Pandora wonders, however, given the recent and increasing revelations of women being sexually exploited by men in power, why this was not considered as an additional important factor discouraging women from pursuing professional networks!

Greguletz E., Diehl M. & Kreutzer K. (2018) Why women build less effective networks than men: the role of structural exclusion and personal hesitation. *Human Relations*, DOI: 10.1177/0018726718804303.

# Could neurodegenerative brain disorders have their roots in embryonic brain development?

N eurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's dementia and Parkinson's disease usually manifest in mature and old age and are increasing in prevalence as we live longer. One in 20 people affected by neurodegenerative diseases have a family history; the causes for the rest are yet to be unravelled.

Based on observations that somatic mutations occurring during stem cell division are responsible for many types of cancer, researchers from Cambridge University, UK, hypothesised that similar DNA 'errors' are likely to occur during the intense cell proliferation required for human brain development. Using tissue from the Newcastle Brain Tissue Resource, part of the Medical Research Council's UK Brain Banks Network, they sequenced 102 genes (many known to be related to neurodegenerative diseases) in 173 human brain samples. They detected somatic mutations in 27 of 54 brains (healthy ones as well as those of patients with Alzheimer's and

Lewy body dementia). Using a mathematical model of neurodevelopment, they predicted that islands of pathologically mutated neurons are likely to be common in the general population and could lead to degenerative diseases in later life.

Keogh M. J., Wei W., Aryaman J., et al (2018) High prevalence of focal and multi-focal somatic genetic variants in the human brain. *Nature Communications*. 9(1), 4257.

#### The double burden of malnutrition

The double burden of malnutrition (DBM) includes undernutrition (stunting, wasting, and vitamin and mineral deficiency) as well as overweight, obesity and diet-related non-communicable diseases, and has a devastating effect on health in low-, middle- and high-income countries. There are also serious and lasting developmental and economic effects of DBM, with low- and middle-income countries bearing the greatest burden.

A symposium co-organised by the International Atomic Energy Agency, World Health Organization and UNICEF will be held in Vienna, Austria, in mid-December 2018, and aims to help improve our understanding of how to deal with DBM by sharing the latest research findings and countries' experiences with programme interventions and policies implemented.

Countries are committed to dealing with nutrition problems as part of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition and Sustainable Development Goals. The symposium will identify considerations for policies and action plans to support member states in achieving their defined 'tackling nutrition' goals.

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  Parashar P. Ramanuj

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Eleni Palazidou

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'Oblak i merdevine', oil on canvas by Zlatica Maksimovic

Zlatica Maksimovic was born in Novi Sad, Serbia. She graduated from of the Academy of Arts, University of Novi Sad. Her work depicts ephemeral and other worldly scenes. She is interested in creating images of angelic beings and spirits in order to represent what she sees as the fundamental healing nature within people. In parallel she has studied and worked as a psychotherapist. Her painting and psychotherapeutic practice act as reciprocal influences on the other.