

and anxiety. For example, people with anxiety disorders often report high Neuroticism and low Conscientiousness (Kotov et al., 2010). Dementia-related anxiety (DRA) is concern about developing dementia that can occur in individuals of any age and cognitive status (Kessler et al., 2012). This study assessed associations between the FFM and DRA and the extent to which other factors, such as demographics and variables related to DRA (i.e., external locus of control and lacking knowledge of dementia), contributed to relationships. Participants ($N = 664$; aged 18 to 81; $M = 30.24$) completed measures of the FFM, DRA, locus of control, and dementia knowledge. Hierarchical regression (block 1: basic demographics, block 2: DRA-related variables, and block 3: FFM) was computed. The set of predictors explained 17.9% of the variance in DRA, $F(14, 623) = 9.69$, $p < .001$. Being older, partnered, low on Conscientiousness and Openness, and having greater external locus of control and less dementia knowledge predicted higher DRA (p -values $< .05$). Surprisingly, Neuroticism was not predictive of DRA after controlling for demographic and DRA-related factors, indicating that the trait-like tendency towards emotional instability does not explain DRA. Longitudinal research can explore the course of relationships among Conscientiousness, Openness, and DRA over time to further examine significant effects of age, as expressions of personality change across the lifespan. Research targeting potentially modifiable factors (i.e., dementia knowledge) could help identify methods of reducing DRA.

CAREGIVER NEUROTIC PERSONALITY TRAIT AND ELDER ABUSE—THE MODERATING ROLE OF CHANGE IN THE LEVEL OF CAREGIVER BURDEN

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Objectives: To investigate whether caregiver neuroticism has an effect on subsequent occurrence of elder abuse and whether change in the level of caregiver perceived burden alters this relationship. **Methods:** Using two-year longitudinal data, we analyzed a consecutive sample of 800 Chinese family caregivers and their care recipients with dementia recruited from the geriatric and neurological departments of three Grade-A hospitals in People's Republic of China (PRC). All the participatory dyads were assessed between September 2015 and February 2016 and followed for two years. **Results:** Significant increase in the prevalence was found for physical and psychological abuse, caregiver neglect, and financial exploitation. Caregivers high in neuroticism were more likely to engage in subsequent physical and psychological abuse, however, change in the level of caregiver perceived burden altered this association. Specifically, absence and alleviation of care burden during the two-year observation prevented the subsequent occurrence of physical and psychological abuse. Although caregiver neuroticism was also associated with subsequent caregiver neglect, caregiver perceived burden did not appear to have an impact on this relationship. **Discussion:** This study provided evidence that caregiver neuroticism was

associated with subsequent physical and psychological abuse, while change in the level of caregiver perceived burden may alter this trajectory. These findings suggest the importance of implementing caregiver-centered intervention and prevention programs for elder abuse by specifically targeting at caregivers' behaviors related to their neurotic personality trait and cognitive appraisal of caregiving stressors associated with such personality trait.

CHILDHOOD SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, ADULT PERSONALITY, AND COGNITION: EARLY INDICATORS OF COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT IN OLD AGE

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This study investigated the association between childhood socioeconomic status (cSES) risk of cognitive impairment but not dementia (CIND), cognitive impairment (dementia or CIND), and dementia and whether adult personality mediated this association. A sample of 10,289 participants (aged 50 and older) from the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) were followed across 2-year periods between 2006 - 2018. Estimates of mediation effects in Cox Proportional Hazards regressions were conducted using Mplus software to approximate the total effects of cSES on the cognitive outcomes and the natural indirect effects and natural direct effects derived when personality causally mediated this outcome. cSES was associated with increased risk of all three cognitive outcomes. Conscientiousness partially mediated the relationship between cSES and dementia, CIND, and cognitive impairment risk while neuroticism partially mediated dementia and impairment, but not CIND. Personality improved the overall model fit between cSES and both CIND and impairment, and conscientiousness was specifically associated with significantly lowered cognitive impairment risk over time. Conscientiousness and neuroticism substantially mediated the relationship between cSES and risk of impairment in old age. This research adds to lifespan models and suggests that distinct personality traits attenuate early childhood factors that contribute to lifespan development and cognitive aging. Conscientiousness in particular may act as a protective buffer mediating risk factors associated with cognitive impairment in old age.

DAILY STRESSORS AND PHYSIOLOGICAL REACTIVITY: THE ROLE OF PERCEIVED STRESS, STRESS REACTIVITY, NEUROTICISM, AND AGE

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Exposure to stressful events is an inevitable aspect of everyday life, such as encountering work deadlines or interpersonal conflicts. The body's physiological stress systems can become activated when exposed to stressors, resulting in increases in cortisol from the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis and/or increases in the alpha-amylase enzyme via the sympathetic-adrenal medullary system. We predicted