

Objectives: Dementia presents a growing public health challenge globally and its impact is significantly pronounced in low and middle-income countries (LMICs), including those in Latin America. This symposium aims to present recent findings on the prevalence, impact, and underlying factors of cognitive impairment and neuropsychiatric symptoms in aging populations across Latin America, with a focus on culturally and regionally specific research findings.

Methods: The symposium will consolidate data from the 10/66 Dementia Research Group, which has conducted extensive research across various Latin American countries. We integrate results from multiple investigations with over 12,000 elderly participants from six Latin American countries, utilizing cross-sectional and longitudinal Methodsologies. These studies employ the 10/66 Dementia Research Group protocols, among other internationally recognized diagnostic tools, to assess dementia, neurodegeneration and neuropsychiatric symptoms.

Results: The symposium will delve into critical yet not well-understood topics. The audience will be first introduced to emerging trends of dementia prevalence and incidence in Latin America and the interaction with different risk factors particular to the region. Second, we will discuss findings from a comprehensive analysis focusing on the prevalence and impact of cognitive impairment and incident dementia in parkinsonism and Parkinson's Disease. The third presentation will focus on the prevalence of neuropsychiatric symptoms across cognitively unimpaired, dementia, and Parkinson's' disease, emphasizing the need to implement systematic screening Methods for early detection from a clinical and public health perspective. The final talk will present data exploring the influence of genetic ancestry alongside social and environmental factors as predictors of dementia risk in Latin America.

Conclusions: The findings presented underscore the complex interplay of genetic, social, and environmental factors in the etiology and progression of neurodegenerative and neuropsychiatric conditions in Latin America. The symposium will highlight the critical need for comprehensive public health strategies and enhanced research focus to better understand and address these issues within aging populations.

1 - Trends in the prevalence of dementia in Latin America and the Caribbean: findings from the 10/66 studies. (Juan J Llibre Rodríguez)

Authors: Juan J. Llibre-Rodriguez¹, Daysi Acosta², Mariella Guerra³, Ana Luisa Sosa-Ortiz⁴, Isaac Acosta⁴, Ivonne Z Jiménez Velázquez⁵, Aquiles Salas⁶, Jorge J. Llibre-Guerra⁷, Martin Prince⁸

1. Dementia Research Unit/Medical University of Havana, Havana, Havana, Cuba
2. Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña (UNPHU), Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
3. Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Lima, Perú
4. Dementia Laboratory, National Institute of Neurology and Neurosurgery, Mexico City, Mexico
5. University of Puerto Rico, School of Medicine, San Juan, Puerto Rico
6. Caracas University Hospital, Caracas, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
7. Department of Neurology, Washington University School of Medicine, St Louis, MO, USA
8. Institute of Psychiatry, and Neuroscience King's College, London, United Kingdom

Objectives: Population ageing will lead to a dramatic increase in dementia prevalence globally. Recent evidence suggests a decline in dementia incidence in HIC due to increasing education levels and improvements in cardiovascular health. Although, most of the increase will occur in low and middle-income countries (LMICs), there are no recent estimates of dementia prevalence and incidence in LMICs. The present study aimed to examine new

trends on dementia prevalence and incidence in Latin-America and associations of socioeconomic determinants and cardiovascular risk factors.

Methods: Sample size included older adults from Latin America (Cuba, Dominican Republic [DR], Puerto Rico [PR], and Mexico) drawn from the 10/66 Dementia Research Group study. We compare wave 1 (2003–2006) with wave 3 (2016 – 2019) of 10/66 studies. The main outcome was dementia prevalence relative to previous waves. Dementia diagnosis was determined according to the 10/66 dementia criteria. All the 10/66 waves used the same standardized assessments and protocols.

Results: Comparing the first wave (2003 - 2006) with the third wave (2016 - 2019) in four Latin American countries – Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, and Peru – reveals significant trends in dementia prevalence. Preliminary data suggest an increase in the Dominican Republic, Mexico, and Peru, while Cuba slightly declined, from 12.4 percent in Wave 1 to 10.1 percent in Wave 3. In contrast, the Dominican Republic's age-adjusted prevalence rose from 11.5 percent to 13.6 percent, Peru from 9.2 percent to 16.8 percent, and Mexico from 8.3 percent to 17.1 percent. Despite, improvements in levels of education, increases in dementia prevalence were associated with higher rates of cardiovascular disease and cardiovascular risk factors, including diabetes, hypertension, obesity and heart disease in the later-born cohorts. Self-reported stroke is also rising.

Conclusions: The increasing prevalence of dementia in LAC underscores the urgent need for targeted health interventions. Prevention strategies should emerge as a key focus in the battle against dementia in Latin America. Addressing modifiable risk factors can significantly impact the incidence and prevalence of dementia.

2 - Cognitive Impairment and Dementia in Latin American Individuals with Parkinsonism and Parkinson's Disease: A 10/66 Dementia Research Group Study (Ana Luisa Sosa)

Authors: Sosa Ana Luisa^{1,2}, Khan N³, Arruabarrena MM⁴, Kim DJ⁵, Jiang M⁶, Llibre-Rodriguez JJ⁷, Rodriguez-Salgado AM⁸, Acosta I^{1,2}, Acosta D⁹, Jimenez-Velasquez IZ¹⁰, Guerra M¹¹, Salas A¹², López-Contreras R¹³, Dhara Santana¹⁴, Hesse H¹⁵, Tanner C¹⁶, Prina M³, Llibre-Guerra JJ¹⁷, on behalf the 10/66 Dementia Research Group

1. Laboratory of the Dementias, National Institute of Neurology and Neurosurgery, Mexico City, Mexico
2. National Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico City, Mexico
3. Population Health Sciences Institute, Faculty of Medical Sciences, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom
4. Department of Cognitive Neurology, Fleni, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
5. Health Service and Population Research Department, Institute of Health Service and Population Research Department, Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology, and Neuroscience, King's College London, London, United Kingdom
6. Institute of Public Health, Faculty of Biomedical Sciences, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano, Switzerland.
7. Dementia Research Unit, Medical University of Havana, Havana, Cuba
8. Global Brain Health Institute, University of San Francisco California, San Francisco, CA 94117
9. Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña (UNPHU), Internal Medicine Department, Geriatric Section, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
10. Internal Medicine Department, Geriatrics Program, School of Medicine, Medical Sciences Campus, University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico
11. Instituto de la Memoria Depresion y Enfermedades de Riesgo IMEDER, Lima, Perú
12. Medicine Department, Caracas University Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Caracas, Venezuela
13. Memory Clinic, Neurology Service, Salvadoran Social Security Institute, San Salvador, El Salvador
14. Department of Neurology, Hospital Félix María Goico, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
15. Observatorio Covid-19, Universidad Tecnológica Centroamericana, Tegucigalpa, Honduras
16. Department of Neurology, Weill Institute for Neurosciences, University of California-San Francisco, San Francisco, CA 94117
17. Department of Neurology, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri, USA