

ABSTRACT

Title: The influence of alcohol on memory in the elderly

Objectives: To estimate association between alcohol consumption and memory in the elderly above 60 years of age.

Methods: The master's thesis is a cross-sectional study. All data were acquired from the Survey of Health Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) project. For the purpose of this research, the participants were divided into four categories according to the highest acquired level of their education. For data analysis, Kruskal-Wallis Test and Mann-Whitney U test with Bonferoni's correction for post – hoc analysis were employed. The testing of participants involved immediate and delayed recall of 10 words.

Results: In this research, a total of 36 534 participants were used. Out of this, 20 389 were females and 16 145 were males. In most categories, there were statistically significant differences in both tests, surprisingly preferring alcohol consumption ($p < 0.001$). In males, who had problems with alcohol abuse during their life, the results of both tests were significantly worse ($p < 0.001$).

Conclusions: Results indicate statistically significant association between memory and alcohol consumption.

Keywords: memory, cognitive functions, alcohol consumption, elderly, SHARE