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Polygenic risk score for Parkinson's disease and olfaction among middle-aged to older women

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Abstract

Introduction: Olfactory impairment and Parkinson's disease (PD) may share common genetic and environmental risk factors. This study investigates the association of a PD polygenic risk score

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Data Statement

The data that support findings from this study are available from the Sister Study, following appropriate approval procedures as detailed at <https://sisterstudy.niehs.nih.gov/English/collaboration.htm>.

Declaration of Competing Interest

Dr. Pinto is on the speaker's bureau for Sanofi and Regeneron; he also serves as a site investigator for these two companies. He has served on an advisory board for Connect Biopharma. Other authors declare no conflict of interests.

(PRS) with olfaction, and whether the associations are modified by environmental exposures of PM_{2.5}, NO₂, or smoking.

Methods: This analysis included 3,358 women (aged 50-80) from the Sister Study with genetic data and results from the Brief Smell Identification Test (B-SIT) administered in 2018-2019. PD PRS was calculated using 90 single nucleotide polymorphisms. Olfactory impairment was defined with different B-SIT cutoffs, and PD diagnosis was adjudicated via expert review. We report odds ratios (ORs) and 95% confidence intervals (CIs) from multivariable logistic regression.

Results: As expected, PD PRS was strongly associated with the odds of having PD (OR highest vs. lowest quartile = 3.79 (1.64, 8.73)). The highest PRS quartile was also associated with olfactory impairment, with OR ranging from 1.24 (0.98, 1.56) for a B-SIT cutoff of 9 to 1.42 (1.04, 1.92) for a cutoff of 6. For individual B-SIT items, the highest PRS quartile was generally associated with lower odds of correctly identifying the odorant, albeit only statistically significant for pineapple (0.72 (0.56, 0.94)), soap (0.76 (0.58, 0.99)) and rose (0.70 (0.54, 0.92)). The association of PD PRS with olfactory impairment was not modified by airborne environmental exposures or smoking.

Conclusion: These preliminary data suggest that high PD genetic susceptibility is associated with olfactory impairment in middle-aged and older women.

Keywords

Parkinson; genetic susceptibility; olfactory impairment

Introduction

Olfactory impairment affects up to 80% of patients with Parkinson's disease (PD), and may develop years if not decades before clinical diagnosis. However, little is known about the environmental and genetic causes of olfactory loss in the context of aging, nor their potential relevance to later PD development. Preliminary data, albeit inconsistent, suggest olfactory impairment may have shared genetic links with PD [1–3]. We hereby explored the possibility that PD genetic susceptibility, either alone or interacting with environmental factors, may contribute to olfactory impairment in older adults, which over time, may progress to clinical PD. We tested this possibility among selected participants of the Sister Study of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) [4]. We used PD polygenic risk score (PRS) as an aggregate marker of genetic susceptibility to PD [5] and examined its relationship to olfactory impairment and PD. We also explored whether the association of PD PRS with olfactory impairment or PD was modified by exposures to air pollutants (fine particulate matter PM_{2.5} and nitrogen dioxide NO₂) and smoking. These airborne exposures may directly gain access to the olfactory structures and potentially the brain itself via the nasal mucosa. Further, both exposures may potentially affect PD risk. The inverse association of cigarette smoking with PD is among the most robust epidemiological findings for PD [6]. Although data are far less consistent, ambient air pollutants have also been linked to PD risk [7].

Methods

Study population

The Sister Study is an ongoing nationwide cohort established by NIEHS scientists to investigate environmental and genetic risk factors for breast cancer and other chronic diseases [8]. In 2003-2009, the study enrolled a total of 50,884 women, aged 35-74, who had a sister with breast cancer from all 50 US states and Puerto Rico [8]. At enrollment, study participants completed a comprehensive Computer Assisted Telephone Interview, multiple mailed comprehensive questionnaire surveys, and a home visit. Nearly all participants (99.1%) provided blood samples at the home visit, and an additional 0.7% had saliva samples for DNA isolation. Since enrollment, the cohort has been followed with short annual health updates (AHUs) and detailed follow-ups (DFUs) every 2-3 years. In January 2018, we selected a sample of Sister study participants for the olfaction sub-study, as detailed elsewhere [4]. Eligible participants were those who answered the sense of smell question in the third DFU in 2014-2016, and who were alive and aged 50-79 in January 2018. We targeted this specific age group to cover the hypothetical life period that prodromal PD most likely developed. Of the 36,491 eligible, we selected a total of 4,019 subjects, including all who reported a poor sense of smell ($n=2,819$) and a random sample ($n=1,200$) who did not. We invited eligible participants to take the self-administered B-SIT test, distributed by mail. After removing 613 individuals who did not participate in the olfaction sub-study or did not complete the B-SIT test and 48 participants with missing genotype data, the primary analytical sample included 3,358 subjects. Details of the study design, sample selection, and study participation are provided in Supplemental Figure 1. The study was approved by the Institutional Review Boards at Michigan State University, NIEHS, and the US Department of Defense, and all Sister Study participants provided written consent.

Genotyping and PRS calculation

DNA genotyping was performed by the Neurogenetic laboratory of the National Institute on Aging, using Illumina Infinium platform on NeuroChip per manufacturers protocol (Illumina Inc., San Diego) [9]. Briefly, samples were removed if call rates were $<95\%$ and genotypic sex was confirmed. Individuals were checked for cryptic relatedness (PIHAT <0.05) and excess heterogeneity estimated by an F-statistic >0.15 . Duplicate individuals included in the study for sample handling quality control were verified to be identical and one individual was removed from each pair. Filtered genotype data were imputed via Michigan imputation server [10] using TOPMed Version r2 reference panel [11] under default settings with the Eagle v2.4 option for phasing and Mixed setting for population. Variants passing the post-imputation quality criteria of $R^2 >0.3$ and minor allele frequency (MAF) $>1\%$ were included. For the calculation of PD GRS, we included 90 single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) that are significantly associated with PD from the latest PD genome-wide association studies (GWAS) meta-analysis [5]. PRS was calculated by multiplying the effect sizes for those 90 variants with the number of effect alleles [12] and then grouped by quartiles. Principal components (PCs) were created using PLINK. For the PCs calculation, variants were filtered for genotyping missing (<0.1), MAF (>0.05), and Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium test statistic ($p < 10^{-6}$). The remaining variants were pruned

(using a 50-kb window, with a 5 SNP shift per window and r^2 threshold of 0.2), and the first five PCs were calculated using the pruned variants.

PD ascertainment

The Sister Study routinely queries about the diagnosis of chronic diseases as part of the cohort's AHUs, DFUs, and helpdesk contacts, consistently over the years. For deceased individuals, the underlying cause of death was obtained via linkage to National Death Index (NDI). DFU surveys collect further details about PD: 1) PD clinical diagnosis, the year of diagnosis, and PD medication uses; 2) separately on the questionnaire, all current uses of prescribed or over-the-counter medications using the inventory method; 3) the presence of four motor symptoms in the past year, including hand tremor, slow walking or movements, small handwriting, and difficulty getting started when walking or moving. In 2018-2019, we contacted potential cases or the next-of-kin of deceased cases who reported a physician-made PD diagnosis for the study participants. We asked them to 1) confirm their diagnosis of PD, whether the diagnosis was current (if not, alternative diagnosis if available), the year or age of diagnosis, and the specialty of the diagnostic physician; 2) major PD signs/symptoms and whether they ever improved with medications and whether they were ever asymmetric; and 3) use of PD medications, whether they helped with PD symptoms and were still being used. For patients consenting to contact their treating physicians, we reached out to the physicians and asked them to fill out a short confirmation form about PD signs and symptoms and diagnostic history, neurological comorbidity, and alternative diagnosis, and to provide a copy of the relevant medical records. These data were reviewed by a movement disorder specialist (XH) and a neuroepidemiologist (HC). Our final PD adjudication was confirmed if 1) both the treating physician and the patient confirmed their PD diagnosis and the expert review agreed; or 2) if patient/physician data were not available, experts review of cohort data over the 15 years of follow-up supported the patient-reported physician diagnosis of PD. Of the 371 self-reported PD diagnoses, 242 were confirmed, and 72 were included in the olfaction sub-study with valid genetic data. Details of the PD adjudication process and findings were published elsewhere [13].

The Brief Smell Identification Test (B-SIT)

B-SIT is the short version of the 40-item University of Pennsylvania Smell Identification Test and has been widely used to screen for olfactory impairment in large population-based epidemiological studies [14]. The test was designed to be self-administered and contains 12 commonly-experienced odorants [14], one embedded on each page of a small booklet. Participants are instructed to scratch and smell each of these odorants, one at a time, and to identify the correct odorant from four possible answers in a forced multiple-choice format [14]. Every correct answer is awarded one point, summing to a final score ranging from 0-12, with a higher score indicating a better sense of smell [14]. Because this is one of the first analyses on this topic and there is no clinically validated B-SIT cutoff to define olfactory impairment, we used the scores of 9, 8, 7, and 6 as the cutoff to determine robustness of our results. All these cutoffs have been used in previous epidemiological studies [15–17], and represent varying degrees of olfaction loss from hyposmia to anosmia. In addition to the overall B-SIT performance, we also examined PD PRS in relation to the odds of correctly identifying each of the 12 individual odorants.

Covariate Assessments

The Sister Study has comprehensively collected data on demographics, lifestyle, environmental exposures, residential history, and health status at enrollment which were periodically updated at follow-up surveys. We considered the following covariates obtained at the time of study enrollment in the analysis, age (<50, 50-55, 56-60, 60 years), race and ethnicity (non-Hispanic White, non-Hispanic Black, and others), educational attainment (below college versus some college or higher degree), smoking status (ever versus never smokers), and self-reported health status (fair or poor versus good, very good, or excellent). Additionally, self-reported sense of smell (normal versus poor) from the third DFU, age at the olfaction sub-study (continuous), and exposures to the major ambient air pollutants of PM_{2.5} and NO₂ from year of 2006 (continuous, scaled by inter-quartile range/IQR) were included. Details of the exposure assessment approach for ambient air pollutants have been published elsewhere [18].

Statistical Analyses

We analyzed the primary exposure of interest (PD PRS) by quartiles and as a continuous variable for a per-IQR increment of the PRS. In all analyses, we accounted for the sampling design that the sub-study participants were selected based on their self-reported olfaction in the third DFU by treating the self-report as a covariate in the outcome regression models. Under the assumption that B-SIT tested olfaction and sample selection were independent conditioning on the genetic risk of PD and adjusted covariates, the odds ratios (ORs) of PD PRS can be consistently estimated by our analytical strategy and interpreted as the association with B-SIT tested olfaction conditioning on the adjusted covariates [19]. In the analyses, we further accounted for the non-response in the outcome (B-SIT tested olfaction) by inverse probability weighting (IPW). For non-response, we assumed missing at random (MAR) and performed logistic regression for the missingness of the outcome on variables that were potentially related to the missingness. We used the best subset method based on Bayesian information criterion (BIC) for covariate selection (selected covariates: age, race, education, smoking status, exposure to PM_{2.5} and NO₂ in 2006). For weighted analysis, each individual's weight was calculated by the inverse of the predicted probability of not being missing in B-SIT score. Robust standard errors were used for the logistic regressions with IPW. We then tested and could not reject the null hypothesis that PD PRS was not related to the self-reported sense of smell (Supplemental Table 1). In the primary analyses, we first confirmed the relation between PD PRS and PD. Then we defined the B-SIT tested olfaction as a dummy variable (olfactory impairment or not) with different cutoff values (9, 8, 7, or 6) and analyzed the relation between PD PRS and olfactory impairment. As the PD PRS was derived from participants almost exclusively of European descent [5], we further restricted analyses to non-Hispanic Whites. Next, we examined PD PRS in relation to each of the 12 B-SIT odorants. Further, we examined whether the relation between PD PRS and olfaction was modified by air pollutants (below/above median) or smoking status (never/ever). In this secondary analysis, we defined PD PRS exposure as the highest quartile versus the rest, based on findings from the primary analysis. Lastly, we repeated the above analyses using PD as the analytic outcome. ORs and 95% confidence intervals (CIs) were reported. When applicable, we tested for the linear trend using the exposure quartile medians as a continuous outcome. All analyses were performed using SAS 9.4 (SAS Institute Inc.,

Cary NC) or PLINK (version 1.9), and all tests were two-sided at the significance level 0.05 with Sister Study data release 9.1.

Results

Population characteristic patterns were remarkably consistent, regardless of the choice of B-SIT cutoffs (Table 1). Compared to women without olfactory impairment, those with olfactory impairment were older and more likely to be non-Hispanic blacks, and to self-report poor olfaction. They were also slightly more likely to have a lower than college education, to be ever smokers, and to self-report fair or poor health status. The two groups were however almost identical in their exposures to ambient air pollutants.

The PRS was strongly associated with the odd of having PD in a dose-response manner (Table 2). Compared with the lowest PRS quartile, the multivariable OR was 1.81 for the second, 2.31 for the third, and 3.79 for the fourth quartile, with a clear dose-response relationship ($OR_{\text{per IQR}} = 2.24$ (1.59, 3.15), p for trend=0.0005). We found similar results when limiting analyses to non-Hispanic White women. Olfactory impairment was also strongly associated with the odds of having PD (Supplemental Table 2). Using B-SIT cutoffs (9 or 8) indicative of hyposmia, the OR for PD was 7.19 and 7.89, respectively. Using cutoffs (7 or 6) for anosmia, the corresponding OR was 3.77 and 3.53. Finally, correctly identifying individual B-SIT items was uniformly associated with lower odds of having PD, with OR ranging from 0.28 (0.16, 0.48) for cherry to 0.56 (0.31, 1.04) for clove (Supplemental Table 3).

Only the highest quartile of PD PRS was associated with modestly higher odds of having olfactory impairment (Table 3). The OR comparing the highest vs. lowest PD PRS quartile was 1.24 (0.98, 1.56) with the B-SIT cutoff of 9, 1.34 (1.03, 1.73) with the cutoff of 8, 1.31 (1.00, 1.73) with the cutoff of 7, and 1.42 (1.04, 1.92) with the cutoff of 6. Results were nearly the same in the analysis limited to non-Hispanic White women. Overall, the highest PRS quartile was associated with lower odds of correctly identifying individual B-SIT items as compared with the lowest quartile, although statistical significance was found only for pineapple (OR=0.72 (0.56, 0.94)), soap (OR=0.76 (0.58, 0.99)), and rose (OR=0.70 (0.54, 0.92)) (Table 4). When analyzing PRS as IQR increment, statistical significance was additionally found for leather ($OR_{\text{per IQR}}=0.85$ (0.72, 0.99)).

The association of PRS with olfactory impairment was similar for environmental exposures in interaction analysis (Figure 1), albeit the association seemed to be more evident among women with higher than median $PM_{2.5}$ exposure regardless of the B-SIT cutoff used. For example, with a B-SIT cutoff of 8, the OR comparing the highest versus other PRS quartiles was 1.47 (1.10, 1.98) among women with higher than median $PM_{2.5}$ exposures, versus 1.15 (0.88, 1.51) for women with lower than median exposures. When using the B-SIT cutoff of 6, the contrast is more evident with corresponding ORs of 1.83 (1.30, 2.59) versus 1.20 (0.87, 1.67). In analyzing PD as the outcome (Supplemental Figure 2), the association of PRS with PD appears to be slightly stronger in the women with higher than median exposures to $PM_{2.5}$ or NO_2 and in never smokers, although none of the interaction terms were statistically different.

Discussion

The past two decades have experienced multiple breakthroughs in understanding the genetic complexity of late-onset sporadic PD. The latest GWAS study identified 90 common genetic variants that are independently associated with sporadic PD with genome-wide significance [5]. Based on these findings, a PD PRS was developed as a single composite measure of the overall genetic susceptibility to sporadic PD, and it has been associated with PD risk, age at onset, motor progression, and cognitive decline in recent studies [20, 21]. The derivation of a single measure of PD genetic susceptibility may also facilitate analyses to explore gene-environment interactions [22], which have been hypothesized to play important roles in the development of late-onset sporadic PD [23].

In this sample of a nationwide cohort of middle-aged and older women, we independently confirmed that this risk score is strongly associated with PD risk in a dose-response manner, supporting the validity and broad generalizability of this PD PRS. Although we did not find statistical evidence for interactions with major ambient air pollutants or smoking, the association of PRS with PD appears to be slightly more evident in never smokers and women exposed to higher levels of air pollutants, consistent with the hypothetical roles of these airborne environmental exposures in PD etiology [24]. We also found women in the highest quartile of PD PRS might have a higher risk of olfactory impairment. Taken together, this study provides provocative, albeit preliminary, evidence that PD and olfactory impairment may have shared genetic susceptibility.

To the best of our knowledge, this is one of the first studies to investigate the etiological links incorporating genetic susceptibility, environmental exposures, prodromal symptoms, and PD clinical diagnosis. Despite little empirical evidence to date, there are strong biological rationales to examine these potential interconnections, given the length and complexity of PD prodromal etiology. Olfactory loss is one of the most robust and earliest PD prodromal symptoms [25–27]. The Braak hypothesis [28] further posits that PD pathogenesis may start in the olfactory structures, years if not decades, before spreading to the substantia nigra where dopaminergic neuron death occurs, and PD motor dysfunction arises. This controversial hypothesis provides a theoretical platform and a practical noninvasive approach to studying olfactory impairment as an intermediate phenotype to explore potential triggers and accelerators of PD pathogenesis [29]. Comparing potential risk factors for PD with those for olfactory impairment and identifying potential causes that first lead to olfactory impairment and then to PD motor dysfunction may allow us to develop interventions that may modify these processes.

In the current study, we empirically tested this paradigm by examining PD PRS as a potential common cause for olfactory impairment and PD, and whether airborne pollutants may modify the associations. We chose to study PD PRS because it is the single strongest risk factor for late-onset sporadic PD with a plausible causality [5]. In addition, genetic susceptibility has a clear temporality as it precedes the development of both olfactory impairment and PD. Our previous GWAS analyses suggest potential genetic links of olfaction to the PD loci of LRRK2 and MAPT among of >6,000 older US adults of European ancestry [1, 2]. However, neither association reached genome-wide significance.

A recent cross-sectional analysis in Australia (n=1,395 combined) directly examined a PRS derived from SNPs predicting PD age at onset in relation to B-SIT test performance overall and on individual odorants [3]. The authors did not find any significant associations except that participants who scored incorrectly on the odorant of chocolate tended to have a higher PD PRS score.

Compared with the Australian study [3], our study is much larger but only included women. In our analysis, we limited study participation to women aged 50-79 years, aiming to target the group at risk of prodromal neurodegeneration. The PD PRS was developed based on the genetic structures of participants of European descent; however, excluding women with race/ethnicity other than non-Hispanic White had little impact on our study findings. In our analysis, although we did not find a dose-response relationship between PD PRS and olfactory impairment as in PD, we found women in the highest PRS quartile had poor olfaction compared to the lowest quartile, results that were robust to different choices of cutoff. The analyses of individual odorants generally showed women with the highest PRS were less likely to identify the correct odorant, although only a few items reached statistical significance. Nevertheless, the observed association of PRS with olfactory impairment was modest compared to that with PD. This contrast is somewhat expected because this genetic score was derived to maximize the power of characterizing genetic susceptibility to PD [5], and only about 10% of older adults with olfactory impairment proceed to diagnosis with PD in the following decade or so [25]. Therefore, the vast majority of olfactory impairment in older adults may not be related to PD at all, or the pathogenesis may not progress to clinically recognizable PD during one's lifetime. Future research is needed to characterize features of olfactory impairment that are specific to prodromal PD development and more likely to progress to clinical PD.

The study of olfactory impairment in the context of PD research may also illuminate environmental contributions to PD etiology. The olfactory structure is among the few anatomic sites where the human mucosal surfaces directly interact with the environment and its path to the brain is well established. In this study, we explored whether the genetic susceptibility to olfactory impairment or PD could be modified by airborne exposures. The analysis on PD was limited by sample size, but the results suggest stronger associations among women with higher levels of PM_{2.5} or NO₂ and nonsmokers, consistent with the expected effects of these airborne exposures on PD. Results on olfactory impairment were less informative, although the association of PD PRS with olfactory impairment was statistically significant among women with higher than median PM_{2.5} exposure, but not among those with lower exposure levels, regardless of the B-SIT cutoff used.

Our study, while conceptually novel, has multiple limitations. First, the tested paradigm is an oversimplified sketch of PD prodromal development. Many factors may come into play in prodromal PD development and this study focuses only on the genetics, olfaction, and PD. Second, this paradigm should be best tested in prospective cohort studies with clearer temporal relationships among various components of the disease development process. Temporal relationships could not be specified in this study, with the exception that PD genetic susceptibility precedes all other components. Further, olfaction was only assessed in the current study after most PD cases had been identified, complicating the temporal

inference in the analysis. While it is commonly believed that olfactory impairment develops in prodromal PD before its clinical diagnosis, the current study did not document this temporal order and therefore results must be interpreted cautiously. Third, although olfactory impairment is among the most informative prodromal markers of PD [30], as discussed above, evidence to date shows that this relationship lacks specificity. In addition, like most large epidemiological studies, we used a single brief screening test of smell identification to define olfactory impairment at a single time point, which is not ideal for an outcome that is known to decline with age. Repeated, thorough olfaction assessments may help to characterize olfactory impairment that differentiates PD or neurodegeneration destiny from others in the context of aging. Fourth, we identified PD cases first via self-reports, and we then conducted case adjudication and confirmed its known association with age, PD genetic susceptibility, and multiple nonmotor symptoms [13]. Despite our validation efforts, underreport of PD diagnosis and adjudication errors are inevitable. Fifth, our study participants are volunteers of predominantly non-Hispanic White women, highly educated and health conscious. While studies showed that PD PRS is equally associated with PD risk by sex, preliminary longitudinal evidence suggests the association of olfactory impairment with PD is modestly weaker in women than in men [25]. Further, compared to White men or Black men and women, White women are the least likely to develop poor olfaction. Therefore, our study findings in predominantly non-Hispanic White women may not be readily generalizable to men or women with other race/ethnicity backgrounds. Finally, our study aims to investigate the potential genetic links between poor olfaction and PD, using PD PRS as the surrogate of PD genetic susceptibility. A comprehensive investigation of the genetic causes of olfactory impairment in older adults is beyond our scope of work.

In conclusion, our study confirmed the validity and broad generalizability of PD PRS in characterizing the genetic risk of PD, and provided preliminary evidence that high PD genetic susceptibility may also contribute to olfactory impairment.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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- A novel study of potential genetic links between olfaction and Parkinson's disease.
- High Parkinson's polygenic risk score is associated with olfactory impairment.
- The association appears to be independent of major air pollutants and smoking.

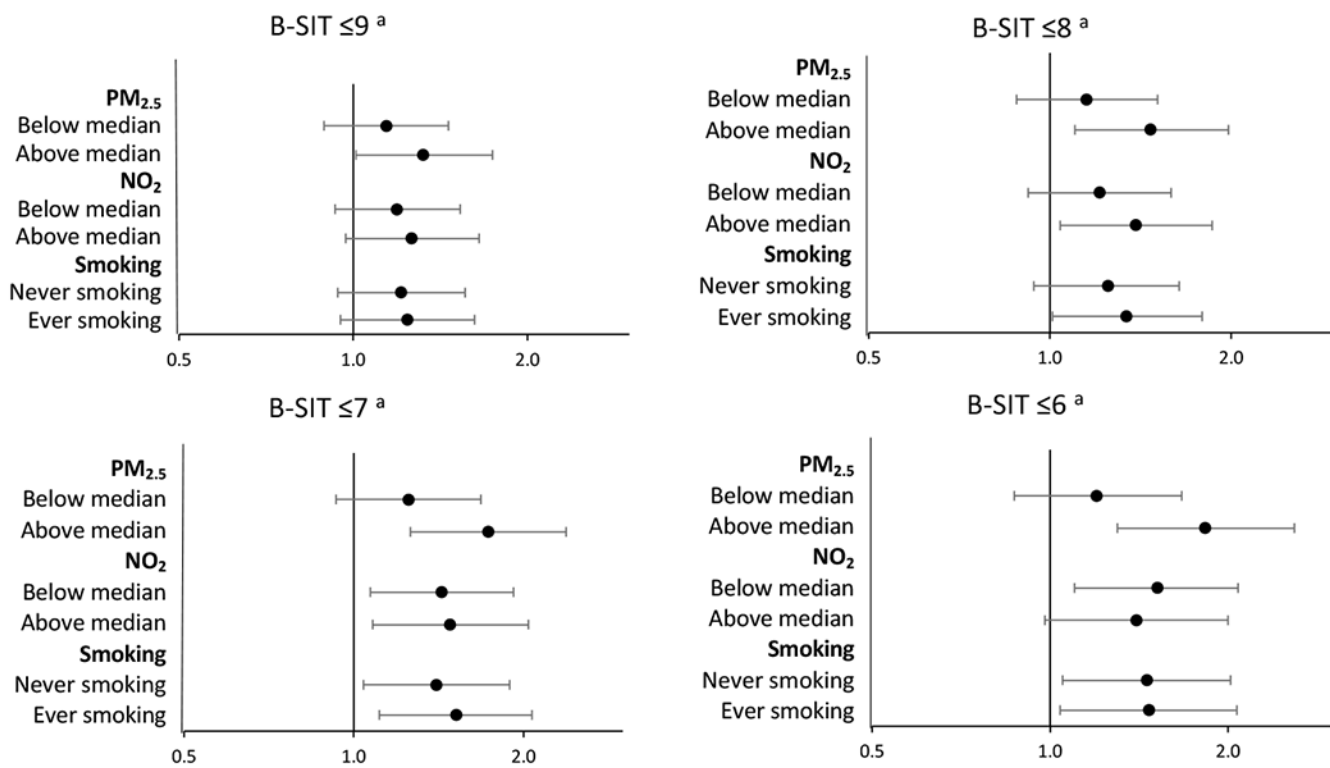


Figure 1. Parkinson's disease Polygenic risk score and olfactory impairment in middle-aged and older women, stratified by airborne exposures.

B-SIT: Brief Smell Identification Test

Odds ratios and 95% confidence intervals are presented comparing the fourth quartile of the Parkinson's disease polygenic risk score vs. lower quartiles combined.

^a Models were adjusted for age, race, the first 5 principal components, self-reported sense of smell, education, smoking status, self-reported health status, and $PM_{2.5}$ and NO_2 in 2006.

Table 1.

Population characteristics by the Brief Smell Identification Test (B-SIT) results

Characteristics	Olfactory impairment using various B-SIT cutoffs ^{a b}												
	B-SIT score 9		B-SIT score 8		B-SIT score 7		B-SIT score 6						
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No					
Age at enrollment, N (%)													
<50	124 (11.7)	635 (26.2)	83 (10.6)	676 (25.0)	59 (9.9)	701 (24.3)	43 (9.5)	718 (23.7)					
50-54	180 (17.0)	581 (24.0)	122 (15.7)	639 (23.7)	92 (15.4)	668 (23.1)	66 (14.6)	694 (22.9)					
55-59	257 (24.3)	568 (23.4)	196 (25.1)	628 (23.3)	146 (24.4)	678 (23.5)	112 (24.7)	710 (23.5)					
60	496 (46.9)	640 (26.4)	379 (48.6)	758 (28.0)	301 (50.3)	837 (29.0)	234 (51.3)	905 (29.9)					
Race, N (%)													
Non-Hispanic White	928 (87.8)	2168 (89.4)	686 (87.8)	2410 (89.2)	527 (88.1)	2569 (89.1)	401 (88.0)	2695 (89.1)					
Non-Hispanic Black	77 (7.3)	106 (4.4)	56 (7.1)	127 (4.7)	41 (6.9)	142 (4.9)	32 (7.0)	151 (5.0)					
Others	52 (4.9)	151 (6.2)	39 (5.1)	163 (6.1)	30 (5.0)	173 (6.0)	23 (5.0)	180 (6.0)					
Education, N (%)													
Some college or higher	892 (84.3)	2158 (89.0)	660 (84.5)	2390 (88.5)	507 (84.7)	2544 (88.2)	387 (85.0)	2663 (88.0)					
Below college	166 (15.7)	266 (11.0)	121 (15.5)	311 (11.5)	91 (15.3)	340 (11.8)	68 (15.0)	363 (12.0)					
Smoking status, N (%)													
Never smoker	566 (53.5)	1376 (56.8)	422 (54.0)	1520 (56.3)	319 (53.4)	1623 (56.3)	245 (53.7)	1697 (56.1)					
Ever smoker	492 (46.5)	1048 (43.2)	359 (46.0)	1181 (43.7)	279 (46.6)	1261 (43.7)	211 (46.3)	1329 (43.9)					
Self-reported olfaction impairment, N (%)													
No	117 (11.0)	930 (38.4)	54 (6.9)	993 (36.8)	28 (4.7)	1019 (35.3)	17 (3.8)	1030 (34.0)					
Yes	941 (89.0)	1494 (61.6)	727 (93.1)	1708 (63.2)	570 (95.3)	1865 (64.7)	439 (96.2)	1996 (66.0)					
Self-reported health status, N (%)													
Excellent, very good or good	976 (92.3)	2297 (94.8)	727 (93.1)	2546 (94.3)	560 (93.7)	2713 (94.1)	428 (94.0)	2846 (94.0)					
Fair or poor	82 (7.7)	127 (5.2)	54 (6.9)	155 (5.7)	38 (6.3)	171 (5.9)	28 (6.0)	180 (6.0)					
PM _{2.5} 2006, (µg/m ³)	10.2±2.5	10.1±2.5	10.1±2.6	10.1±2.5	10.1±2.6	10.1±2.5	10.1±2.6	10.1±2.5					
NO ₂ 2006, (ppb)	9.1±5.1	8.9±4.9	9.1±5.2	9.0±4.9	9.2±5.4	8.9±4.9	9.1±5.4	9.0±4.9					

^aNumber may not add up to total due to weighting.

g Weighted number (percentage) for categorical variables and weighted mean \pm standard deviation for continuous variables.

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Polygenic risk score in relation to Parkinson’s disease in middle-aged and older women

Table 2.

Polygenic risk score	Parkinson’s disease		Odds ratio (95% confidence interval)	
	Yes	No	Model 1 ^a	Model 2 ^b
All subjects, N (%)				
Quartile 1	9 (12.5)	875 (25.7)	Reference	Reference
Quartile 2	15 (20.8)	866 (25.4)	1.83 (0.75, 4.47)	1.81 (0.74, 4.41)
Quartile 3	19 (26.4)	843 (24.7)	2.28 (0.95, 5.45)	2.31 (0.96, 5.53)
Quartile 4	29 (40.3)	826 (24.2)	3.74 (1.63, 8.60)	3.79 (1.64, 8.73)
Per inter-quartile range			2.19 (1.56, 3.07)	2.24 (1.59, 3.15)
<i>P for trend</i>			<i>0.0006</i>	<i>0.0005</i>
Non-Hispanic Whites, N (%)				
Quartile 1	7 (10.6)	670 (22.1)	Reference	Reference
Quartile 2	13 (19.7)	804 (26.5)	1.53 (0.60, 3.88)	1.53 (0.60, 3.90)
Quartile 3	19 (28.8)	783 (25.8)	2.13 (0.89, 5.14)	2.18 (0.90, 5.26)
Quartile 4	27 (40.9)	773 (25.5)	3.21 (1.38, 7.47)	3.27 (1.40, 7.64)
Per inter-quartile range			1.95 (1.38, 2.76)	1.98 (1.40, 2.82)
<i>P for trend</i>			<i>0.0020</i>	<i>0.0017</i>

^aModel 1 adjusted for age, race, the first 5 principal components, and self-reported sense of smell.

^bModel 2 further adjusted for education, smoking status, self-reported health status, and PM_{2.5} and NO₂ in 2006.

Table 3. PD polygenic risk score and olfactory impairment in middle-aged and older women, using different B-SIT cutoffs^a

Polygenic risk score	OR (95% CI)			
	B-SIT score 9	B-SIT score 8	B-SIT score 7	B-SIT score 6
All subjects				
Quartile 1	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
Quartile 2	0.99 (0.78, 1.25)	1.06 (0.82, 1.38)	0.92 (0.69, 1.22)	0.97 (0.71, 1.34)
Quartile 3	1.04 (0.82, 1.32)	1.04 (0.80, 1.35)	0.82 (0.62, 1.09)	0.94 (0.69, 1.30)
Quartile 4	1.24 (0.98, 1.56)	1.34 (1.03, 1.73)	1.31 (1.00, 1.73)	1.42 (1.04, 1.92)
Per IQR	1.12 (1.00, 1.25)	1.13 (1.00, 1.28)	1.12 (0.97, 1.28)	1.18 (1.02, 1.37)
<i>P for trend</i>	0.0541	0.0269	0.0554	0.0205
Non-Hispanic Whites				
Quartile 1	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
Quartile 2	0.96 (0.75, 1.24)	1.03 (0.78, 1.37)	0.89 (0.66, 1.20)	0.94 (0.67, 1.33)
Quartile 3	1.00 (0.78, 1.28)	1.01 (0.77, 1.33)	0.81 (0.60, 1.10)	0.97 (0.70, 1.35)
Quartile 4	1.25 (0.98, 1.60)	1.33 (1.01, 1.74)	1.31 (0.98, 1.74)	1.42 (1.03, 1.95)
Per IQR	1.11 (0.99, 1.25)	1.11 (0.98, 1.27)	1.11 (0.96, 1.28)	1.20 (1.02, 1.40)
<i>P for trend</i>	0.0466	0.0339	0.0547	0.0185

PD: Parkinson's disease; B-SIT: Brief Smell Identification Test; OR: odds ratio; CI: confidence interval; IQR: inter-quartile range.

^a Adjusted for age, race, the first 5 principal components, self-reported sense of smell, education, smoking status, self-reported health status, and PM_{2.5} and NO₂ in 2006.

Parkinson’s disease polygenic risk score and correctly identifying individual odorants in middle-aged and older women

Table 4:

Polygenic risk score	Odds Ratio (95% Confidence Interval) ^a											
	menthol	cherry	clove	leather	strawberry	lilac	pineapple	smoke	lemon	soap	natural gas	rose
Quartile 1	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
Quartile 2	0.87 (0.66, 1.14)	1.09 (0.81, 1.46)	1.03 (0.76, 1.39)	0.90 (0.65, 1.25)	1.05 (0.81, 1.35)	1.04 (0.81, 1.34)	0.81 (0.62, 1.05)	1.15 (0.84, 1.58)	1.04 (0.82, 1.31)	1.05 (0.80, 1.38)	0.91 (0.71, 1.17)	0.87 (0.66, 1.14)
Quartile 3	0.89 (0.68, 1.18)	1.20 (0.89, 1.63)	1.07 (0.79, 1.45)	0.91 (0.66, 1.27)	1.16 (0.89, 1.51)	1.17 (0.90, 1.51)	0.83 (0.63, 1.08)	1.04 (0.77, 1.42)	0.86 (0.68, 1.08)	0.84 (0.64, 1.09)	0.94 (0.73, 1.22)	0.89 (0.68, 1.17)
Quartile 4	0.96 (0.72, 1.27)	0.79 (0.59, 1.06)	0.85 (0.63, 1.14)	0.77 (0.56, 1.07)	0.89 (0.69, 1.15)	0.91 (0.71, 1.17)	0.72 (0.56, 0.94)	0.87 (0.64, 1.19)	0.88 (0.69, 1.11)	0.76 (0.58, 0.99)	0.81 (0.63, 1.05)	0.70 (0.54, 0.92)
Per inter-quartile range	0.98 (0.86, 1.12)	0.87 (0.76, 1.01)	0.92 (0.79, 1.07)	0.85 (0.72, 0.99)	0.97 (0.85, 1.10)	0.97 (0.86, 1.10)	0.89 (0.79, 1.01)	0.96 (0.83, 1.12)	0.90 (0.81, 1.01)	0.82 (0.72, 0.93)	0.90 (0.80, 1.02)	0.85 (0.75, 0.97)
<i>P for trend</i>	0.8503	0.1275	0.2771	0.1294	0.4442	0.5727	0.0227	0.2961	0.1434	0.0148	0.1386	0.0139

^a Adjusted for age, race, the first 5 principal components, self-reported sense of smell, education, smoking status, self-reported health status, and PM_{2.5} and NO₂ in 2006.