
69 or alcohol use during pregnancy has been associated with deficits in cognitive
70 functioning and increased risk for psychopathology or substance use disorders in
71 childhood (Grant et al., 2018; Paul et al., 2021; Singer et al., 2018).

72 There is some evidence that these harmful effects of prenatal exposures on
73 brain structure and functioning last throughout life. Exposure to prenatal
74 undernutrition was associated with poorer cognitive performance at the age of 58
75 (de Rooij et al., 2010). In addition, sex-specific effects of undernutrition during early
76 gestation on brain volumes at the age of 68 were reported, demonstrating smaller
77 volumes in exposed men (de Rooij et al., 2016). Thus, the impact of the prenatal
78 environment on brain structure and cognitive functioning appears to be present in
79 early childhood and may potentially last throughout life, although the number of

80 studies on long-term brain-related outcomes of adverse prenatal exposures
81 measured in late-life is limited.

82 Adverse prenatal circumstances may also be associated with an increased
83 risk of dementia in late life (Borenstein et al., 2006; Seifan et al., 2015). Among
84 numerous potential pathways, the increased risk of dementia could result from
85 hampered development of the fetal brain following a suboptimal prenatal
86 environment, limiting the reserve capacity of the adult brain. Brain reserve capacity
87 can be defined as a buffer determined by neural factors such as brain size and the
88 number of neurons and synapses (Borenstein et al., 2006). As the brain ages,
89 neurodegeneration and vascular damage can accumulate, which may be part of
90 normal ageing, or pathological, such as observed in Alzheimer’s disease (AD). As
91 neurodegeneration progresses, the brain reserve may determine whether an
92 individual experiences symptoms of cognitive decline. At the same level of
93 neurodegeneration, an individual with a large brain reserve may continue to
94 function normally whereas someone with a limited brain reserve may reach the
95 threshold of cognitive dysfunction earlier. Thereby, acting as a structural buffer,
96 brain reserve can compensate for some of the neurodegeneration associated with
97 AD in late life, alleviating the effects of initial neurodegeneration on cognitive
98 functioning (Borenstein et al., 2006; de Rooij, 2022; Stern, 2012). Thus, through a
99 limited development of brain reserve, adverse prenatal exposures may result in an
100 increased risk of developing AD in late life.

101 AD is a neurodegenerative disease marked by amyloid-beta plaques, tau
102 tangles and a general pattern of brain atrophy (Ausó et al., 2020). Magnetic
103 resonance imaging (MRI) studies can provide markers of AD-related
104 neurodegeneration (Pini et al., 2016). Generally, MRI studies of AD report reduced

105 whole brain volume (WBV), temporal lobe volume (TLV) and hippocampal volume
106 (HV) as established neurodegenerative volumetric biomarkers for AD (Franke et al.,
107 2010; Frisoni et al., 2010; Hane et al., 2017; Pini et al., 2016; Wardlaw et al., 2013).
108 Reduced HV is seen early in the neurodegenerative process (Pini et al., 2016), as is
109 temporal lobe atrophy. Further progression of AD neurodegeneration is associated
110 with widespread cortical atrophy across the brain (Pini et al., 2016). Both
111 hippocampal and whole-brain atrophy rates are used as markers for
112 neurodegenerative progression of AD (Frisoni et al., 2010). Hampered development
113 of the HV, TLV and WBV as a result of adverse prenatal circumstances may lead to a
114 reduced brain reserve to buffer AD-related neurodegeneration in late-life
115 (Borenstein et al., 2006).

116 All in all, the prenatal environment may play an essential role in determining
117 the risk for developing AD by impacting brain reserve. There is, however, no
118 overview of the available body of evidence on prenatal exposures and their impact
119 on structural brain measures that have been associated with an increased risk for
120 developing AD in late life. The purpose of this systematic review is to summarize all
121 currently available evidence for the association between prenatal exposures
122 (including prenatal illicit drug exposure, alcohol exposure, maternal stress and
123 environmental exposures) and HV, TLV and WBV in humans. Thereby, we aim to
124 address the following research question: 'Is there an association between prenatal
125 risk factors and volumetric MRI neuroimaging biomarkers for AD?'. The present
126 systematic review is essential to gain insight into the extent to which the prenatal
127 environment may shape the risk for late-life neurodegenerative disease through
128 brain reserve.

129

130 2 Methods

131 We registered the protocol for this systematic review at the International
132 Prospective Register of Systematic Reviews (PROSPERO; CRD42020169317), and
133 followed PRISMA reporting guidelines for systematic reviews (Page et al., 2021;
134 Supplement).

135

136 2.1 Search strategy

137 An information specialist (JL) searched OVID Medline and EMBASE from inception to
138 August 30th, 2020. MESH terms and text words for 1. general prenatal terms,
139 including antenatal and fetus, or specific prenatal exposures were combined with 2.
140 terms for structural MRI brain biomarkers. We excluded conference abstracts and
141 reviews, but did not apply language or date restrictions. The full search strategy is
142 available in supplement B. The bibliographic records were imported and
143 deduplicated using EndNote. We cross-checked reference lists and citing articles of
144 identified relevant papers in Web of Science and adapted the search in case of
145 additional relevant studies.

146

147 2.2 Eligibility criteria

148 We included peer-reviewed and published human cohort, cross-sectional and case-
149 control studies examining prenatal factors in association with predefined
150 neuroimaging biomarkers related to sporadic late-onset AD. No restrictions were
151 made for age at outcome measurement. We defined a prenatal factor as any
152 exposure that occurs during pregnancy. All direct, specific exposures were of

153 interest, indirect measures of the prenatal environment such as birth weight or
154 other birth characteristics were not included. Studies focusing on premature birth as
155 the only factor of interest were excluded, since premature birth can be the result of
156 a large variety of potential exposures throughout pregnancy. Studies investigating
157 specific prenatal exposures that may result in premature birth were included. We
158 defined our outcomes of interest as WBV, TLV and/or HV as measured by structural
159 MRI scans (Franke et al., 2010; Frisoni et al., 2010; Hane et al., 2017; Pini et al., 2016;
160 Wardlaw et al., 2013).

161 In the original review protocol, additional vascular variables were listed as
162 outcomes of interest. However, these outcomes were rarely identified in relation to
163 direct prenatal exposures. Therefore, we additionally excluded the studies reporting
164 on these outcomes to reduce the heterogeneity of the included studies.

165 We excluded studies involving specific clinical populations including those
166 with Familial early-onset AD, vascular dementia, Korsakoff syndrome and Down's
167 syndrome. Studies focusing on a clinical population (e.g. patients with congenital
168 heart disease) were included only if they studied the association between the
169 exposure and outcome of interest separately in the group of healthy controls. In this
170 case, the results from the healthy control group were extracted. We restricted on
171 analysis methods by excluding voxel-based morphometry studies, since this analysis
172 approach is significantly different from other analysis methods, which makes the
173 comparison of results between these studies difficult.

174

175 2.3 Study selection and data extraction

176 All screening steps were performed by two authors independently, blinded for the
177 other's decisions. AB and AMW independently screened the title and abstract of
178 retrieved papers using Rayyan software (Ouzzani et al., 2016). Discrepancies were
179 discussed and, if needed, resolved by a third reviewer (SdR). Two pairs of authors
180 screened full texts (AB and YV, AMW and MvdH). The same pairs of authors
181 performed data extraction, where the data was extracted by one reviewer and
182 checked by the other. All discrepancies were discussed in pairs, and discussed with
183 all four reviewers if needed. In case of considerable overlap in study samples, we
184 included the study with the largest number of participants. We extracted the
185 following data items: study aim, design, year of publication, cohort (if applicable),
186 location, population, number of participants (per group), participant age at outcome
187 assessment, exposure(s), timing of exposure (if applicable), control conditions,
188 exposure assessment, relevant outcome(s), outcome volume, outcome assessment
189 methods, scanner details, analysis details, confounders/covariates adjusted for in
190 the analyses, the statistical relationship between exposure and outcome(s)
191 (unadjusted and adjusted for confounders) and sub-group results. Template study
192 selection and data extraction forms can be requested from the corresponding
193 author.

194

195 2.4 Risk of bias assessment

196 The same author pairs performed risk of bias assessment using the Newcastle
197 Ottawa Scale (NOS) for assessing the quality of non-randomized studies in duplicate,
198 blinded to the other's decisions (Wells et al., 2000). Disagreements between the
199 authors were discussed in pairs and resolved with all four reviewers if needed.

200 Prospective cohort studies were assessed using the NOS for cohorts, cross-sectional
201 studies were assessed using the adapted NOS for cross-sectional studies (Alshabanat
202 et al., 2015). When a cohort study had no prospective elements, we used the cross-
203 sectional NOS as well since the items in this checklist were better suited for this
204 study design. We removed the item “Demonstration that outcome of interest was
205 not present at start of study” from the Cohort checklist since this question was not
206 suitable for the studies included in our review given the nature of prenatal
207 exposures. Thereby, both checklists had a maximum total score of 8.

208

209 [2.5 Data synthesis](#)

210 The results are presented in the form of a structured narrative synthesis, with the
211 studies categorized on exposure and outcome. Outcome effect measures were
212 reported as brain volumes, effect size (%difference) and statistical significance. In
213 general, statistical significance was set at $p < 0.05$. We did not perform meta-analyses
214 given the large heterogeneity in study methodology and age at outcome
215 assessment.

216 [2.6 Protocol](#)

217 The complete protocol can be accessed through PROSPERO
218 (https://www.crd.york.ac.uk/prospero/display_record.php?ID=CRD42020169317).

219 3 Results

220 Of 1696 unique studies, 84 were identified as eligible. Seven studies were
221 subsequently excluded based on overlap in study participants (Acosta et al., 2020;
222 Biffen et al., 2017; Coles et al., 2011; Fryer et al., 2012; Gross et al., 2018; Robey et
223 al., 2014; Wu et al., 2020a). Two additional studies were identified through citation
224 searching, resulting in 79 included studies in the final review (Figure 1). These
225 studies had a total of 24,784 participants from 14 countries.

226 A large proportion of included studies investigated prenatal exposure to
227 alcohol (N=30). Other exposures included illicit drugs (N=14), smoking (N=7), diet
228 (N=8), environmental exposures (N=3), maternal disease, treatment and physiology
229 (N=10) with the subcategories infections (N=6) and mental health problems (N=7).
230 For numerous studies, there was an overlap between multiple exposures, mostly
231 concerning exposures to alcohol, tobacco and illicit drugs. Prenatal illicit drug
232 exposure studies often evaluated multi-drug exposures and mental health studies
233 mostly evaluated a combination of prenatal stress, anxiety and depression exposure.

234 The majority of studies included WBV (N=38) and/or HV (N=63) as an
235 outcome, with only a few (N=5) reporting TLV. Age at outcome assessment ranged
236 between 22 weeks gestational age (GA) to 67 years postnatally, although most
237 studies assessed the outcome in childhood (median age 10.7 years). An interactive
238 bubble map of the evidence according to exposure category, outcome and direction
239 of effect created using EPPI reviewer software is available as a supplementary file
240 (Supplementary Figure 1; Thomas et al., 2020).

241

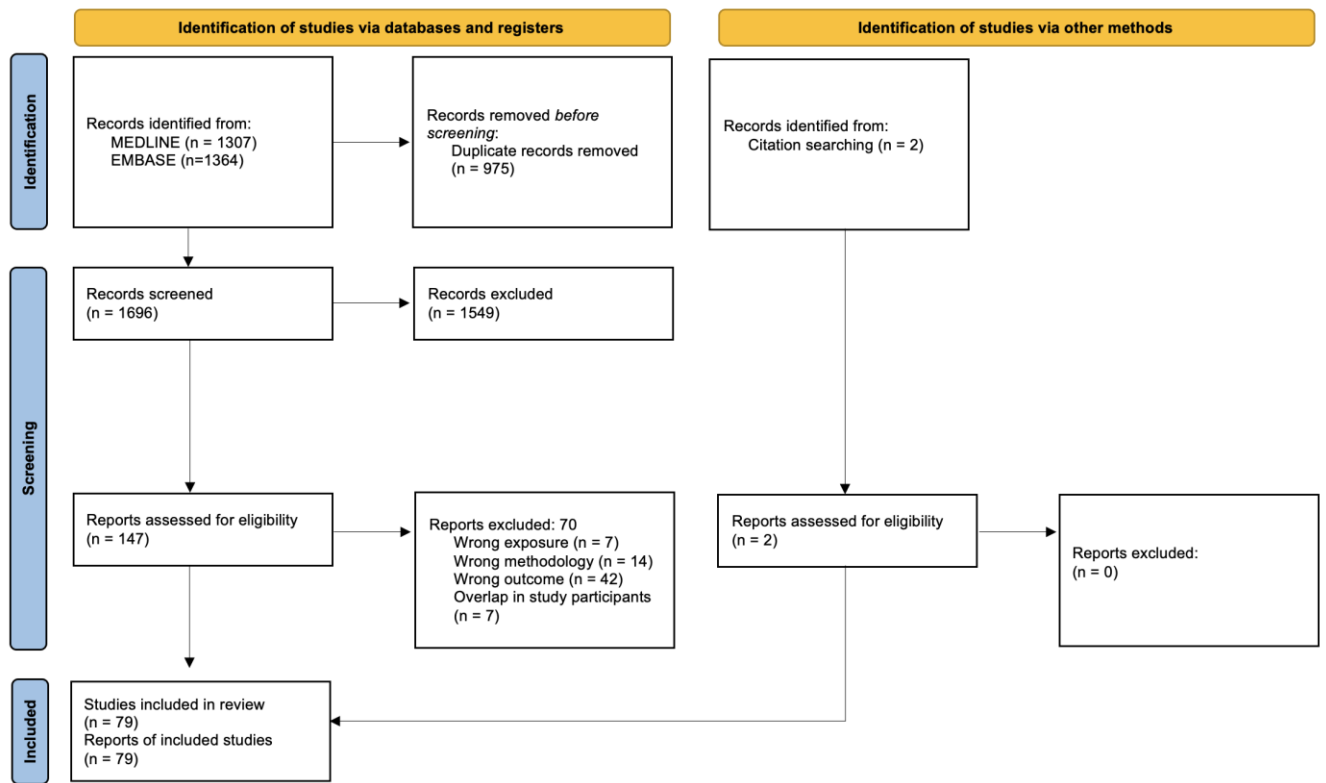
242 3.1 Risk of Bias assessment

243 An overview of risk of bias score per exposure category and study design is provided
244 in Figure 2. Studies had a mean score of 5.8/8 on the NOS. With a maximum score of
245 8 on the NOS, 1 study had a score of 2/8 (1%), 3 studies were scored with a 3/8 (4%),
246 5 with a 4/8 (6%), 24 with a 5/8 (30%), 16 with a 6/8 (20%), 23 with a 7/8 (29%) and
247 7 with 8/8 (9%). Especially studies in the categories of environmental exposures, diet
248 and illicit drugs had satisfactory scores on the NOS. In general, studies scored poorly
249 on the description of response rate and characteristics of non-respondents, follow-
250 up adequacy and sample size justification.

251 For specific exposure categories, studies in the infections category were
252 often hampered by an inadequate representativeness of the study sample. Both
253 infection and alcohol exposure studies had a notable risk of bias in selection of the
254 unexposed cohort. Smoking and mental health studies scored poorly on the
255 ascertainment of exposure. Mental health studies often did not report the
256 assessment of outcome. Maternal disease, treatment and physiology studies and
257 infection studies had poor comparability of the cohorts.

258

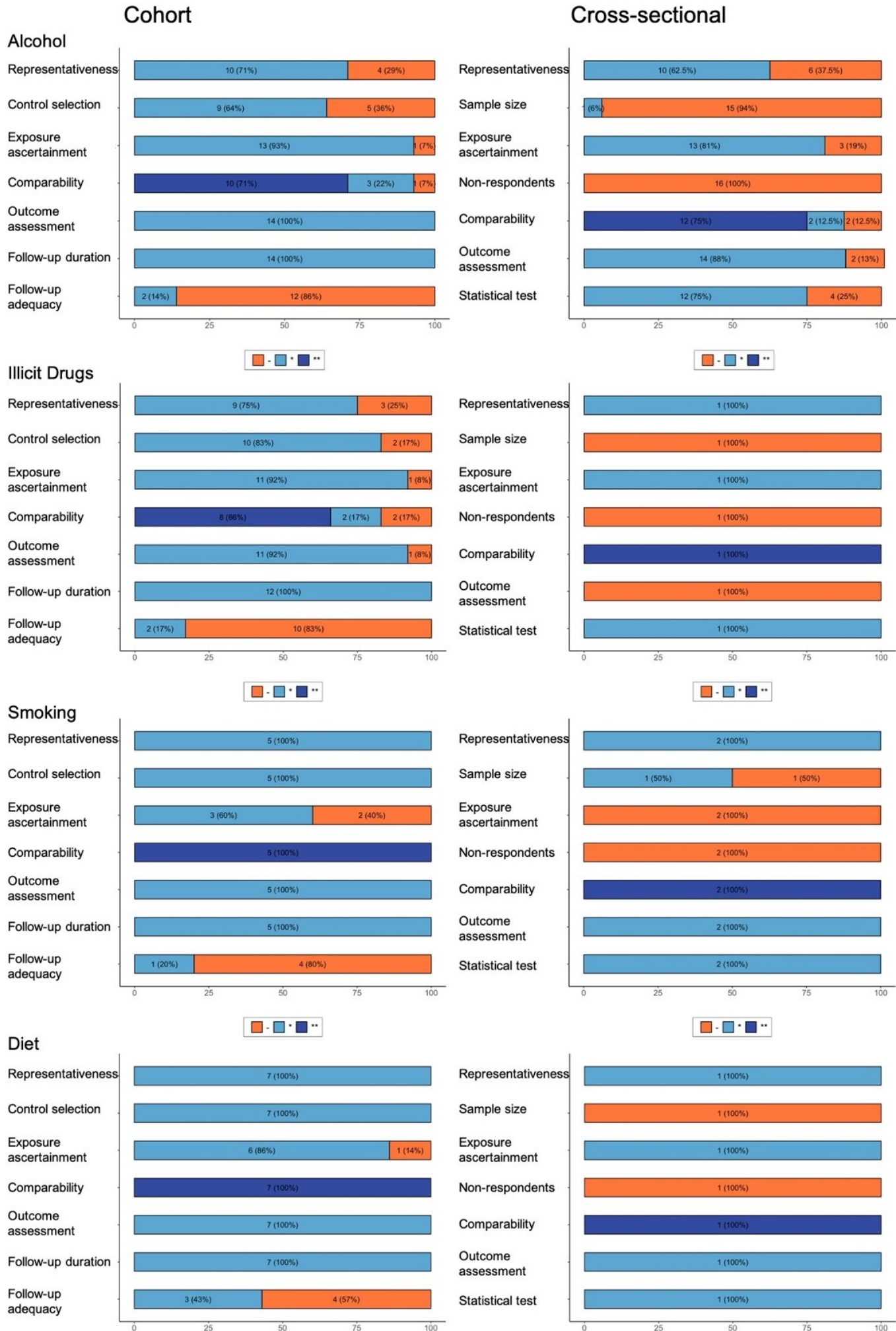
PRISMA 2020 flow diagram for new systematic reviews which included searches of databases, registers and other sources



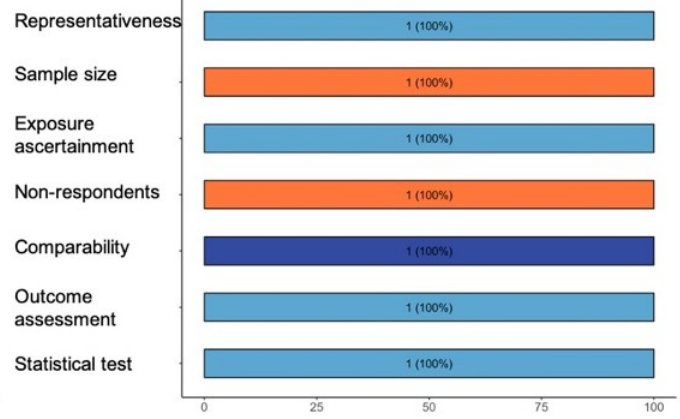
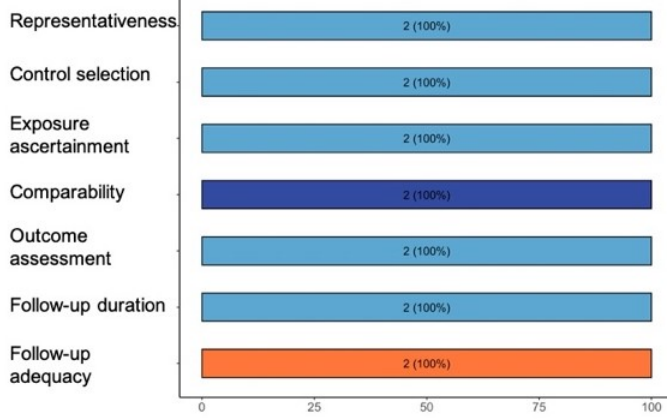
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260 **Figure 1.** PRISMA 2020 flow diagram of study selection.

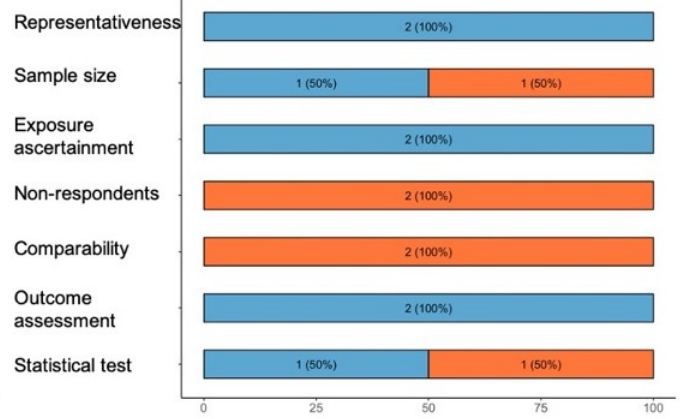
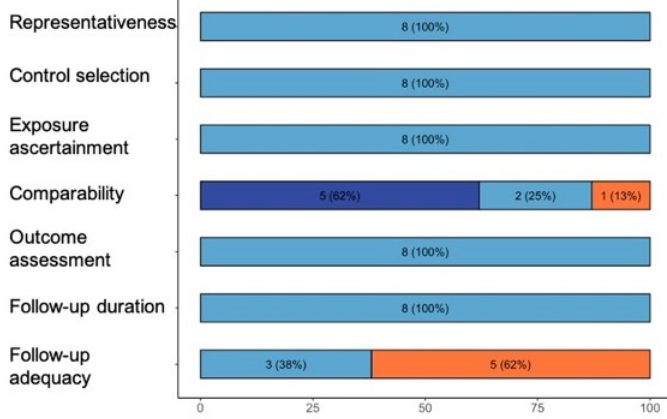
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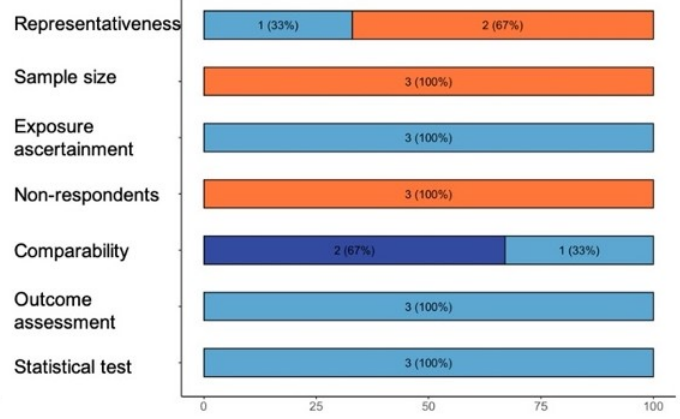
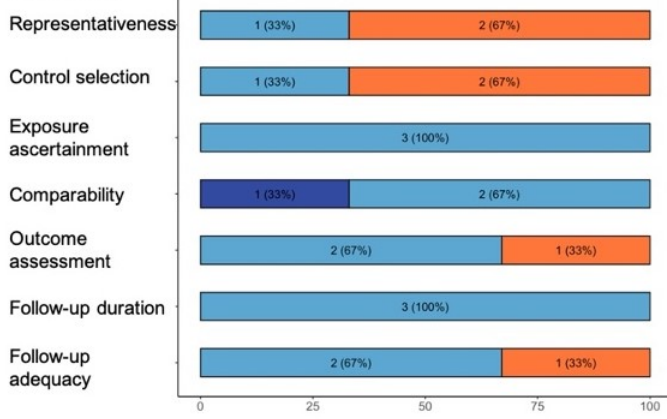
Environmental



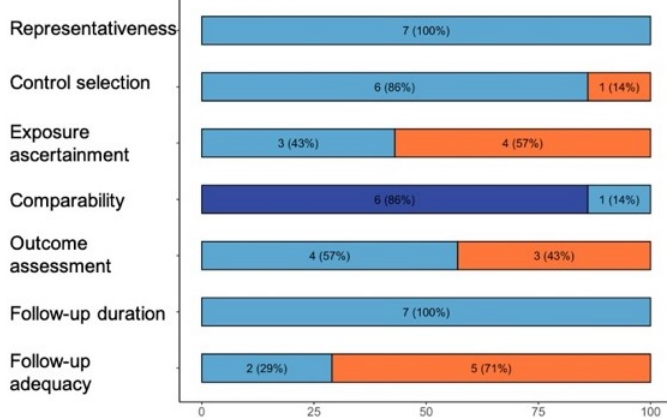
Disease, Treatment and Physiology



Infections



Mental Health Problems



264 **Figure 2.** Newcastle Ottawa Scale risk of bias assessment score per exposure
265 category and study design. Orange indicates no points (-), light blue indicates 1 point
266 (*) and dark blue indicates 2 points (**), only applicable for the comparability
267 category) on the NOS.

268

269 3.2 Alcohol

270 Thirty studies investigated the association between prenatal alcohol exposure and
271 WBV (N=12), HV (N=20) and/or TLV (N=3). Many studies focused on severe prenatal
272 alcohol exposure, often resulting in alcohol-related neurodevelopmental disorder
273 (ARND) or fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD). Several studies in this category
274 had considerable overlap in their study participants. Nonetheless, they did
275 contribute valuable information, for instance by studying different outcomes or a
276 different age at outcome assessment (Chen et al., 2012; Coles et al., 2011; Lebel et
277 al., 2008; Nardelli et al., 2011; Treit et al., 2017; Treit et al., 2013; Treit et al., 2016).

278 Most studies reported a significantly smaller WBV in exposed children
279 compared to unexposed children, with effect sizes ranging from -26.1% to +2.0% (12
280 years, Astley et al., 2009; 22-24 years, Chen et al., 2012; 9-10 years, De Guio et al.,
281 2014; 9-10 years, Lebel et al., 2008; 11 years, Rajaprakash et al., 2014; 12 years,
282 Rivkin et al., 2008; 12 years, Spottiswoode et al., 2011; 11-12 years, Treit et al.,
283 2013; 12-13 years, Zhou et al., 2018). The remaining studies investigating WBV
284 reported no significant association, although they reported effect sizes ranging from
285 -5.0% to +2.1% (9 years, de Zeeuw et al., 2012; 21 years, Willford et al., 2010). Lebel
286 and colleagues performed a 2-year longitudinal study and reported no significant
287 association with developmental trajectories (12-14 years, Lebel et al., 2012).

288 Individuals prenatally exposed to alcohol had a smaller HV, with effect sizes
289 ranging from -26.1% to +2.0% (11-15 years, Archibald et al., 2001; 12 years, Astley et
290 al., 2009; 11 years, Biffen et al., 2020; 22-24 years, Chen et al., 2012; 10-11 years,
291 Dodge et al., 2020; 21-22 days, Donald et al., 2016; 12-13 years, Dudek et al., 2014;
292 12 years, Gautam et al., 2015; 12 years, Joseph et al., 2014; 12 years, Krueger et al.,
293 2020; 12-13 years, McLachlan et al., 2020; 10 years, Meintjes et al., 2014; 11 years,
294 Nardelli et al., 2011; 11 years, Riikonen et al., 2005; 13 years, Roussotte et al.,
295 2012b; 13-14 years, Treit et al., 2017; 11-12 years, Treit et al., 2013; 12-14 years,
296 Uban et al., 2020; 12 years, Willoughby et al., 2008; 12-13 years, Zhou et al., 2018).
297 This effect was non-significant in the study by Joseph et al, although they did report
298 a 9.1% smaller left HV and 1.7% smaller right HV in exposed children (Joseph et al.,
299 2014). In addition, Willoughby et al. only reported a significantly smaller left HV,
300 despite reporting 3.6% smaller HV in exposed children (Willoughby et al., 2008).

301 Prenatal exposure to alcohol had inconsistent associations with TLV, with
302 exposed individuals having a 16.4% smaller TLV at age 13 (Sowell et al., 2002), but
303 no statistically significant effect was observed at age 12 and 11-15 (No volumes
304 reported; Archibald et al., 2001; Treit et al., 2016).

305

306 3.3 Illicit Drugs

307 We identified thirteen studies investigating the association between prenatal illicit
308 drug exposure and WBV (N=8) and/or HV (N=10). No studies included TLV as an
309 outcome.

310 Individuals prenatally exposed to opioids had a 3.0% to 16.0% smaller WBV
311 compared to unexposed individuals at age 10-11, 12 and 19 (Nygaard et al., 2018);

312 Sirnes et al., 2017; Walhovd et al., 2007) or to the population mean (41 weeks, Yuan
313 et al., 2014). This was statistically significant in three studies. Sirnes et al. reported
314 no significant association, although exposed individuals had a 3.7% smaller WBV
315 (Sirnes et al., 2017). Of note, there was overlap in the study samples of Walhovd et
316 al. and Nygaard et al., although the outcome was assessed at different ages
317 (Nygaard et al., 2018; Walhovd et al., 2007). Smaller WBV was reported after
318 prenatal exposure to cocaine, which was statistically significant at age 12 (Rivkin et
319 al., 2008) and not significant at age 15 (Roussotte et al., 2012a). No statistically
320 significant associations between prenatal cannabis (7 years, El Marroun et al., 2016),
321 marijuana (Rivkin et al., 2008) or methamphetamine (7 years, Chang et al., 2004)
322 and WBV were reported, despite the 5.9% smaller WBV reported by Rivkin et al. and
323 3.1% smaller WBV reported by Chang et al. in exposed children.

324 Studies reported a 4.4% to 7.0% smaller HV in individuals prenatally exposed
325 to opioids compared to unexposed individuals at age 10, 12 and 19 (Nygaard et al.,
326 2018; Sirnes et al., 2017; Walhovd et al., 2007). None of these effects was
327 statistically significant. Prenatal exposure to cocaine had uncertain results on HV at
328 age 9, 13 and 15, with studies reporting mixed effects (effect size range -1.3% to
329 +6.2%) with no statistically significant associations (Akyuz et al., 2014; Liu et al.,
330 2013; Roussotte et al., 2012a). Of note, Akyuz et al. and Liu et al. included
331 participants from the same cohort. Riggins et al. studied heroin and/or cocaine
332 exposure, and reported a significantly larger left (+6.2%) and right (+5.3%) HV in
333 exposed children (14 years, Riggins et al., 2012). Akyuz and colleagues additionally
334 studied the growth of the HV between age 9 and 14 years, and reported a lower
335 percent HV growth after prenatal cocaine exposure (1% vs 9% growth). Prenatal
336 methamphetamine exposure had inconsistent results on HV, with a significantly
337 smaller left (-20.5%) and right (-19.5%) HV at age 7, but no significant effects at 42

338 weeks GA and age 4 (Chang et al., 2004; Derauf et al., 2012; Warton et al., 2018).
339 Warton et al. did report a larger HV after prenatal methamphetamine exposure
340 (+2.5 and 3.3%), and Derauf et al. a smaller HV (-2.6%), although both effects were
341 not statistically significant.

342

343 3.4 Smoking

344 We included seven studies investigating an association between maternal smoking
345 and WBV (N=4) and/or HV (N=4). None of these studies included temporal lobe
346 volume (TLV) as an outcome.

347 Individuals prenatally exposed to smoking had a smaller WBV compared to
348 prenatally unexposed individuals. This was statistically significant in three studies
349 (GA 24-35 weeks, Anblagan et al., 2013; 7 years, El Marroun et al., 2014; 12 years,
350 Rivkin et al., 2008). For the fourth study performed by De Zeeuw and colleagues, the
351 reported average WBV was smaller for exposed offspring compared to unexposed
352 offspring, but the reporting on statistical significance was unclear (11 years, de
353 Zeeuw et al., 2012). This study also had the highest risk of bias.

354 No studies reported a statistically significant association between maternal
355 smoking and offspring HV. Of note, exposed children did have a smaller HV in the
356 two studies that reported brain volumes and three studies corrected for ICV in their
357 analysis, thereby potentially correcting for developmental effects (4 years, Derauf et
358 al., 2012; 7 years, El Marroun et al., 2014; 14 years, Liu et al., 2013; 63 years,
359 Salminen et al., 2019).

360

361 3.5 Diet

362 Seven cohort studies and one cross-sectional study investigated maternal diet in
363 relation to WBV (N=6) and/or HV (N=6). No studies reported on the relationship
364 between maternal diet and TLV.

365 Prenatal exposure to the Dutch famine had inconsistent results on WBV,
366 with exposed individuals having a 6.7% larger WBV at age 51 (Hulshoff Pol et al.,
367 2000), but a statistically significant smaller WBV (-2.4% to -7.3%) at age 67 (de Rooij
368 et al., 2016). The smaller WBV at age 67 was mainly driven by a smaller WBV in
369 exposed men. Of note, the effect reported by De Rooij et al. was only observed
370 without correction for ICV, and Hulshoff Pol et al. reported results corrected for ICV.
371 Therefore, it is unknown whether an ICV-dependent effect may have been present
372 at age 51. Also, the number of participants in the analysis performed by Hulshoff Pol
373 et al. was very small, limiting the power of this study to detect potentially smaller
374 effect sizes. Studies reported no significant associations between maternal B12 or
375 homocysteine levels (7 years, Ars et al., 2019) or prenatal LC-PUFA or 5-MTHF
376 supplementation and WBV (10 years, Catena et al., 2019). Ars et al. did report a
377 lower WBV in children exposed to low prenatal maternal folate levels compared to
378 children exposed to normal prenatal maternal folate levels. Ogundipe and
379 colleagues reported no statistically significant effect of essential brain-specific fatty
380 acids supplementation across all participants (group difference range +1.9% to
381 3.1%). They did report a higher WBV in men after supplementation, pointing at a
382 potentially differential sex sensitivity (0-4 weeks, Ogundipe et al., 2018). Lastly, Zou
383 et al. reported a smaller WBV after exposure to continuous prenatal vitamin D
384 insufficiency (10 years, Zou et al., 2020).

385 Alves et al. found a significant association between maternal prepregnancy
386 BMI and HV, with a significant negative correlation between maternal prepregnancy
387 BMI and HV in boys but not girls (8 years, Alves et al., 2020). Morton et al. reported
388 a positive correlation between prenatal maternal omega-3 fatty acid intake reported
389 by the mother and HV (27 days, Morton et al., 2020). This correlation was no longer
390 significant after correcting for multiple testing and reporting of these results was
391 limited. No statistically significant associations with HV were reported for low
392 prenatal folate levels, B12 and homocysteine levels (7 years, Ars et al., 2019),
393 prenatal LC-PUFA or 5-MTHF supplementation (10 years, Catena et al., 2019) or
394 prenatal vitamin D levels (10 years, Zou et al., 2020). Furthermore, no significant
395 effect of essential brain specific fatty acids supplementation was reported, although
396 the supplementation group had a 1.9% larger HV (0-4 weeks, Ogundipe et al., 2018).

397

398 3.6 Environmental

399 Three studies investigated WBV (N=2) and/or HV (N=3) in relation to prenatal
400 environmental exposures. No studies included TLV as an outcome.

401 Guxens et al. reported no association between multiple measures of
402 prenatal air pollution and WBV in a large prospective cohort study (6-10 years,
403 Guxens et al., 2018). HV was also mentioned as an outcome, but the results of this
404 analysis were not reported. Van den Dries and colleagues investigated the
405 association between prenatal exposure to organophosphate pesticides and offspring
406 WBV and HV in the same cohort as Guxens et al. No statistically significant
407 associations were reported (10 years, van den Dries et al., 2020). In the cross-
408 sectional study performed by Janulewicz et al., no significant association was
409 reported between prenatal tetrachloroethylene (PCE)-contaminated drinking water

410 exposure and offspring HV, although HV was 1.7% larger in exposed individuals (30
411 years, Janulewicz et al., 2013).

412

413 3.7 Disease, Treatment and Physiology

414 Ten studies investigated the association between a prenatal maternal disease,
415 treatment and physiology exposure and WBV (N=5), HV (N=8) and/or TLV (N=1). Six
416 additional studies on maternal infections and seven studies on maternal mental
417 health problems are discussed in the subcategories below.

418 In their twin study on placental functioning, Luo and colleagues reported a
419 negative association between WBV and placental-oxygen time to plateau (TTP) as a
420 measure for placental oxygen transport (GA 29-34 weeks, Luo et al., 2017).
421 Sammallahti et al. reported a negative association between WBV at age 10 years and
422 the umbilical artery pulsatility index during the second trimester as a measure of
423 placental vascular resistance, although this association did not survive correction for
424 multiple testing (Sammallahti et al., 2020). No statistically significant associations
425 with WBV were reported for maternal cancer and chemotherapy (GA 42 weeks,
426 Passera et al., 2019) and maternal hypothyroxinemia (8 years, Ghassabian et al.,
427 2014). Of note, the exposed infants in the study by Passera and colleagues did have
428 a 6.8% smaller WBV. Korevaar et al. studied both increased and decreased maternal
429 thyroid function in the same population as Ghassabian and colleagues. They did not
430 observe a significant association between free thyroxine (FT4) and WBV, but did
431 report a significant inverse U-shaped association between thyroid stimulating
432 hormone (TSH) and WBV (8 years, Korevaar et al., 2016).

433 A significantly smaller HV was reported after prenatal exposure to maternal
434 iron deficiency anemia at age 3-5 days (Basu et al., 2018). In addition, a significantly
435 larger HV was reported after prenatal exposure to maternal-fetal Rhesus and ABO
436 blood incompatibility at age 40 (Freedman et al., 2011). Willoughby et al. reported a
437 significant negative association between maternal TSH levels in the second and third
438 trimester and right HV (10 years, Willoughby et al., 2014). The five remaining studies
439 investigating prenatal exposure to gestational diabetes (10 years, Jabes et al., 2015),
440 maternal cancer and chemotherapy (GA 42 weeks, Passera et al., 2019), maternal
441 pre-eclampsia (10 years, Ratsep et al., 2016), maternal hypothyroxinemia (8 years,
442 Ghassabian et al., 2014) and FT4 or TSH (8 years, Korevaar et al., 2016) did not
443 report a statistically significant association with HV. Of note, Ratsep et al. did report
444 a larger HV in exposed children (left HV +9.5%, right HV +4.5%) and Ghassabian a
445 smaller HV in exposed children (-1.9%). However, the statistical analyses were only
446 performed with correction for ICV (Ratsep et al., 2016) or WBV (Ghassabian et al.,
447 2014).

448 Individuals prenatally exposed to pre-eclampsia had a higher TLV compared
449 to unexposed individuals at age 10 (Ratsep et al., 2016).

450

451 3.7.1 Infections

452 We included six studies investigating an association between prenatal maternal
453 infections and HV (N=5) or TLV (N=1). None of these studies included WBV as an
454 outcome.

455 Ellman and colleagues found no significant association between HV and
456 maternal serum cytokine interleukin-8 levels, a measure of maternal infection (40
457 years, Ellman et al., 2010). Of note, this analysis had an unusually small sample size

458 of N=8 and may have been underpowered. Vertical HIV infection had inconsistent
459 effects on HV. Both Nwosu and Yadav and et al. reported smaller volumes of both
460 left and right HV in HIV-infected children at age 7 and 10 (Nwosu et al., 2018; Yadav
461 et al., 2017). However, this effect did not remain statistically significant after
462 correcting for multiple testing in the analysis performed by Nwosu and colleagues.
463 Paul et al. and Wade et al. have an overlap in their study participants, although the
464 extent of this overlap is unclear. Both studies reported no significant association
465 between HIV infection and HV at age 11, although the exposed children had 1%
466 larger HV in the study by Paul and colleagues. In addition, Wade et al. reported no
467 longitudinal changes (follow-up median 53 weeks) in HV associated with HIV
468 infection (Paul et al., 2018; Wade et al., 2019).

469 Hoffmann and colleagues observed a significantly smaller TLV in fetuses
470 exposed to a cytomegalovirus infection compared to unexposed fetuses, which was
471 independent of WBV (GA 33 weeks, Hoffmann et al., 2010).

472

473 3.7.2 Mental Health Problems

474 Seven included studies investigated any measure of maternal mental health during
475 pregnancy in association with offspring HV. One of these studies additionally
476 included WBV as an outcome, none included TLV.

477 Wu et al. reported no significant association between maternal stress,
478 anxiety or depression and WBV (GA 28-36 weeks, Wu et al., 2020b).

479 The children exposed to maternal psychopathology in the study by
480 Bjørnebekk et al. had a 1.6% larger HV compared to unexposed children, but this
481 difference was not statistically significant (4.5 years, Bjørnebekk et al., 2015). In

482 addition, no significant associations between maternal depressive symptoms (26
483 days, Lehtola et al., 2020; GA 28-36 weeks, Wu et al., 2020b; 10 years, Zou et al.,
484 2019), maternal stress (23 years, Mareckova et al., 2018; Wu et al., 2020b), maternal
485 anxiety (Lehtola et al., 2020; 40-66 weeks post-conception, Qiu et al., 2013; Wu et
486 al., 2020b) or maternal cortisol (7.5 years, Buss et al., 2012) and HV were reported.
487 Wu et al. tested for associations between maternal depression, stress, state anxiety
488 and trait anxiety and HV. Of these exposures, only maternal trait anxiety had a
489 significant negative association with HV which remained after correction for multiple
490 testing.

491 Qiu and colleagues did not identify an association between prenatal anxiety
492 exposure and bilateral HV at birth or six months. They did report slower bilateral
493 hippocampal growth between these time points after exposure to prenatal maternal
494 anxiety. This effect was independent of postnatal maternal anxiety for the right
495 hippocampus only.

496

497 4 Discussion

498 The 79 studies included in this systematic review provide evidence that prenatal
499 exposures are associated with brain size, especially with WBV and HV; the evidence
500 for an association with TLV is scarce (N=5 studies). The most substantial evidence
501 was found for smaller WBV and/or HV after prenatal alcohol exposure, smoking,
502 opioid or cocaine use, nutrient shortage and disease or placental/umbilical cord
503 dysfunction. The outcomes were mostly assessed in childhood and effect sizes
504 ranged between -40% and +19%, although many studies failed to report a measure
505 of effect size. Limited evidence was found for other types of prenatal illicit drug
506 exposure, mental health problems, dietary supplementation or physiological ranges,
507 thyroid function, infections or environmental exposures being associated with the
508 outcomes of interest, although evidence was scarce or inconclusive for numerous
509 exposures. Overall risk of bias was low, although studies scored poorly on the
510 description of response rate and characteristics of non-respondents, follow-up
511 adequacy and sample size justification.

512

513 4.1 Conclusion per exposure

514 4.1.1 Alcohol

515 The overall body of evidence for a smaller WBV and HV after prenatal alcohol
516 exposure is convincing. Given the large number of studies investigating this
517 exposure (N=32), the overlap in study sample for some studies will not have
518 significantly impacted the overall outcome. Notably, most studies have measured
519 the outcome between 11 and 14 years of age, which leaves a large knowledge gap in
520 brain development before and after this age range.

521

522 4.1.2 Illicit Drugs

523 The included studies provide evidence for a smaller WBV after prenatal opioid and
524 cocaine exposure in neonates, children and teenagers. No studies investigated these
525 associations in (late) adulthood. The smaller group difference in the study by
526 Roussotte at age 15 versus Rivkin at age 12 (1.4% versus 6.9%) could potentially
527 indicate a dilution of the effect of the prenatal exposure on neurodevelopment,
528 although additional studies investigating these effects in late childhood and (late)
529 adulthood are needed to determine these associations. No associations between
530 prenatal exposure to cannabis, marijuana or methamphetamine and WBV were
531 reported, but the evidence was limited. Evidence was provided for a smaller HV
532 after prenatal opioid exposure. Associations between heroin, cocaine and
533 methamphetamine and HV were heterogeneous and reported by a small number of
534 studies.

535

536 4.1.3 Smoking

537 The included studies demonstrate that the negative association between maternal
538 smoking and offspring WBV is present in the fetal brain and appears to continue into
539 childhood. The evidence for an association between maternal smoking and HV was
540 insufficient. No studies were performed in early and mid-adulthood and the single
541 study that measured HV in late adulthood did not report on WBV, and only reported
542 HV analyses corrected for ICV. It thus remains unclear whether an effect may be
543 observed for WBV or ICV-dependent HV in (late) adulthood.

544

545 4.1.4 Diet

546 Although the included studies on the association between maternal prenatal diet
547 and brain development investigated a large variety of nutrients, they report an
548 overall pattern of smaller WBV after nutrient shortage. This pattern appears to be a
549 general effect across the WBV, few specific effects were observed in the HV. In
550 addition, the effects appear to have sex-specificity, with boys potentially being more
551 vulnerable. The negative correlation of maternal prepregnancy BMI with HV in boys,
552 and the positive correlation of prenatal maternal omega-3 fatty acid intake with HV
553 do point at a potential vulnerability of the hippocampal development to maternal
554 diet.

555

556 4.1.5 Environmental

557 No evidence of associations with prenatal environmental exposures was provided by
558 the included studies. Nevertheless, only three studies were included in this category
559 of which two were conducted in the same cohort, and all administered indirect and
560 inaccurate measures of exposure. More studies investigating the impact of prenatal
561 exposure to harmful environmental circumstances are needed to improve our
562 understanding of the potential association with brain development.

563

564 4.1.6 Disease, Treatment and Physiology

565 Despite the large diversity in exposures, the included studies provide evidence that
566 maternal medical conditions can impact fetal brain development. In particular,
567 maternal TSH levels, iron deficiency anemia, maternal-fetal rhesus and ABO blood
568 incompatibility and pre-eclampsia were associated with altered brain outcomes.
569 Surprisingly, larger HVs were observed in individuals exposed to maternal-fetal

570 rhesus and ABO blood incompatibility at age 40 years (Freedman et al., 2011).
571 Furthermore, larger TLVs were observed in individuals exposed to maternal pre-
572 eclampsia (Ratsep et al., 2016). The authors suggest that this may be indicative of
573 adaptive resilience in exposed individuals (Freedman et al., 2011).

574

575 *4.1.6.1 Infections*

576 The included studies provide some indication that prenatal infections may impact
577 the development of the hippocampus and temporal lobe regions, although evidence
578 is scarce. Most evidence for an association with smaller HV was found in the studies
579 investigating vertically transferred HIV, although study results were inconsistent.

580

581 *4.1.6.2 Mental Health Problems*

582 No evidence for an association between mental health problems and WBV or HV
583 was provided by the included studies. Nevertheless, most studies on HV only report
584 their outcomes corrected for either ICV or WBV, so we cannot infer that HV
585 developmental alterations are dependent on ICV or WBV. The large majority of
586 studies was performed in infants and no studies assessed the outcome past 10
587 years. This limits the available information on developmental brain trajectories after
588 prenatal exposure to maternal mental health problems. The reduced right
589 hippocampal growth independent of postnatal mental health problems reported by
590 Qiu and colleagues does indicate that some association may be present. Additional
591 studies are needed to elucidate this potential association, especially since this study
592 was performed in young children only.

593

594 4.2 General interpretation

595 Taken together, these studies provide a convincing body of evidence for an
596 association between adverse prenatal exposures and smaller brain volumes in brain
597 regions associated with AD. However, several nuances should be considered. First,
598 the specific impact of any exposure depends on the type of exposure and the
599 underlying mechanisms which drive the effect. Several prenatal exposures had a
600 clear impact on brain volumes, whereas others showed no hint of an association.
601 Furthermore, the effect size is likely dependent on the severity and timing of the
602 exposure. Little attention is given to the timing of exposure in the majority of
603 included studies. Moreover, many exposures may last throughout pregnancy and
604 continue postnatally, providing challenges in determining the effect at specific
605 points in pregnancy. For instance, by definition, populations of children vertically
606 infected with HIV are continuously exposed postnatally. In addition, there may be
607 sex-specific effects for certain exposures, as was demonstrated by De Rooij et al. and
608 Alves et al. (Alves et al., 2020; de Rooij et al., 2016). Nevertheless, outside of the diet
609 category, included studies scarcely explored sex-specificity of their results. Exploring
610 sex-specificity of the impact of prenatal exposures on brain development may
611 provide valuable insights, especially considering that male fetuses are more
612 vulnerable to prenatal exposures and may therefore respond differently (Bale,
613 2016).

614 Furthermore, numerous study groups included multi-exposures, which may
615 be problematic for determining the effect of a single, specific exposure. In particular,
616 prenatal exposure to alcohol, smoking and/or illicit drugs were often observed in
617 combination. Correcting for multi-exposures remains challenging, especially when
618 exposure information is based on self-report. Toxic effects of multiple exposures

619 may amplify their impact, resulting in larger effect sizes. Of note, exposure to
620 multiple, interrelated exposures is common in real life, and studying their combined
621 impact may improve the external validity of the study (Buss and Genuet, 2022).
622 Thereby, both studies of single exposures and studies investigating multi-exposures
623 should be considered to obtain a more complete understanding of the impact of
624 prenatal exposures.

625 Most studies measured the outcome in childhood, leaving a large knowledge
626 gap of the outcomes in (late) adulthood. Despite the limited number of studies that
627 measured the outcome in adulthood, the majority of brain development occurs in
628 early development, and brain volumetric measures remain relatively stable
629 thereafter until the onset of neurodegeneration (Dobbing and Sands, 1973; Prayer
630 et al., 2006). Large changes in effect size in later life are, therefore, not expected.

631 The effect size ($\Delta_{\text{exposed-unexposed}}$, %) in the included studies ranged
632 between -40% and +19%, although many studies failed to report any indication of
633 effect size or brain volumes. The approximated average effect of alcohol (~-10%) on
634 brain volumes was roughly twice as large as the average effect of illicit drugs (~-6%)
635 or smoking (~-5%) in the studies included in this review. These effect sizes are likely
636 to be relevant alterations to the brain reserve, as studies generally report a 10-15%
637 smaller HV in MCI patients and a 15-40% smaller HV in AD patients compared to
638 healthy controls (Bosscher and Scheltens, 2002; Pini et al., 2016). Thereby, having a
639 5-10% smaller brain volume may significantly impact the brain's capacity to buffer
640 AD-related neurodegeneration.

641

642 4.3 Mechanisms

643 Several biological pathways through which adverse prenatal exposures could result
644 in altered brain development have been proposed. These pathways are mainly
645 associated with teratogenic effects on the developing fetus or nutrient shortage
646 limiting developmental processes (Martin-Gronert and Ozanne, 2012).

647 For instance, a prenatal exposure or nutrient shortage may alter DNA
648 methylation patterns of genes associated with prenatal brain development and
649 growth in general (Tobi et al., 2014). In addition, prenatal malnutrition has been
650 shown to affect neurogenesis, cell migration and differentiation (Morgane et al.,
651 1993). Comparable processes have been observed for prenatal alcohol toxicity
652 disrupting neuronal proliferation and migration, causing cell death. Furthermore,
653 alcohol-induced hypoxia and altered hormone and protein synthesis levels can result
654 in growth retardation, and alcohol can disrupt growth factor signaling and increase
655 oxidative stress on the embryo (Lebel et al., 2011). Similarly, prenatal tobacco
656 exposure can induce neural cell loss and hypertrophy (Scott-Goodwin et al., 2016).
657 Rodent studies have highlighted the effects of prenatal exposures on brain reserve
658 through alterations in dendritic morphology, spine number, and synaptic plasticity
659 and function (Lesuis et al., 2018). Moreover, a primate study of fetal nutrient
660 restriction related resulting cerebral developmental disturbances to mechanisms
661 including impaired cell proliferation, glial maturation and neuronal process
662 formation (Antonow-Schlorke et al., 2011).

663

664 4.4 Methodological remarks

665 After thorough evaluation of the included studies, several methodological aspects
666 deserve mentioning.

667 First, many studies analyzed HV corrected for WBV or ICV, without reporting
668 an uncorrected analysis or any information on WBV in the study participants.
669 Consequently, these studies provide little information on the impact of the exposure
670 of interest on brain development as a whole, as a reduction in HV dependent on
671 WBV would still be of interest. Furthermore, additional reporting on WBV would
672 greatly improve the insight on the brain development in exposed individuals.

673 Reporting on study outcomes was incomplete or unclear for many studies.
674 Numerous studies failed to report brain volumes, uncorrected analyses and effect
675 sizes. As a result, we were limited to a mere report of statistical significance if no
676 additional information was provided. As statistical significance does not give any
677 insight in effect size or potential clinical relevance, we extracted outcome details if
678 provided and used this as context for all studies in the exposure category. In
679 addition, we calculated a % difference between exposed and unexposed groups,
680 when possible, to enable some interpretation of effect size. Furthermore,
681 terminology for WBV was confusing. Reporting of WBV, total brain volume,
682 intracranial volume with or without ventricles or cerebellar volume was often
683 inaccurate and could easily be misunderstood. Studies regularly failed to report
684 whether HV was reported or analyzed unilaterally, bilaterally or as an average of
685 both hemispheres. Since studies have previously identified specific effects for either
686 left HV or right HV, clear reporting of the analysis approach and rationale is of
687 utmost importance.

688 Additionally, there was considerable overlap in the study samples of
689 numerous studies. Several large cohort studies were used for the analysis of
690 multiple exposures or different outcomes on the same exposure. Also, some
691 manuscripts combined samples from previous studies to explore a new research
692 question in a larger study sample. In the case of considerable overlap in study
693 sample, exposure and outcome, the study with the lowest number of participants
694 was excluded. However, if, despite an overlap in study participants, new information
695 was provided by the study in terms of outcome or age at outcome assessment,
696 studies were not excluded. We aimed to clearly report on these details in both text
697 and tables to enable an unbiased interpretation of the study results.

698 Moreover, many included studies obtained information on exposure
699 through maternal self-report or retrospective reports sometimes collected years
700 after the prenatal period. This approach reduces the reliability of the exposure data
701 and increases the chances of potential underreporting and misclassification of
702 exposure. Nevertheless, although increasing the risk of bias in a study,
703 underreporting and misclassification would presumably lead to an underestimation
704 of effects. Therefore, the overall pattern of reduced brain volumes after harmful
705 exposures reported supports the hypothesis of an association despite this limitation.

706 In addition, some exposure categories only included a small number of
707 studies, and the evidence for many specific exposures was limited to a single study.
708 Overall, the number of studies per specific exposure type should be increased to
709 improve the certainty of evidence, especially in categories with single studies per
710 exposure.

711 Lastly, within exposure categories, we identified considerable differences
712 between studies in exposure definition and severity limiting comparability between

713 studies. Also, most studies in the alcohol and illicit drug exposure categories used a
714 relatively severe definition of exposure and occasionally included mildly exposed
715 individuals in the unexposed control group. Additionally, many prenatal alcohol
716 exposure studies investigated a specific population of children with FAS, a syndrome
717 defined by significant brain damage. Combined, these factors limit the external
718 validity to societies where pregnant women generally restrict their substance use to
719 for instance an occasional glass of wine. Future studies should shed light on the
720 impact and effect size of sporadic substance use versus complete abstinence on
721 offspring brain development.

722

723 4.5 Strengths and limitations

724 In this systematic review, we provide an overview of the existing body of literature
725 on prenatal exposures and outcomes of WBV, HV and TLV. By selecting studies
726 based on these outcomes instead of AD diagnosis, we were able to identify a large
727 number of studies with outcomes highly relevant for AD, which have not been
728 related to risk of developing AD. This innovative approach resulted in valuable
729 insights for future research strategies, and substantiates previous suggestions of a
730 potential contribution of the prenatal environment to the risk of developing AD.
731 Nevertheless, only a limited number of studies was identified investigating the
732 outcomes in older age (N=3 above 50 years), and more longitudinal studies are
733 needed to map the impact of prenatal exposures on brain health in later life.

734 Several limitations are the result of the nature of the exposures and
735 outcomes of interest and our study design. First, several of the exposures discussed
736 above are not specific to the prenatal period. For instance, maternal mental health
737 problems or environmental exposures may continue postnatally, and disentangling

738 these effects is challenging. Secondly, the outcomes included in this systematic
739 review are established MRI neuroimaging biomarkers for AD. They may, however,
740 lack specificity for AD, as they are also associated with other types of dementia and
741 neurodegeneration. For instance, HV atrophy is also observed in non-AD forms of
742 dementia including Parkinson, vascular, frontotemporal lobar and semantic
743 dementia (Pini et al., 2016; Whalley et al., 2006). As a result, despite having limited
744 specificity for AD, the conclusions of this systematic review may also be applicable to
745 other types of dementia and late-life neurodegenerative disease. Lastly, we were
746 unable to perform a meaningful meta-analysis because of the large variation in
747 exposures, outcomes and age at outcome assessment in the included studies. These
748 limitations also restricted the comparability between studies. Nevertheless,
749 grouping the studies per exposure category facilitated comparison within categories.
750 The large range in exposures and outcomes did result in a substantial body of
751 literature with a broad external validity, enabling general conclusions for a broad
752 population.

753 The nature of the research topic and the observational designs of included
754 studies restricts conclusions on causality. It is nearly impossible to rule out all
755 potential confounders and randomized controlled trials are scarce. One included
756 study did adopt a randomized controlled trial design, and reported a higher WBV in
757 men after essential brain specific fatty acid supplementation, providing evidence for
758 a causal relationship (Ogundipe et al., 2018).

759

760 [4.6 Recommendations for future research](#)

761 This systematic review demonstrated a clear association between prenatal
762 exposures and brain development. Our conclusions on the progression of these

763 outcomes over time and late-life brain health are, however, speculative. As the
764 number of studies that longitudinally assessed the outcomes of interest was limited,
765 and only a small number of studies assessed the outcomes past childhood. Cross-
766 sectional studies provide a limited view of brain development, since measuring at a
767 single time point does not provide any information on potential growth retardations
768 and catch-up effects. There is a need for longitudinal studies stretching across a
769 broader age range to explore the impact of prenatal exposures throughout life.
770 Furthermore, core outcome sets and reporting guidelines could greatly improve the
771 usability of future studies. Ideally, studies should include both WBV and HV as
772 outcomes, and report on volumes, effect size and uncorrected models in addition to
773 corrected models.

774 Finally, we urge investigators in future studies to adopt a life-long
775 perspective in studying AD. The evidence summarized in this systematic review
776 endorses the hypothesis that the prenatal environment may be an essential factor in
777 the development of brain regions associated with AD risk in late life. Embedding this
778 realization in research into both prenatal development and brain aging may
779 promote collaborations among researchers in both fields and facilitate
780 breakthroughs which can significantly move the field forward.

781

782 4.7 Conclusions

783 Adverse prenatal exposures are associated with alterations in brain development
784 measured in structural brain outcomes related to AD in late life. Specifically,
785 prenatal exposure to alcohol, opioids, cocaine, nutrient shortage, placental
786 dysfunction and maternal anemia were associated with smaller whole brain,
787 temporal lobe and hippocampal volumes. This altered development may result in

788 decreased brain reserve which is associated with an increased risk of dementia.
789 Despite the relatively high overall quality of the included studies, there was a
790 considerable range of exposures, outcomes, study designs and ages at outcome
791 assessment, and reporting was inconsistent. Following existing neuroimaging
792 reporting guidelines such as the OHBM COBIDAS Report is highly recommended
793 (<https://www.humanbrainmapping.org/files/2016/COBIDASreport.pdf>; Pernet et al.,
794 2020). In addition, core outcome sets and reporting guidelines for this field could
795 improve the comparability between studies, overall research quality and
796 applicability of research in this field. Thereby, the field of neuroimaging after
797 prenatal exposures may offer a true life course perspective on the development of
798 AD and other neurodegenerative diseases in later life.

799

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803

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1246

1247 [Figure Captions](#)

1248 **Figure 1.** PRISMA 2020 flow diagram of study selection.

1249 **Figure 2.** Newcastle Ottawa Scale risk of bias assessment score per exposure

1250 category and study design. Orange indicates no points (-), light blue indicates 1 point

1251 (*) and dark blue indicates 2 points (**), only applicable for the comparability

1252 category) on the NOS.

1253 **Supplementary Figure 1.** Interactive bubble map of the evidence according to

1254 exposure category, outcome and direction of effect.

1255 [Tables](#)

1256 Tables and Supplementary Tables were uploaded as separate files.

1257

1259 Supplement A. Prisma 2020 checklist

Section and Topic	Item #	Checklist item	Location where item is reported
TITLE			
Title	1	Identify the report as a systematic review.	Title page (1)
ABSTRACT			
Abstract	2	See the PRISMA 2020 for Abstracts checklist.	2
INTRODUCTION			
Rationale	3	Describe the rationale for the review in the context of existing knowledge.	3-5
Objectives	4	Provide an explicit statement of the objective(s) or question(s) the review addresses.	5
METHODS			
Eligibility criteria	5	Specify the inclusion and exclusion criteria for the review and how studies were grouped for the syntheses.	6,7
Information sources	6	Specify all databases, registers, websites, organisations, reference lists and other sources searched or consulted to identify studies. Specify the date when each source was last searched or consulted.	6
Search strategy	7	Present the full search strategies for all databases, registers and websites, including any filters and limits used.	6, supplement
Selection process	8	Specify the methods used to decide whether a study met the inclusion criteria of the review, including how many reviewers screened each record and each report retrieved, whether they worked independently, and if applicable, details of automation tools used in the process.	7,8
Data collection process	9	Specify the methods used to collect data from reports, including how many reviewers collected data from each report, whether they worked independently, any processes for obtaining or confirming data from study investigators, and if applicable, details of automation tools used in the process.	7,8
Data items	10a	List and define all outcomes for which data were sought. Specify whether all results that were compatible with each outcome domain in each study were sought (e.g. for all measures, time points, analyses), and if not, the methods used to decide which results to collect.	7
	10b	List and define all other variables for which data were sought (e.g. participant and intervention characteristics, funding sources). Describe any assumptions made about any missing or unclear information.	7,8
Study risk of bias assessment	11	Specify the methods used to assess risk of bias in the included studies, including details of the tool(s) used, how many reviewers assessed each study and whether they worked independently, and if applicable, details of automation tools used in the process.	8
Effect measures	12	Specify for each outcome the effect measure(s) (e.g. risk ratio, mean difference) used in the synthesis or presentation of results.	8,9,30
Synthesis methods	13a	Describe the processes used to decide which studies were eligible for each synthesis (e.g. tabulating the study intervention characteristics and comparing against the planned groups for each synthesis (item #5)).	8
	13b	Describe any methods required to prepare the data for presentation or synthesis, such as handling of missing summary statistics, or data conversions.	8,30
	13c	Describe any methods used to tabulate or visually display results of individual studies and syntheses.	9,10
	13d	Describe any methods used to synthesize results and provide a rationale for the choice(s). If meta-analysis was performed, describe the model(s), method(s) to identify the presence and extent of statistical heterogeneity, and software package(s) used.	9
	13e	Describe any methods used to explore possible causes of heterogeneity among study results (e.g. subgroup analysis, meta-regression).	NA
	13f	Describe any sensitivity analyses conducted to assess robustness of the synthesized results.	NA
Reporting bias assessment	14	Describe any methods used to assess risk of bias due to missing results in a synthesis (arising from reporting biases).	NA
Certainty assessment	15	Describe any methods used to assess certainty (or confidence) in the body of evidence for an outcome.	8,9

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Section and Topic	Item #	Checklist item	Location where item is reported
RESULTS			
Study selection	16a	Describe the results of the search and selection process, from the number of records identified in the search to the number of studies included in the review, ideally using a flow diagram.	10,12
	16b	Cite studies that might appear to meet the inclusion criteria, but which were excluded, and explain why they were excluded.	10
Study characteristics	17	Cite each included study and present its characteristics.	Table 1-3
Risk of bias in studies	18	Present assessments of risk of bias for each included study.	Supplementary table 1
Results of individual studies	19	For all outcomes, present, for each study: (a) summary statistics for each group (where appropriate) and (b) an effect estimate and its precision (e.g. confidence/credible interval), ideally using structured tables or plots.	Table 2
Results of syntheses	20a	For each synthesis, briefly summarise the characteristics and risk of bias among contributing studies.	10-24
	20b	Present results of all statistical syntheses conducted. If meta-analysis was done, present for each the summary estimate and its precision (e.g. confidence/credible interval) and measures of statistical heterogeneity. If comparing groups, describe the direction of the effect.	NA
	20c	Present results of all investigations of possible causes of heterogeneity among study results.	32-34
	20d	Present results of all sensitivity analyses conducted to assess the robustness of the synthesized results.	NA
Reporting biases	21	Present assessments of risk of bias due to missing results (arising from reporting biases) for each synthesis assessed.	NA
Certainty of evidence	22	Present assessments of certainty (or confidence) in the body of evidence for each outcome assessed.	25-29
DISCUSSION			
Discussion	23a	Provide a general interpretation of the results in the context of other evidence.	29-31
	23b	Discuss any limitations of the evidence included in the review.	32-34
	23c	Discuss any limitations of the review processes used.	34,35
	23d	Discuss implications of the results for practice, policy, and future research.	36,37
OTHER INFORMATION			
Registration and protocol	24a	Provide registration information for the review, including register name and registration number, or state that the review was not registered.	6
	24b	Indicate where the review protocol can be accessed, or state that a protocol was not prepared.	6
	24c	Describe and explain any amendments to information provided at registration or in the protocol.	7
Support	25	Describe sources of financial or non-financial support for the review, and the role of the funders or sponsors in the review.	38
Competing interests	26	Declare any competing interests of review authors.	1
Availability of data, code and other materials	27	Report which of the following are publicly available and where they can be found: template data collection forms; data extracted from included studies; data used for all analyses; analytic code; any other materials used in the review.	8

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1264 **Supplement B. Search strategy.**

1265 Database(s): **Ovid MEDLINE(R) and Epub Ahead of Print, In-Process & Other Non-**

1266 **Indexed Citations and Daily** 1946 to August 28, 2020

1267 Search Strategy: **2020-08-30**

#	Searches	Results
1	prenatal exposure delayed effects/ or prenatal injuries/ or maternal exposure/ or paternal exposure/	36757
2	gestational weight gain/ or maternal age/ or parity/ or paternal age/ or maternal-fetal exchange/ or maternal-fetal relations/ or fetal distress/ or exp pregnancy, multiple/ or exp maternal nutritional physiological phenomena/ or obesity, maternal/ or "disorders of sex development"/ or apgar score/	106242
3	fetal diseases/ or exp fetal membranes, premature rupture/ or fetal alcohol spectrum disorders/ or fetal growth retardation/ or fetal hypoxia/ or asphyxia neonatorum/ or fetal macrosomia/ or fetal nutrition disorders/ or placental insufficiency/ or congenital hypothyroidism/	73652
4	(pregnancy complications/ or diabetes, gestational/ or exp hypertension, pregnancy-induced/ or hyperemesis gravidarum/ or placenta diseases/ or pregnancy complications, cardiovascular/ or pregnancy complications, hematologic/ or pregnancy complications, infectious/ or pregnancy complications, parasitic/ or exp pregnancy complications, neoplastic/ or pregnancy in diabetics/ or pregnant women/px or (HELPP or preeclam* or eclamp* or GDM or ((pregnan* or gestation* or gravid* or maternal) adj6 (hyperten* or blood pressur* or an?emi* or diabet* or obes* or weight gain)).tw,kf.) and (offspring* or progeny or born or neonat* or neo-nat* or new*born* or new-born* or postnat* or post-nat* or perinat* or peri-nat* or infant* or child or children).mp.	102316
5	(seasons/ or residence characteristics/ or geography/ or rural population/ or suburban population/ or urban population/ or rural health/ or suburban health/ or urban health/ or urbanization/ or *"emigrants and immigrants"/ or life change events/ or socioeconomic factors/ or economic status/ or exp educational status/ or exp parents/ed or employment/ or unemployment/ or income/ or occupations/ or exp poverty/ or social class/ or education/ or exp educational measurement/ or sex characteristics/ or sexual development/ or sex determination processes/ or sex differentiation/ or exp mining/ or exp occupational diseases/ or exp environmental pollution/ or environmental health/ or exp toxic actions/ or exp metals, heavy/ or exp particulate matter/ or occupational health/ or mental disorders/ or exp anxiety disorders/ or exp "bipolar and related disorders"/ or mood disorders/ or depressive disorder/ or maternal behavior/ or anxiety/ or psychological distress/ or fear/ or behavioral symptoms/ or affective symptoms/ or depression/ or paranoid behavior/ or exp stress, psychological/ or exp substance-related disorders/ or drug-seeking behavior/ or drinking behavior/ or alcohol drinking/ or binge drinking/ or exp "marijuana use"/ or exp smoking/ or exp "tobacco use"/ or exp narcotics/ or exp illicit drugs/ or alcohols/ or ethanol/ or exp alcoholic beverages/ or tobacco/ or exp serotonin uptake inhibitors/ or exp tranquilizing agents/ or exp glucocorticoids/ or exp adrenal cortex hormones/bl, an, ae, me, df or exp testosterone congeners/bl, an, ae, me, df or exp thyroid hormones/bl, an, ae, me, df or *hormones/ or hypothyroidism/ or exp disease outbreaks/ or infectious disease transmission, vertical/ or "influenza a virus"/ or influenza, human/ or cytomegalovirus infections/ or cytomegalovirus/ or exp flavivirus infections/ or exp flavivirus/ or inflammation/ or interleukins/ or interleukin-6/ or interleukin-8/ or exp nutrition disorders/ or famine/ or hunger/) and	134649

	(parturition/ or birth rate/ or live birth/ or uterus/ or fetus/ or ((midtrimest* or midpregnan* or midgestat* or pregnanc* or pregnant or gestat* or gravidit* or trimester* or midtrimest* or midpregnan* or midgestat*) and (offspring* or progeny or born or neonat* or neo-nat* or new*born* or new-born* or postnat* or post-nat* or infant* or child or children)).mp.)	
6	fingers/ah, pa	3372
7	((cephalometry/ or head/ah) and infant, newborn/) not (syndrom* or crani*synost* or synosto* or vault distract* or macrocran* or myelomeningoc* or mutat*).ti.	2129
8	birth weight/ or infant, low birth weight/ or infant, small for gestational age/ or infant, very low birth weight/	66863
9	birth certificates/ or birth intervals/ or birth order/ or exp birth setting/	9819
10	(f?etal or f?etus* or f?etopath* or intra-uterin* or intrauterin* or in-utero or antenat* or ante-nat* or prenat* or pre-nat* or perinat* or peri-nat* or pre-birth* or prebirth* or before-birth or ((pre or peri) adj2 (postnat* or post-nat*))).tw,kf.	503984
11	(FASD or ARND or (PAE and alcohol*)).tw,kf.	1656
12	((pregnan* or gestat* or gravidit* or trimester* or midtrimest* or midpregnan* or midgestat*) adj6 expos*).tw,kf.	19724
13	(DOHAD* or FOAD* or early origin*).tw,kf. or (development* adj3 origin* adj4 (health* or diseas* or adult or dement* or alzheimer*)).tw,kf,jw.	2766
14	((early-life or pregnan* or gestation* or developmental or neurodevelop* or nutrit*) adj15 (programming or malprogramming)) or (feto* adj6 (priming or epigenet*)) or (early adj3 (programming or malprogramming or priming or epigenet*)).tw,kf.	5167
15	((early life or obstetric*) adj3 (factor* or variabl* or parameter* or circumstanc* or condition*)).tw,kf.	5278
16	(chorioamn* or amnio* or intraamnio* or funisit*).tw,kf.	48185
17	(IUGR* or FGR* or SFGR* or SIUGR* or (placent* adj3 (insufficien* or d*sfunct* or inflammat*)).tw,kf.	11425
18	((PROM and ruptur* and membran*) or PPRM* or EPPROM*1 or ((premat* or pre-matur* or i?matur* or preterm* or pre-term* or pre-labo?r or prelabo?r) adj6 ruptur* adj4 membran*) or (((ruptur* adj2 membran*) or ROM) and (pregnan* or gestat* or gravidit*)).tw,kf.	8616
19	((small adj2 gestat* adj2 (age or ages)) or (SGA adj3 (infant* or neonat* or newborn* or neo-nat* or new*-born* or pregnan* or gestat* or birth* or weight*)).tw,kf.	11074
20	((gestat* or age) adj2 ("at birth" or "at deliver*")) or birth age or birth gestation* age).tw,kf.	8878
21	((birth or births) adj1 (underweight* or weight or weights or overweight* or size)) or birthweight* or LBW* or VLBW* or ELBW*).tw,kf.	77642
22	((head adj2 circumfere*) or cephalometr*) adj6 (birth or births or childbirth* or baby or babies or neonat* or neo-nat* or new*born* or new*-born* or postnat* or post-nat*).tw,kf.	2168
23	(interpregnan* or inter-pregnan* or ((pregnan* or gestat* or gravidit* or birth) adj interval*) or ((interval* or period*) adj between adj3 (pregnan* or gestat* or gravidit* or births or (subsequent adj (children or infants)))).tw,kf.	2890
24	((neonat* or neo-nat* or new*born* or new*-born* or babies or baby or birth or term) adj6 asphyx*).tw,kf.	6914
25	((maternal or mother* or pregnant women or (during adj (pregnan* or gestat* or gravidit*)) adj4 (expos* or addict* or substance abus* or substance-us* or smoking or tobacco or cigarett* or nicotin* or drinking or alcohol* or ethanol or Etoh or caffein*	93914

	<p>or drug* or psychotrop* or narcotic* or mari*uana or hash* or cocain* or amphetamin* or amfetamin* or metamphetamin* or metamfetamin* or MDMA or opium or opiat* or opioid* or heroin* or GHB or ketamin* or LSD or antidepres* or anti-depres* or SSRI* or SNRI* or (serotonin* adj3 reuptake inhibitor*) or cipramil or lexapro or prozac or fevarin* or seroxat or zoloft or cymbalta or efexor or effexor or pristiq or fetzima or ixel or savella or milnacipran or monoamine oxidase inhibitor* or MAOIs or MAO-inhibitor* or analgesic* or painkiller* or anti-inflammator* or aspirin* or ((cox* or cyclooxygenase or cyclo-oxygenas*) adj3 (inhibitor* or block* or antagon*)) or coxib* or celecoxib or diclofenac or ibuprofen or indomethicin* or naproxen or acetaminophen* or acetylsalicylic or aspirin* or antidiabetic* or metformin* or chemo* or cytostatic* or anthracyclin* or cyclophosphamid* or epirubicin* or radiat* or irradiat* or radiotherap* or radio-therap* or hormon* or testosteron* or androgen* or estrogen* or oestrogen* or free-T4 or fT4 or f-T4 or free-T3 or fT3 or f-T3 or thyr* or triiodothyronin* or TSH or corticosteroid* or cortisol or hydrocort* or steroid* or gl#costeroid* or gl#cocortico* or dexameth* or prednis* or betameth* or hypothyr* or autoantibod* or auto-antib* or TPO or thyroperoxidase or autoimmun* or auto-immun* or (immune adj2 (repons* or attack* or system* or hypothes*)) or immunit* or inflammat* or IL-6 or IL6 or IL-8 or IL8 or IL-1 or IL1 or interleukin* or cytokin* or infect* or toxoplasm* or influenz* or virus* or viral or CMV or cytomegalovir* or toxin* or heavy-metal* or lead or Pb or mercury or Hg or arsen* or cadmium or chromium or Nickel or pollut* or chemic* or endocrine disrupt* or BPA or BPAs or bisphenol* or PFOA or PFOAS or PFTE or teflon or perfluoro* or per-fluoro* or polychlor* or PCB or PCBs or tetrachlor* or PCE or biphenyl* or phalat* or perchlorat* or plastic or plastics or pesticid* or asbest* or solvent* or Rhesus or Rh or ABO or (blood adj2 incompatib*) or hyperoxygenat* or hyper-oxygenat* or hypo-oxygenat* or hypox* or nutrit* or (nutrient* adj2 (transfer or restrict*)) or undernutrit* or malnutrit* or malnourish* or nourish* or famine or hunger or food or supplement* or vitamin* or multivitam* or vit-D or vit-B12 or vit-B6 or vit-C or vit-A or vit-E or retinol or ascorbic* or ascorbat* or tocopherol* or alphotocopherol* or tocotrienol* or cobalamin* or pyridoxin* or folic acid or folate or methylhydrofolat* or methyltetrahydrofolat* or hydrofolat* or iron or calcium or polyunsaturat* or polyunsaturat* or monounsaturat* or mono-unsaturat* or MUFA or MUFAs or PUFA or PUFAs or LCPUFA* or LCP or LCPs or docosahex?eno* or DHA or eicosapent?en* or icosapent?en* or EPA or omega-3* or omega-6* or omega3* or omega6* or n3 or n6 or n-3 or n-6 or linolenic or linolenate* or alphalinolen* or gammalinolen* or GLA or DGLA or arachidon* or ARA or diet or diets or dietary or behavio?r or stress* or distress* or anxiet* or depression or depressive or GPRSMDD or mental or mood or schizophren* or psychosis or psychiat*).tw,kf. and (parturition/ or uterus/ or (pregnanc* or pregnant or gestat* or gravidit* or trimester* or midtrimest* or midpregnan* or midgestat* or prepart* or pre-part* or peripart* or peri-part*).mp.)</p>	
26	((birth or births) adj2 (record* or chart* or certificat* or index)).tw,kf.	5676
27	((maternal or paternal) adj2 (age or ages)) or ((maternal or paternal or parent* or mother* or father*) adj2 mean adj2 (age or ages)) or ((maternal or paternal or parental or mother* or father*) adj2 (age or ages) adj2 birth)).tw,kf.	22889
28	((born or birth or child* or infant*) adj3 (older or old or young*) adj2 (mother* or father* or parent*)).tw,kf.	3994
29	((maternal or mother*) adj6 (parity or multipar* or nullipar* or primipar*)).tw,kf.	7291
30	((maternal or paternal or parent* or mother* or father*) adj3 (educat* or school* or academic*)) or ((famil* or maternal or paternal or parental or parents or mother* or father*) adj4 (social status or socioeconom* or econom* or SEP or cSEP or SES or cSES	59329

	or income*1 or poverty or occupat* or employ* or unemploy* or mining or miners or coal or industr*) or ((condition* or characteristic* or circumstanc* or origin* or expos* or etiol* or aetiol* or factor* or environment* or social status or socioeconom* or econom* or SEP or cSEP or SES or cSES) adj6 (born or birth or births or childbirth*)) or ((condition* or characteristic* or circumstanc* or origin* or expos* or etiol* or aetiol* or caus* or social-status or socioeconom* or econom* or SEP or SES or cSES or program* or hunger or famine or nutritional deficien* or program* or event*) adj3 early-life) or (early life adj1 (factor* or variable* or environment* or precursor* or stress or residence)) or early life risk factor* or early exposur* or early life expos* or early famine or ((Chinese or China or Dutch* or war or wars or worldwar* or warfar* or outbreak* or pandemic* or endemic* or epidemiol* or (early adj2 expos*)) adj5 (famin* or starvat* or hunger or undernutr* or malnutrit* or malnourish* or influenz*))).tw,kf. and (parents/ or fathers/ or mothers/ or uterus/ or parturition/ or birth rate/ or live birth/ or (birth or births or childbirth* or born or pregnanc* or pregnant or gestat* or gravidit* or trimester* or midtrimest* or midpregnan* or midgestat*).mp.)	
31	((season* or winter* or summer* or autumn* or spring or springtime or quarter*) adj8 (birth or births or birthrate* or childbirth* or born)) or birth-month*).tw,kf.	4270
32	birth year.tw,kf.	1637
33	((order adj2 (birth or births or childbirth* or borns or born or sibling* or sibship*)) or ((first or 1st or second* or 2nd or third or 3rd or fourth or 4th) adj (born* or sibling*)) or ((sibship* or sibling*) adj (number or size)) or firstborn* or (each-additional adj2 (child or infant* or born))).tw,kf.	6775
34	((state or states or country or countries or county or counties or place or residenc* or ((area or areas) not (surface adj3 area*)) or location* or overseas or foreign* or nativ* or rural or urban or cities or suburban or residential or industrial or mine or mines or coalmine*) adj3 (birth or births or childbirth* or born)) or birthplace*).tw,kf.	16401
35	((second-to-fourth or index-to-ring) adj4 (finger* or digit*)) or ((digit or finger length*) adj3 (ratio* or 2d-4d or 2d?4d)) or ((2d-4d or 2d?4d or index finger* or ring finger*) adj4 (ratio or ratios or length* or male* or female* or gender))).tw,kf.	1184
36	or/1-35 [prenatal origin/exposure]	834597
37	((brain or brains) not brain natriuretic peptid*) or brainag* or intracran* or intracran* or hippocamp* or parahippocamp* or subiculum or (ammon* adj3 horn*) or ((CA1 or CA-1 or CA2 or CA-2 or CA3 or CA-3 or CA4 or CA-4 or BA20 or BA-20) adj3 (region* or sector* or area* or field*)) or (dentat* adj3 (gyr* or fasc* or region* or area*)) or (corn* adj2 amon*) or ((temporal* or front*tempor* or front*-tempor* or occipit*-tempor* or occipit*temp* or temp*occipit*) adj9 (lobe or lobes or pole or poles or subplate* or planum or cortex or cortical or cortices or region* or ROI or ROIs or sector* or area* or field* or horn* or sulc* or gyr* or opercul* or lateral* or BA-20)) or (planum adj2 polare*) or ((fusiform* or fusi-form* or dentat*) adj9 gyr*) or (fimbria* adj2 forni*) or ((lateral or third or 3rd or fourth or 4th) adj3 ventric*) or (cerebr* adj3 aqu#duct*) or ((white or gr#y) adj3 matter)) and (sMRI* or MRI* or MR-imag* or ((magnetic or neuro or brain*) adj2 (resonan* or imag*)) or neuroimag* or susceptibility weighted imaging or (weighted adj3 (T1 or T2 or T-1 or T-2)) or HT1 or HT2 or T1W* or T2W* or T1-W or T2-W or FLAIR or 3dFLAIR or Freesurfer or whole-brain or brain-volum* or ((intracran* or intra-cran* or subcortical or sub-cortical or subcortex or sub-cortex or hippocamp* or temporal or temporale or temporalis or front*tempor* or front*-tempor* or occipit*-tempor* or occipit*temp* or temp*occipit* or horn* or sulc* or gyr* or fornix or fornices or (planum adj2 polare*))	296090

	or ((lateral or third or 3rd or fourth or 4th) adj3 ventric*) adj6 volum*) or (visual adj2 (scor* or rating))).mp. [BRAIN_MRI FILTER]	
38	36 and 37 [prenatal origin/exposure + brain/MRI filter]	8394
39	*brain/pa, ab and *aging/	1288
40	organ size/ and (*brain/ or *cerebral cortex/ or cerebral ventricles/ or cerebral aqueduct/ or fourth ventricle/ or lateral ventricles/ or third ventricle/ or exp hippocampus/ or temporal lobe/)	6826
41	atrophy/ and (*brain/ or cerebral ventricles/ or cerebral aqueduct/ or fourth ventricle/ or lateral ventricles/ or third ventricle/ or exp hippocampus/ or temporal lobe/)	6696
42	(exp hippocampus/ or temporal lobe/ or cerebral ventricles/ or cerebral aqueduct/ or fourth ventricle/ or lateral ventricles/ or third ventricle/) and (prenatal exposure delayed effects/ or maternal exposure/ or fetal alcohol spectrum disorders/ or exp maternal nutritional physiological phenomena/ or obesity, maternal/ or fetal nutrition disorders/)	1521
43	(brainag* or (brain adj (age or ages or ag?ing)) or ((prematu* or pre-matur* or early or gap or gaps) adj4 brain adj2 ag?ing)).tw,kf.	3071
44	(sMRI* or qMRI* or Freesurfer or ((structural or volumetr* or quantitativ* or (weighted adj3 (T1 or T2 or T-1 or T-2)) or T1W* or T2W* or T1-W or T2-W or FLAIR or 3dFLAIR or whole-brain or (brain adj1 morph*)) adj3 (MRI* or MR-imag* or ((magnetic or neuro or brain*) adj2 (resonan* or imag*))) or neuroimag*))).tw,kf.	36713
45	((((brain or brains or intracran* or intra-cran* or subcortic* or sub-cortic*) adj2 (size* or shape)) or (((brain adj1 (region* or ROI or ROIS or area* or deep or whole or total* or "all" or overall or complet* or entir* or absolute)) or hippocamp* or parahippocamp* or subiculum or ((ammon* or corn*) adj3 horn*) or (dentat* adj3 (gyr* or fasc* or region* or area*)) or temporal or temporale or temporalis or front*tempor* or front*-tempor* or occipit*-tempor* or occipit*temp* or temp*occipit* or (fimbria* adj2 forni*) or ventric* or aqu#duct*) adj4 size*))).tw,kf.	11652
46	((brain or brains or intracran* or intra-cran* or subcort* or sub-cort*) adj3 (volume or volumes or volumetr*)).tw,kf.	14523
47	((((brain adj1 (region* or ROI or ROIs or area* or deep or whole or total* or "all" or overall or complet* or entir* or absolute or structures)) or hippocamp* or parahippocamp* or subiculum or ((ammon* or corn*) adj3 horn*) or (dentat* adj3 (gyr* or fasc* or region* or area*)) or (temporal* adj6 (lobe or lobes or pole or poles or subplate* or planum or cortex or cortices or cortical or region* or ROI or ROIs or sector* or area* or field* or horn* or sulc* or gyr* or opercul* or lateral* or BA-20 or parietal or frontal or ((gr#y or white) adj3 matter)))) or temporale or temporalis or front*tempor* or front*-tempor* or occipit*-tempor* or occipit*temp* or temp*occipit* or (fimbria* adj2 forni*) or ventric* or aqu#duct* or CA1 or CA-1 or CA2 or CA-2 or CA3 or CA-3 or CA4 or CA-4 or BA20 or BA-20) adj30 volum*))).tw,kf.	51440
48	((hippocamp* or parahippocamp* or subiculum or ((ammon* or corn*) adj3 horn*) or (dentat* adj3 (gyr* or fasc* or region* or area*)) or temporal or temporale or temporalis or front*tempor* or front*-tempor* or occipit*-tempor* or occipit*temp* or temp*occipit* or (fimbria* adj2 forni*) or ((lateral or third or 3rd or fourth or 4th) adj2 ventric*) or aqu#duct* or CA1 or CA-1 or CA2 or CA-2 or CA3 or CA-3 or CA4 or CA-4 or BA20 or BA-20) adj12 (atroph* or hypoplas*))).tw,kf.	7099
49	((brain or brains) adj2 (atroph* or hypoplas*)).tw,kf.	6039
50	((cortex or cortical or subcort* or sub-cort* or (gr#y adj3 matter) or GM) adj6 (volum* or thick* or thin* or small* or enlarg* or larger or dilat* or atroph* or hypoplas*)).tw,kf. and (hippocamp* or parahippocamp* or subiculum or (ammon*	9549

	adj3 horn*) or ((CA1 or CA-1 or CA2 or CA-2 or CA3 or CA-3 or CA4 or CA-4 or BA20 or BA-20) adj3 (region* or sector* or area* or field*)) or (dentat* adj3 (gyr* or fasc* or region* or area*)) or (corn* adj2 amon*) or ((temporal or temporale or temporalis or front*tempor* or front*-tempor* or occipit*-tempor* or occipit*temp* or temp*occipit*) adj9 (lobe or lobes or pole or poles or cortex or cortical or region* or sector* or area* or field* or horn* or sulc* or gyr* or opercul* or lateral* or BA-20)) or (planum adj2 polare*) or ((fusiform* or fusi-form* or dentat*) adj9 gyr*) or (fimbria* adj2 forni*) or ((lateral or third or 3rd or fourth or 4th) adj3 ventric*) or (cerebr* adj3 aqu#duct*)).mp.	
51	cerebral small vessel diseases/ or stroke, lacunar/	1359
52	(infarction/ or exp stroke/ or hemorrhage/ or exp intracranial hemorrhages/ or cerebral veins/ or brain injury/ or hypoxia, brain/ or white matter/) and (exp asymptomatic diseases/ or undiagnosed diseases/)	454
53	hemosiderin/	1476
54	(((white adj2 matter) or WM) adj9 (hyperintens* or hyper-intens* or (signal adj1 (abnormal* or intens*)) or ((high or increas*) adj2 intens*) or HT2 or T2 or T-2 or T2WI* or FLAIR or 3dFLAIR or (visual adj2 (scor* or rating)))) or WMH or WMHs or DEHSI).tw,kf.	7391
55	(((white matter or WM) adj2 l?esion*) or WML or WMLs or PWML or PWMLs).tw,kf.	5895
56	((small adj2 (vessel* or arter* or capillar* or vein or venous) adj2 (diseas* or l?esion* or infarct* or stroke or strokes)) or ((cereb* or burden or score*) adj3 SVD*) or cSVD*).tw,kf.	5017
57	((lacun* adj9 (stroke or strokes or infarct* or (small adj (vessel* or arter* or capillar* or vein or venous)) or l?esion* or bleed* or h?emorrhag* or presenc*)) or SVLL or SVLLs).tw,kf.	4882
58	(((perivascu* or peri-vascul*) adj3 space*) or ((enlarg* or larg* or dilat* or wide* or prominent* or edem* or oedem*) adj3 PVS) or PVSs or EPVS* or (Virchow* adj3 Robin*) or (VRS and Virchow*) or VRSs).tw,kf.	2789
59	(((silent not silent verb) or unnotic*) adj15 infarct*) or ((silent not silent verb) adj3 (stroke or strokes)) or (SCI and infarct*) or SCIs or microinfarct* or micro-infarct*).tw,kf.	3881
60	((discrete or separate or distinct or punctat* or delineat* or focally or dispers* or isolated) adj6 infarct*).tw,kf.	2342
61	(microbleed* or microh?emorrhag* or ((micro or subtle or SWI) adj2 (h?emorrhag* or bleed*)) or susceptibilit*-weight* imaging).tw,kf.	4334
62	(h*sideros* or sideros* or h?emosiderin*).tw,kf.	7585
63	or/39-62 [structural MRI brain biomarkers]	153175
64	38 and 63 [prenatal factors/exposures and structural MRI brain biomarkers]	2048
65	(exp animals/ not humans/) or (animal* or veterinar*).jw. or exp veterinary medicine/ or exp animals, genetically modified/ or (transgenic* or ((primates or ape or apes or monkey* or baboon* or macaq* or pig or pigs or piglet* or porcine or goat or goats* or sheep or lamb or lambs or ovine or cattle or bovine or cow or cows or horse or horses or mare or calve or calves or dog or dogs or canine or bitch* or (cat not cat-scan) or cats or feline or rodent* or rabbit* or mice or mouse or murine* or C57BL* or Balb-c or Balbc or rat or rats or wistar or sprague or dawley or frog or frogs or zebra* or drosophil* or chick* or bee or bees or dam or dams or pups or pup or ewe or ewes or sow or sows) not human*).ti,ot.	5216375
66	64 not 65 [human studies on prenatal factors/exposures and structural MRI brain biomarkers]	1689

67	(editorial or "systematic review").pt. or (editorial or reply or (case-report not case-report-survey) or two-cases).ti. or cochrane.jw. or ((review.pt. or case reports/ or (review or overview).ti. or (search* adj15 (literatur* or ((electronic* or medical or biomedical) adj3 database*) or medline or pubmed or embase or psyc?info or exhaustiv* or systematic*)).tw,kf,kw.) not (exp records/ or exp cohort studies/ or cross-sectional studies/ or case-control studies/ or (case-control* or cohort* or retrospectiv* or prospectiv* or crosssection* or cross-section* or population-based or ((chart* or record* or retrospectiv*) adj3 review*)).tw,kf,kw.)) [filter for original studies]	5257041
68	66 not 67 [original human studies on prenatal factors/exposures and structural MRI brain biomarkers]	1313
69	remove duplicates from 68 [original human studies on prenatal factors/exposures and structural MRI brain biomarkers -deduplicated]	1307

1268
1269
1270
1271

Database(s): **Embase Classic+Embase** 1947 to 2020 August 28

Search Strategy: **2020-08-30**

#	Searches	Results
1	maternal exposure/ or paternal exposure/ or perinatal drug exposure/ or prenatal drug exposure/ or prenatal exposure/	37844
2	exp parental age/ or parity/ or exp parental smoking/ or exp multiple pregnancy/ or gestational weight gain/ or maternal obesity/ or maternal nutrition/ or antenatal depression/ or perinatal depression/ or maternal stress/ or perinatal stress/	125470
3	prenatal disorder/ or fetus disease/ or exp chorioamnionitis/ or fetal alcohol syndrome/ or fetal malnutrition/ or fetotoxicity/ or fetus distress/ or fetus hypoxia/ or newborn hypoxia/ or intrauterine growth retardation/ or selective intrauterine growth restriction/ or macrosomia/ or premature fetus membrane rupture/ or placenta insufficiency/ or congenital hypothyroidism/	104847
4	(maternal disease/ or pregnancy disorder/ or fetomaternal transfusion/ or pregnancy complication/ or intrauterine infection/ or maternal hypertension/ or exp pregnancy diabetes mellitus/ or exp "eclampsia and preeclampsia"/ or hyperemesis gravidarum/ or pregnancy toxemia/ or placenta disorder/ or (HELPP or preeclam* or eclamp* or GDM or ((pregnan* or gestation* or gravid* or maternal) adj6 (hyperten* or blood pressur* or an?emi* or diabet* or obes* or weight gain))).tw,kw.) and (offspring* or progeny or born or neonat* or neo-nat* or new*born* or new-born* or postnat* or post-nat* or perinat* or peri-nat* or infant* or child or children).mp.	106890
5	(exp season/ or geographic distribution/ or environment/ or rural area/ or exp urban area/ or rural population/ or suburban population/ or urban population/ or urban rural difference/ or urbanization/ or *immigrant/ or life event/ or educational status/ or education/ or academic achievement/ or socioeconomic/ or exp economic status/ or exp income group/ or poverty/ or social status/ or social class/ or exp employment status/ or exp mining/ or agricultural worker/ or coal worker/ or industrial worker/ or manual labor/ or income/ or occupation/ or occupational hazard/ or exp occupational disease/ or job stress/ or exp occupational health/ or exp pollution/ or environmental health/ or drug exposure/ or occupational drug exposure/ or exp toxicity/ or exp heavy metal/ or endocrine disruptor/ or endemic disease/ or environmental disease/ or epidemic/ or exp exposure/ or pandemic/ or pesticide/ or particulate matter/ or exp "environmental, industrial and domestic chemicals"/ or exp central stimulant agent/ or exp psychedelic agent/ or exp narcotic agent/ or exp amphetamine derivative/ or exp opiate agonist/ or central depressant agent/ or exp *anticonvulsive	236474

	agent/ or exp narcotic agent/ or exp antidepressant agent/ or tranquilizer/ or exp anxiolytic agent/ or exp *neuroleptic agent/ or alcohol/ or exp alcoholic beverage/ or tobacco/ or addiction/ or exp drug dependence/ or exp "smoking and smoking related phenomena"/ or exp "substance use"/ or exp drug abuse/ or substance abuse/ or "drug use"/ or drinking behavior/ or maternal behavior/ or *mental disease/ or anxiety disorder/ or distress syndrome/ or *mood disorder/ or *behavior disorder/ or maternal behavior/ or anxiety disorder/ or distress syndrome/ or phobia/ or depression/ or mood disorder/ or exp bipolar disorder/ or major depression/ or dysthymia/ or fear/ or anxiety/ or exp stress/ or sexual development/ or sex determination process/ or sex differentiation/ or sexual maturation/ or *hormone/ or exp *glucocorticoid/ or exp *steroid hormone/ec or *corticosteroid/ec or exp hydrocortisone derivative/ec or sex hormone/ or exp testosterone derivative/ or androgen/ or "disorders of hormone metabolism"/ or exp hormone deficiency/ or exp hypothyroidism/ or endocrine function/ or thyroid function/ or "influenza a virus"/ or influenza, human/ or cytomegalovirus infections/ or cytomegalovirus/ or exp flavivirus infections/ or exp flavivirus/ or *inflammation/ or interleukin 6/ec or interleukin 8/ec or hunger/ or nutritional disorder/ or exp malnutrition/ or exp nutritional deficiency/ or exp overnutrition/ or alcohol consumption/ or caffeine intake/ or coffee consumption/ or exp food deprivation/ or exp vitamin intake/ or exp folic acid derivative/ or thiamine/) and (uterus/ or birth/ or birth rate/ or live birth/ or maternal blood/ or fetus/ or ((midtrimest* or midpregnan* or midgestat* or pregnanc* or pregnant or gestat* or gravidit* or trimester* or midtrimest* or midpregnan* or midgestat*) and (offspring* or progeny or born or neonat* or neo-nat* or new*born* or new-born* or postnat* or post-nat* or infant* or child or children)).mp.)	
6	exp digit ratio/ or "disorder of sex development"/	2406
7	((head circumference/ or leg length/ or cephalometry/) and (baby/ or newborn/)) not (syndrom* or crani*synost* or synosto* or vault distract* or macrocran* or myelomeningoc* or mutat*).ti.	3872
8	"parameters concerning the fetus, newborn and pregnancy"/ or apgar score/ or exp low birth weight/ or birth weight/ or placenta weight/ or mother fetus relationship/	150198
9	birth certificate/ or birthplace/ or birth order/ or birth setting/ or birth season/	10030
10	(f?etal or f?etus* or f?etopath* or intra-uterin* or intrauterin* or in-utero or antenat* or ante-nat* or prenatal* or pre-nat* or perinat* or peri-nat* or pre-birth* or prebirth* or before-birth or ((pre or peri) adj2 (postnat* or post-nat*))).tw,kw.	686867
11	(FASD or ARND or (PAE and alcohol*)).tw,kw.	3176
12	((pregnan* or gestat* or gravidit* or trimester* or midtrimest* or midpregnan* or midgestat*) adj6 expos*).tw,kw.	27460
13	(DOHAD* or FOAD* or early origin*).tw,kw. or (development* adj3 origin* adj4 (health* or diseas* or adult or dement* or alzheimer*)).tw,kw,jw.	3218
14	((early-life or pregnan* or gestation* or developmental or neurodevelop* or nutrit*) adj15 (programming or malprogramming)) or (feto* adj6 (priming or epigenet*)) or (early adj3 (programming or malprogramming or priming or epigenet*))).tw,kw.	7461
15	((early life or obstetric*) adj3 (factor* or variabl* or parameter* or circumstanc* or condition*)).tw,kw.	7480
16	(chorioamn* or amnio* or intraamnio* or funisit*).tw,kw.	66730
17	(IUGR* or FGR* or SFGR* or SIUGR* or (placent* adj3 (insufficien* or d*sfunct* or inflammat*))).tw,kw.	19567
18	((PROM and ruptur* and membran*) or PPROM* or EPPROM*1 or ((premat* or pre-matur* or i?matur* or preterm* or pre-term* or pre-labo?r or prelabo?r) adj6 ruptur*	13343

	adj4 membran*) or (((ruptur* adj2 membran*) or ROM) and (pregnan* or gestat* or gravidit*))).tw,kw.	
19	((small adj2 gestat* adj2 (age or ages)) or (SGA adj3 (infant* or neonat* or newborn* or neo-nat* or new*-born* or pregnan* or gestat* or birth* or weight*))).tw,kw.	15603
20	((gestat* or age) adj2 ("at birth" or "at deliver*")) or birth age or birth gestation* age).tw,kw.	14058
21	((birth or births) adj1 (underweight* or weight or weights or overweight* or size)) or birthweight* or LBW* or VLBW* or ELBW*).tw,kw.	108137
22	((head adj2 circumfere*) or cephalometr*) adj6 (birth or births or childbirth* or baby or babies or neonat* or neo-nat* or new*born* or new*-born* or postnat* or post-nat*).tw,kw.	2990
23	(interpregnan* or inter-pregnan* or ((pregnan* or gestat* or gravidit* or birth) adj interval*) or ((interval* or period*) adj between adj3 (pregnan* or gestat* or gravidit* or births or (subsequent adj (children or infants))))).tw,kw.	3058
24	((neonat* or neo-nat* or new*born* or new*-born* or babies or baby or birth or term) adj6 asphyx*).tw,kw.	8723
25	((maternal or mother* or pregnant women or (during adj (pregnan* or gestat* or gravidit*))) adj4 (expos* or addict* or substance abus* or substance-us* or smoking or tobacco or cigarett* or nicotin* or drinking or alcohol* or ethanol or Etoh or caffein* or drug* or psychotrop* or narcotic* or mari*uana or hash* or cocain* or amphetamin* or amfetamin* or metamphetamin* or metamfetamin* or MDMA or opium or opiat* or opioid* or heroin* or GHB or ketamin* or LSD or antidepres* or anti-depres* or SSRI* or SNRI* or (serotonin* adj3 reuptake inhibitor*) or cipramil or lexapro or prozac or fevarin* or seroxat or zoloft or cymbalta or efexor or effexor or pristiq or fetzima or ixel or savella or milnacipran or monoamine oxidase inhibitor* or MAOIs or MAO-inhibitor* or analgesic* or painkiller* or anti-inflammator* or aspirin* or ((cox* or cyclooxygenase or cyclo-oxygenas*) adj3 (inhibitor* or block* or antagon*)) or coxib* or celecoxib or diclofenac or ibuprofen or indomethicin* or naproxen or acetaminophen* or acetylsalicylic or aspirin* or antidiabetic* or metformin* or chemo* or cytostatic* or anthracyclin* or cyclophosphamid* or epirubicin* or radiat* or irradiat* or radiotherap* or radio-therap* or hormon* or testosteron* or androgen* or estrogen* or oestrogen* or free-T4 or fT4 or f-T4 or free-T3 or fT3 or f-T3 or thyr* or triiodothyronin* or TSH or corticosteroid* or cortisol or hydrocort* or steroid* or gl#costeroid* or gl#cocortico* or dexameth* or prednis* or betameth* or hypothyr* or autoantibod* or auto-antib* or TPO or thyroperoxidase or autoimmun* or auto-immun* or (immune adj2 (repons* or attack* or system* or hypothes*)) or immunit* or inflammat* or IL-6 or IL6 or IL-8 or IL8 or IL-1 or IL1 or interleukin* or cytokin* or infect* or toxoplasm* or influenz* or virus* or viral or CMV or cytomegalovir* or toxin* or heavy-metal* or lead or Pb or mercury or Hg or arsen* or cadmium or chromium or Nickel or pollut* or chemic* or endocrine disrupt* or BPA or BPAs or bisphenol* or PFOA or PFOAS or PFTE or teflon or perfluoro* or per-fluoro* or polychlor* or PCB or PCBs or tetrachlor* or PCE or biphenyl* or phalat* or perchlorat* or plastic or plastics or pesticid* or asbest* or solvent* or Rhesus or Rh or ABO or (blood adj2 incompatib*) or hyperoxygenat* or hyper-oxygenat* or hypo-oxygenat* or hypox* or nutrit* or (nutrient* adj2 (transfer or restrict*)) or undernutrit* or malnutrit* or malnourish* or nourish* or famine or hunger or food or supplement* or vitamin* or multivitam* or vit-D or vit-B12 or vit-B6 or vit-C or vit-A or vit-E or retinol or ascorbic* or ascorbat* or tocopherol* or alphetocopherol* or tocotrienol* or cobalamin* or pyridoxin* or folic acid or folate or methylhydrofolat* or methyltetrahydrofolat* or hydrofolat* or iron or calcium or polyunsaturat* or poly-	122868

	unsaturat* or monounsaturat* or mono-unsaturat* or MUFA or MUFAs or PUFA or PUFAs or LCPUFA* or LCP or LCPs or docosahe?eno* or DHA or eicosapent?en* or icosapent?en* or EPA or omega-3* or omega-6* or omega3* or omega6* or n3 or n6 or n-3 or n-6 or linolenic or linolenate* or alphalinolen* or gammalinolen* or GLA or DGLA or arachidon* or ARA or diet or diets or dietary or behavior?r or stress* or distress* or anxiet* or depression or depressive or GPRSMDD or mental or mood or schizophren* or psychosis or psychiat*)).tw,kw. and (uterus/ or birth/ or (pregnanc* or pregnant or gestat* or gravidit* or trimester* or midtrimest* or midpregnan* or midgestat* or prepart* or pre-part* or peripart* or peri-part*).mp.)	
26	((birth or births) adj2 (record* or chart* or certificat* or index)).tw,kw.	7311
27	((maternal or paternal) adj2 (age or ages)) or ((maternal or paternal or parent* or mother* or father*) adj2 mean adj2 (age or ages)) or ((maternal or paternal or parental or mother* or father*) adj2 (age or ages) adj2 birth)).tw,kw.	34546
28	((born or birth or child* or infant*) adj3 (older or old or young*) adj2 (mother* or father* or parent*)).tw,kw.	4993
29	((maternal or mother*) adj6 (parity or multipar* or nullipar* or primipar*)).tw,kw.	10475
30	((maternal or paternal or parent* or mother* or father*) adj3 (educat* or school* or academic*)) or ((famil* or maternal or paternal or parental or parents or mother* or father*) adj4 (social status or socioeconomic* or econom* or SEP or cSEP or SES or cSES or income*1 or poverty or occupat* or employ* or unemploy* or mining or miners or coal or industr*)) or ((condition* or characteristic* or circumstanc* or origin* or expos* or etiol* or aetiol* or factor* or environment* or social status or socioeconomic* or econom* or SEP or cSEP or SES or cSES) adj6 (born or birth or births or childbirth*)) or ((condition* or characteristic* or circumstanc* or origin* or expos* or etiol* or aetiol* or caus* or social-status or socioeconomic* or econom* or SEP or SES or cSES or program* or hunger or famine or nutritional deficien* or program* or event*) adj3 early-life) or (early life adj1 (factor* or variable* or environment* or precursor* or stress or residence)) or early life risk factor* or early exposur* or early life expos* or early famine or ((Chinese or China or Dutch* or war or wars or worldwar* or warfar* or outbreak* or pandemic* or endemic* or epidemiol* or (early adj2 expos*)) adj5 (famin* or starvat* or hunger or undernutr* or malnutrit* or malnourish* or influenz*))).tw,kw. and (parent/ or expectant mother/ or expectant father/ or mother/ or father/ or uterus/ or birth/ or birth rate/ or live birth/ or (birth or births or childbirth* or born or pregnanc* or pregnant or gestat* or gravidit* or trimester* or midtrimest* or midpregnan* or midgestat*).mp.)	78030
31	((season* or winter* or summer* or autumn* or spring or springtime or quarter*) adj8 (birth or births or birthrate* or childbirth* or born)) or birth-month*).tw,kw.	5216
32	birth year.tw,kw.	2389
33	((order adj2 (birth or births or childbirth* or borns or born or sibling* or sibship*)) or ((first or 1st or second* or 2nd or third or 3rd or fourth or 4th) adj (born* or sibling*)) or ((sibship* or sibling*) adj (number or size)) or firstborn* or (each-additional adj2 (child or infant* or born))).tw,kw.	8519
34	((state or states or country or countries or county or counties or place or residenc* or (area or areas) not (surface adj3 area*)) or location* or overseas or foreign* or nativ* or rural or urban or cities or suburban or residential or industrial or mine or mines or coalmine*) adj3 (birth or births or childbirth* or born)) or birthplace*).tw,kw.	20332
35	((second-to-fourth or index-to-ring) adj4 (finger* or digit*)) or ((digit or finger length*) adj3 (ratio* or 2d-4d or 2d?4d)) or ((2d-4d or 2d?4d or index finger* or ring finger*) adj4 (ratio or ratios or length* or male* or female* or gender))).tw,kw.	1488

36	or/1-35 [prenatal factors/exposure]	1129795
37	(((brain or brains) not brain natriuretic peptid*) or brainag* or intracran* or intracran* or hippocamp* or parahippocamp* or subiculum or (ammon* adj3 horn*) or ((CA1 or CA-1 or CA2 or CA-2 or CA3 or CA-3 or CA4 or CA-4 or BA20 or BA-20) adj3 (region* or sector* or area* or field*)) or (dentat* adj3 (gyr* or fasc* or region* or area*)) or (corn* adj2 amon*) or ((temporal* or front*tempor* or front*-tempor* or occipit*-tempor* or occipit*temp* or temp*occipit*) adj9 (lobe or lobes or pole or poles or subplate* or planum or cortex or cortical or cortices or region* or ROI or ROIs or sector* or area* or field* or horn* or sulc* or gyr* or opercul* or lateral* or BA-20)) or (planum adj2 polare*) or ((fusiform* or fusi-form* or dentat*) adj9 gyr*) or (fimbria* adj2 forni*) or ((lateral or third or 3rd or fourth or 4th) adj3 ventric*) or (cerebr* adj3 aqu#duct*) or ((white or gr#y) adj3 matter)) and (sMRI* or MRI* or MR-imag* or ((magnetic or neuro or brain*) adj2 (resonan* or imag*)) or neuroimag* or susceptibility weighted imaging or (weighted adj3 (T1 or T2 or T-1 or T-2)) or HT1 or HT2 or T1W* or T2W* or T1-W or T2-W or FLAIR or 3dFLAIR or Freesurfer or whole-brain or brain-volum* or ((intracran* or intra-cran* or subcortical or sub-cortical or subcortex or sub-cortex or hippocamp* or temporal or temporale or temporalis or front*tempor* or front*-tempor* or occipit*-tempor* or occipit*temp* or temp*occipit* or horn* or sulc* or gyr* or fornix or fornices or (planum adj2 polare*) or ((lateral or third or 3rd or fourth or 4th) adj3 ventric*)) adj6 volum*) or (visual adj2 (scor* or rating))))).mp. [BRAIN_MRI FILTER]	496090
38	36 and 37 [prenatal factors/exposure + brain/MRI filter]	16757
39	volumetry/ and (brain.hw. or brain size/ or brain/ or brain development/ or neuroanatomy/ or subcortex/ or exp dentate gyrus/ or exp hippocampus/ or exp subiculum/ or exp temporal lobe/ or brain ventricle/ or brain aqueduct/ or brain fourth ventricle/ or brain lateral ventricle/ or brain third ventricle/ or lateral brain ventricle/ or (nuclear magnetic resonance imaging/ and (exp brain/ or exp brain ventricle/)))	3659
40	(brain size/ or organ size/) and (*brain/ or brain regions/ or subcortex/ or exp dentate gyrus/ or exp hippocampus/ or exp subiculum/ or exp temporal lobe/ or brain ventricle/ or brain aqueduct/ or brain fourth ventricle/ or brain lateral ventricle/ or brain third ventricle/ or lateral brain ventricle/)	13343
41	(brain size/ or (brain region/ and nuclear magnetic resonance imaging/) or *subcortex/ or exp dentate gyrus/ or exp hippocampus/ or exp subiculum/ or exp temporal lobe/ or brain ventricle/ or brain aqueduct/ or brain fourth ventricle/ or brain lateral ventricle/ or brain third ventricle/ or lateral brain ventricle/) and (perinatal drug exposure/ or prenatal drug exposure/ or prenatal exposure/ or maternal exposure/ or fetal alcohol syndrome/ or fetal malnutrition/ or maternal disease/ or paternal exposure/ or fetotoxicity/ or exp parental smoking/ or maternal obesity/ or maternal nutrition/ or antenatal depression/ or perinatal depression/ or maternal stress/ or perinatal stress/)	2554
42	*brain atrophy/ or *brain atrophy/co, et or ((*atrophy/ or brain atrophy/ or *hypoplasia/) and (*brain/ or brain regions/ or *subcortex/ or exp dentate gyrus/ or exp hippocampus/ or exp subiculum/ or exp temporal lobe/ or brain ventricle/ or brain aqueduct/ or brain fourth ventricle/ or brain lateral ventricle/ or brain third ventricle/ or lateral brain ventricle/))	12663
43	(brainag* or (brain adj (age or ages or ag?ing)) or ((premat* or pre-matur* or early or gap or gaps) adj4 brain adj2 ag?ing)).tw,kw.	4293
44	(sMRI* or qMRI* or ((structural or volumetr* or quantitativ* or (weighted adj3 (T1 or T2 or T-1 or T-2)) or T1W* or T2W* or T1-W or T2-W or FLAIR or 3dFLAIR or whole-	57014

	brain or (brain adj1 morph*) adj3 (MRI* or MR-imag* or ((magnetic or neuro or brain*) adj2 (resonan* or imag*))) or neuroimag*))).tw,kw. or Freesurfer.tw,kw,dv.	
45	(((brain or brains or intracran* or intra-cran* or subcort* or sub-cort*) adj2 (size* or shape)) or (((brain adj1 (region* or ROI or ROIS or area* or deep or whole or total* or "all" or overall or complet* or entir* or absolute)) or hippocamp* or parahippocamp* or subiculum or ((ammon* or corn*) adj3 horn*) or (dentat* adj3 (gyr* or fasc* or region* or area*)) or temporal or temporale or temporalis or front*tempor* or front*-tempor* or occipit*-tempor* or occipit*temp* or temp*occipit* or (fimbria* adj2 forni*) or ventric* or aqu#duct*) adj4 size*))).tw,kw.	16909
46	((brain or brains or intracran* or intra-cran* or subcort* or sub-cort*) adj3 (volume or volumes or volumetr*))).tw,kw.	23404
47	(((brain adj1 (region* or ROI or ROIs or area* or deep or whole or total* or "all" or overall or complet* or entir* or absolute or structures)) or hippocamp* or parahippocamp* or subiculum or ((ammon* or corn*) adj3 horn*) or (dentat* adj3 (gyr* or fasc* or region* or area*)) or (temporal* adj6 (lobe or lobes or pole or poles or subplate* or planum or cortex or cortices or cortical or region* or ROI or ROIs or sector* or area* or field* or horn* or sulc* or gyr* or opercul* or lateral* or BA-20 or parietal or frontal or ((gr#y or white) adj3 matter)))) or temporale or temporalis or front*tempor* or front*-tempor* or occipit*-tempor* or occipit*temp* or temp*occipit* or (fimbria* adj2 forni*) or ventric* or aqu#duct* or CA1 or CA-1 or CA2 or CA-2 or CA3 or CA-3 or CA4 or CA-4 or BA20 or BA-20) adj30 volum*))).tw,kw.	82013
48	((hippocamp* or parahippocamp* or subiculum or ((ammon* or corn*) adj3 horn*) or (dentat* adj3 (gyr* or fasc* or region* or area*)) or temporal or temporale or temporalis or front*tempor* or front*-tempor* or occipit*-tempor* or occipit*temp* or temp*occipit* or (fimbria* adj2 forni*) or ((lateral or third or 3rd or fourth or 4th) adj2 ventric*) or aqu#duct* or CA1 or CA-1 or CA2 or CA-2 or CA3 or CA-3 or CA4 or CA-4 or BA20 or BA-20) adj12 (atroph* or hypoplas*))).tw,kw.	12053
49	((brain or brains) adj2 (atroph* or hypoplas*))).tw,kw.	10298
50	((cortex or cortical or subcort* or sub-cort* or (gr#y adj3 matter) or GM) adj6 (volum* or thick* or thin* or small* or enlarg* or larger or dilat* or atroph* or hypoplas*))).tw,kw. and (hippocamp* or parahippocamp* or subiculum or (ammon* adj3 horn*) or ((CA1 or CA-1 or CA2 or CA-2 or CA3 or CA-3 or CA4 or CA-4 or BA20 or BA-20) adj3 (region* or sector* or area* or field*)) or (dentat* adj3 (gyr* or fasc* or region* or area*)) or (corn* adj2 amon*) or ((temporal or temporale or temporalis or front*tempor* or front*-tempor* or occipit*-tempor* or occipit*temp* or temp*occipit*) adj9 (lobe or lobes or pole or poles or cortex or cortical or region* or sector* or area* or field* or horn* or sulc* or gyr* or opercul* or lateral* or BA-20)) or (planum adj2 polare*) or ((fusiform* or fusi-form* or dentat*) adj9 gyr*) or (fimbria* adj2 forni*) or ((lateral or third or 3rd or fourth or 4th) adj3 ventric*) or (cerebr* adj3 aqu#duct*))).mp.	16426
51	*white matter lesion/	2059
52	lacunar stroke/	3331
53	perivascular space/	1236
54	(cerebrovascular disease/ or brain infarction/ or infarction/ or brain infarction size/ or cerebrovascular accident/ or stroke/ or bleeding/ or brain hemorrhage/ or brain blood vessel/ or brain hypoxia/ or brain ischemia/ or hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy/ or white matter injury/ or white matter lesion/ or white matter/) and (asymptomatic disease/ or undiagnosed disease/ or susceptibility weighted imaging/)	3001
55	hemosiderin/	6059

56	(((white adj2 matter) or WM) adj9 (hyperintens* or hyper-intens* or (signal adj1 (abnormal* or intens*)) or ((high or increas*) adj2 intens*) or HT2 or T2 or T-2 or T2WI* or FLAIR or 3dFLAIR or (visual adj2 (scor* or rating)))) or WMH or WMHs or DEHSI).tw,kw.	12476
57	(((white matter or WM) adj2 l?esion*) or WML or WMLs or PWML or PWMLs).tw,kw.	9747
58	((small adj2 (vessel* or arter* or capillar* or vein or venous) adj2 (diseas* or l?esion* or infarct* or stroke or strokes)) or ((cereb* or burden or score*) adj3 SVD*) or cSVD*).tw,kw.	8930
59	((lacun* adj9 (stroke or strokes or infarct* or (small adj (vessel* or arter* or capillar* or vein or venous)) or l?esion* or bleed* or h?emorrhag* or presenc*)) or SVLL or SVLLs).tw,kw.	8203
60	(((perivascu* or peri-vascul*) adj3 space*) or ((enlarg* or larg* or dilat* or wide* or prominent* or edem* or oedem*) adj3 PVS) or PVSs or EPVS* or (Virchow* adj3 Robin*) or (VRS and Virchow*) or VRSs).tw,kw.	4381
61	(((silent not silent verb) or unnotic*) adj15 infarct*) or ((silent not silent verb) adj3 (stroke or strokes)) or (SCI and infarct*) or SCIs or microinfarct* or micro-infarct*).tw,kw.	6214
62	((discrete or separate or distinct or punctat* or delineat* or focally or dispers* or isolated) adj6 infarct*).tw,kw.	3578
63	(microbleed* or microh?emorrhag* or ((micro or subtle or SWI) adj2 (h?emorrhag* or bleed*)) or susceptibilit*-weight* imaging).tw,kw,dq.	7648
64	(h*sideros* or sideros* or h?emosiderin*).tw,kw.	12026
65	or/39-64 [structural MRI brain biomarkers]	241632
66	38 and 65 [prenatal factors/exposures and structural MRI brain biomarkers]	3654
67	((exp animal/ or nonhuman/) not human/) or (animal* or veterinar*).jw. or animal experiment/ or exp animal model/ or exp experimental animal/ or exp transgenic organism/ or (transgenic* or ((primates or ape or apes or monkey* or baboon* or macaq* or pig or pigs or piglet* or porcine or goat or goats* or sheep or lamb or lambs or ovine or cattle or bovine or cow or cows or horse or horses or mare or calve or calves or dog or dogs or canine or bitch* or (cat not cat-scan) or cats or feline or rodent* or rabbit* or mice or mouse or murine* or C57BL* or Balb-c or Balbc or rat or rats or wistar or sprague or dawley or frog or frogs or zebra* or drosophil* or chick* or bee or bees or dam or dams or pups or pup or ewe or ewes or sow or sows) not human*).ti,ot. [animals not humans]	8289150
68	66 not 67 [human studies on prenatal factors/exposures and structural MRI brain biomarkers]	3022
69	editorial/ or "systematic review"/ or (editorial or conference abstract or conference review or note).pt. or (editorial or reply or (case-report not case-report-survey) or two-cases).ti. or cochrane.jw. or ((review.pt. or review/ or case report/ or (review or overview).ti. or (search* adj15 (literatur* or ((electronic or medical or biomedical) adj3 database*) or medline or pubmed or embase or psyc?info or exhaustiv* or systematic*).tw,kw.) not (exp medical record/ or cohort analysis/ or longitudinal study/ or prospective study/ or retrospective study/ or exp case control study/ or cross-sectional study/ or (case-control* or cohort* or retrospectiv* or prospectiv* or crossection* or cross-section* or population-based or ((chart* or record* or retrospectiv*) adj3 review*).tw,kw.)) [Filter for original studies]	10620683
70	68 not 69 [original human studies on prenatal factors/exposures and structural MRI brain biomarkers]	1553

71	remove duplicates from 70 [original human studies on prenatal factors/exposures and structural MRI brain biomarkers -deduplicated]	1507
72	71 not medline.cr. [original human studies on prenatal factors/exposures and structural MRI brain biomarkers -deduplicated - embase records only]	1364

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