Are fetal growth impairment and preterm birth causally related to child attention problems and ADHD? Evidence from a comparison between high- and middle-income cohorts.

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Supplemental Materials

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Supplemental Methods

Birth outcome data collection

ALSPAC

Birthweight was recorded from the routine birth record. Head circumference was measured using a Holtain neonatometer (Holtain Ltd., Crymlych, Wales) by trained ALSPAC staff who visited all study participants within 24 hours of birth. Gestational age was measured from the date of the last menstrual period, provided it was in agreement with the results of the dating ultrasound scan (<20 weeks). In case of a discrepancy between the stated date of the last menstrual period and the date identified by ultrasound, estimation was made by an experienced obstetrician.

Pelotas

Maternity staff weighed newborns and other anthropometric measures were conducted by trained and supervised study interviewers at the time of birth. Newborns were weighed using regularly calibrated pediatric scales, and length measurements were taken in supine position using ARTHAG infantometers with 1mm precision. Head circumference was measured by standardized tape measure. Gestational age was estimated using the algorithm proposed by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)¹, based on the last menstrual period, when consistent with birthweight, length and head circumference (HC)². If inconsistencies were identified, or if the date of last menstrual period was unknown, then gestational age was determined by clinical maturity estimate, based on the Dubowitz method³.

Covariable data collection

ALSPAC

Data on potential confounders were collected in self-report postal questionnaires completed by the mother during pregnancy or in the neonatal period. In ALSPAC, the highest level of maternal schooling was assessed by maternal self-report in a postal questionnaire completed at approximately 32 weeks gestation. Mothers were dichotomised into two groups with a cut-off point approximately equivalent to ten years of schooling (non-O level (GSCE) vs O level and above). Family income was postnatally assessed by questionnaire at 47 months (categorised into five groups: <£100; £100-199; £200-299; £300-399; >£400 per week). Data on maternal depression was collected at 32 weeks gestation using the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS)⁴. Mothers were classified as having depression during pregnancy if they had an EPDS score ≥13⁴. Maternal age was collected at approximately 12 weeks gestation. Data on maternal education, depression during pregnancy (Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale; EPDS⁴), smoking and alcohol consumption was collected at 32 weeks gestation. Obstetric information regarding mode of delivery and APGAR score⁵ at 5 minutes was collected from obstetric records at birth.

Pelotas

Data on maternal age, maternal smoking during pregnancy, maternal alcohol consumption during pregnancy, maternal schooling, family income and maternal mental health during pregnancy were

collected in interview format in the perinatal period. Family income was based on maternal report one month prior to delivery, and was classified into quintiles. Maternal number of school years was collected in the perinatal interview, and dichotomised into two groups (≤10 years vs >10 years of schooling). Maternal smoking habits, alcohol consumption, and depression during pregnancy were based on maternal report, and assessed retrospectively at birth. Child characteristics collected in the perinatal interview included data on mode of delivery, and APGAR score⁵ at five minutes.

Table S1

Prevalence of confounding factors in the ALSPAC and Pelotas cohorts							
Variable	ALSPAC n (%)	Pelotas n (%)	χ²				
	(N=6768)	(N=3508)					
Family and make mal							
Family and maternal							
Low maternal education ^a	1471 (21.9)	2367 (68.1)	2082.30**				
Low income	379 (6.4)	685 (19.5)	375.50**				
Maternal age at delivery ≤19 years	128 (1.9)	674 (6.5)	976.70**				
Gestational							
Smoked during pregnancy	1273 (18.9)	952 (27.1)	91.66**				
Any alcohol during pregnancy	4345 (65.7)	117 (3.3)	3614.29**				
Maternal depression during pregnancy	836 (12.7)	538 (15.8)	18.11**				
Perinatal variables							
Caesarean delivery	652 (9.8)	1574 (44.9)	1640.46**				
APGAR score <7 at 5 minutes	38 (0.9)	55 (1.6)	6.35*				

^a ≤10 years education; *p<.05; **p<.001

Table S2

Subgroups of gestational age at birth in the ALSPAC and Pelotas cohorts

Variable	ALSPAC n (%)	Pelotas n (%)	χ²	
	(N=6848)	(N=3505)		
≤32 weeks	53 (0.8)	57 (1.6)	241.23**	
33-34 weeks	53 (0.8)	82 (2.3)		
35-36 weeks	196 (2.9)	306 (8.7)		
≥37 weeks	6546 (95.6)	3060 (87.3)		

^{*}p<.05; **p<.001

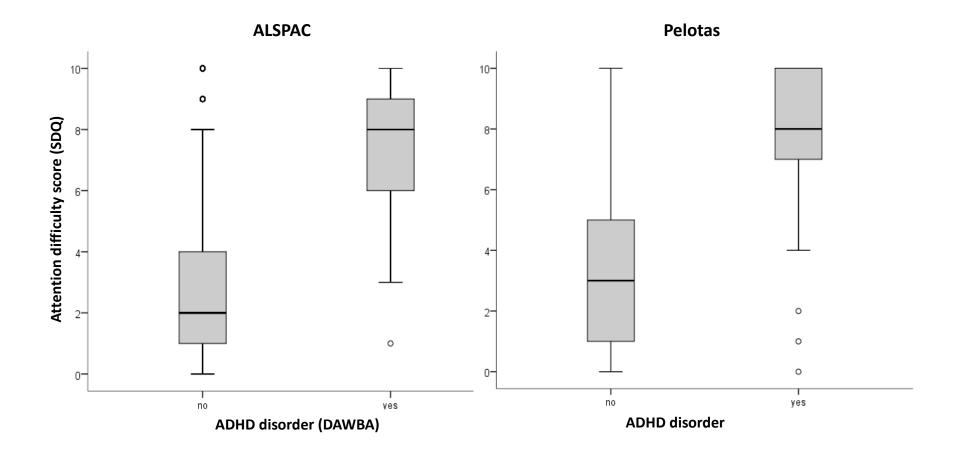
Odds Ratios (95% CI) of low birth weight, SGA, small HC and low PI in the ALSPAC and Pelotas cohorts

Variable	ble <u>Low Birth Weight</u>		<u>SGA</u>		<u>s</u>	Small HC		Preterm birth	
	ALSPAC	Pelotas	ALSPAC	Pelotas	ALSPAC	Pelotas	ALSPAC	Pelotas	
Maternal education ^a	1.22 (0.90-1.66)	1.27 (0.96-1.68)	1.25 (1.01-1.54)*	1.29 (1.04-1.59)*	1.28 (0.96-1.70)	1.40 (1.12-1.74)*	1.07 (0.81-1.42)	1.43 (1.14-1.80)*	
Income (lowest quarter vs rest)	1.35 (0.81-2.24)	1.79 (1.36-2.36)**	1.40 (0.98-2.00)	1.29 (1.03-1.63)*	1.55 (0.982.44)	1.67 (1.33-2.08)**	0.85 (0.59-1.47)	1.73 (1.38-2.16)**	
Maternal age at delivery (≤19 vs rest)	1.63 (0.75-3.54)	1.20 (0.89-1.61)	1.17 (0.63-2.19)	1.07 (0.85-1.36)	1.31 (0.57-3.01)	1.48 (1.18-1.87)*	0.88 (0.36-2.17)	1.54 (1.22-1.94)**	
Maternal smoking during pregnancy (yes vs no)	1.76 (1.31-2.36)**	1.66 (1.29-2.15)**	2.55 (2.10-3.10)**	1.69 (1.39-2.07)**	1.56 (1.17-2.08)*	1.63 (1.32-2.00)**	1.02 (0.76-1.38)	1.23 (0.99-1.53)	
Maternal alcohol during pregnancy (yes vs no)	0.86 (0.65-1.12)	0.98 (0.49-1.96)	0.87 (0.72-1.05)	1.11 (0.66-1.85)	0.86 (0.66-1.11)	1.18 (0.71-1.96)	0.84 (0.66-1.08)	1.43 (0.88-2.35)	
Depression during pregnancy (yes vs no)	1.84 (1.31-2.60)*	1.37 (1.04-1.80)*	1.11 (0.85-1.46)	1.19 (0.56-1.47)	1.69 (1.23-2.33)*	1.22 (0.98-1.52)	1.70 (1.24-2.31)*	1.35 (1.08-1.68)*	
APGAR score 5 min (<7 vs rest)	4.82 (2.09-11.13)**	7.28 (4.14-12.80)**	0.98 (0.30-3.20)	1.97 (1.05-3.69)*	2.47 (0.86-7.09)	2.77 (1.50-5.10)*	5.74 (2.75-11.95)**	4.55 (2.61-7.94)**	
Mode of delivery (caesarean vs vaginal)	2.79 (1.94-3.94)**	1.05 (0.82-1.35)	1.45 (1.10-1.91)*	0.86 (0.71-1.04)	1.30 (0.99-1.92)	0.78 (0.64-0.95)*	2.09 (1.51-2.90)**	1.03 (0.84-1.25)	

^a ≤10 years vs >10 years; *p<.05; **p<.001

Table S3

Figure S1. Descriptive statistics of SDQ score based on ADHD diagnosis in ALSPAC and Pelotas



References

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