elevated cortisol on cognition, assuming a likely role of stressful events. Yet, very few studies actually examined these assumed links between life events, cortisol and cognition.
Objective To examine associations between salivary cortisol, cognition and life events in a population of non-demented old individuals.
Methods A cross-sectional analysis was conducted using data from Colaus/PsyColaus, a longitudinal population-based study involving 6733 Lausanne residents. Salivary cortisol samples (upon waking, 30 minutes after waking, at 11 am and at 8 pm) were obtained from 799 non-demented participants aged at least 60.
Life events, activities of daily life along with depressive symptoms were assessed using a standardized questionnaire. A comprehensive neuropsychological test battery was used to determine the Clinical Dementia Rating (CDR).
For multiple comparisons, P values were adjusted (P') according to Holm-Bonferroni's method.
Results Cortisol at 11 am and cortisol area under the curve (AUC) were positively correlated with CDR sum of boxes (CDRSOB) scores ($P' = 0.035$; Rho = 0.097 and $P' = 0.024$; Rho = 0.110, respectively). The association between cortisol AUC and CDRSOB remained significant after controlling for age, sex, body mass index, education, smoking and depression ($P = 0.001$; $\beta = 0.001$; R^2 change = 0.016). The number and the total impact of life events were associated neither with cortisol nor with CDRSOB.
Conclusions Elevated cortisol was associated with poorer cognitive functioning yet independently of life events. This suggests that the increased cortisol associated with poorer cognition might be not a mere reflection of stressful events but rather explained by other factors, yet to be elucidated.
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The EVACO Project: A new battery for assessing social cognition disorders and related psychiatric disability in schizophrenia

P. Roux[1,*], M. Urbach[1], S. Fonteneau[1], B. Aouizerate[1,3,4,5,6,7,8], F. Berna[1,6,7,8], L. Brunel[1,9], D. Capdevielle[1,10], I. Chereau[1,11], J. Danion[1,7], J. Dorey[1,12], C. Dubertret[1,13], J. Dubreucq[1,14], C. Faget[1,15], F. Gabayet[1,14], P.M. Llorca[1,11], J. Mallet[1,13], D. Misdrahi[1,3,4,5,6,7,8,16], R. Rey[1,12], R. Richieri[1,15], F. Schürhoff[1,9], H. Yazbek[1,10], C. Passerieux[1,2], E. Brunet-Gouet[1,2], FACE-SCZ-Group[16]
[1] *Fondation FondaMental, Créteil, France*
[2] *Service de psychiatrie d'adulte, Centre Hospitalier de Versailles, UFR des Sciences de la Santé Simone Veil, Université Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, Versailles, France*
[3] *Centre Hospitalier Charles-Perrens, 33076 Bordeaux, France*
[4] *Université de Bordeaux, Bordeaux, France*
[5] *Inserm, Neurocentre Magendie, Physiopathologie de la Plasticité Neuronale, U862, 33000 Bordeaux, France*
[6] *Hôpitaux Universitaires de Strasbourg, Université de Strasbourg, Inserm U1114, Fédération de Médecine Translationnelle de Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France*
[7] *Inserm U955, Translational Psychiatry team, Créteil, France*
[8] *Paris Est University, DHU Pe-PSY, Pôle de Psychiatrie des Hôpitaux Universitaires H.-Mondor, Créteil, France*
[9] *Service Universitaire de Psychiatrie Adulte, Hôpital la Colombière, CHRU de Montpellier, Université Montpellier 1, Inserm 1061, Montpellier, France*
[10] *CMP B, CHU, EA 7280 Faculté de Médecine, Université d'Auvergne, BP 69, 63003 Clermont-Ferrand cedex 1, France*
[11] *Université Claude-Bernard Lyon 1, Centre Hospitalier Le Vinatier Pole Est, BP 300, 39–95, boulevard Pinel, 69678 Bron cedex, France*
[12] *AP–HP, Department of Psychiatry, Louis-Mourier Hospital, Inserm U894, Université Paris Diderot, Sorbonne Paris Cité, Faculté de médecine, Colombes, France*
[13] *Centre Référent de Réhabilitation Psychosociale, Centre Hospitalier Alpes Isère, Grenoble, France*
[14] *Assistance publique des Hôpitaux de Marseille (AP–HM), pôle universitaire de psychiatrie, Marseille, France*
[15] *CNRS UMR 5287-INCIA, France*
[16] *FondaMental Academic Centers of Expertise for Schizophrenia (FACE-SZ) group, France*
[*] *Corresponding author.*

The relation of social cognitive disorders and schizophrenic symptoms are well-established. Yet, assessment methods have not reached a consensus. In addition, causal paths between neurocognition, social cognition, symptoms and functional expression are not clearly understood. During the past few years, some authoritative accounts proposed specialized batteries of tests and emphasized theory of mind, emotion recognition, and interpretation bias constructs:
– NIMH's "Social cognition psychometric evaluation" battery (Pinkham AE, Penn DL, Green MF, Harvey PD. *Schizophrenia Bulletin*, 2015);
– "Social cognition and functioning in schizophrenia" (Green MF, Lee J, Ochsner KN. *Schizophrenia Bulletin*, 2013).
Interestingly, these accounts stemming either from expert consensus and psychometric considerations or from neuroscience knowledge recognized some difficulties in providing a fully usable set of instruments. The project described here (EVACO protocol, funded by the Programme Hospitalier de Recherche Clinique national) follows an alternative approach and aims at providing a psychometrically validated battery. Based on a cognitive neuropsychology view on schizophrenic functional disability, several tests were gathered and are assessed in a 12-months multi-center follow-up of 160 individuals with schizophrenia. The FondaMental foundation network of Expert Centers is involved in recruiting patients from eight centers (Clermont-Ferrand, Colombes, Créteil, Grenoble, Marseille, Montpellier, Strasbourg, Versailles). To-date, the first evaluation of the population has been achieved. Experience reports and inclusions follow-up demonstrate the good acceptability of this battery both on the patients and the evaluator's side. We emphasize the usefulness of this project to meet the clinicians' needs of validated social cognition tools, by describing different scenarios of use.
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The relationship between premorbid adjustment and cognitive dysfunction in schizophrenia

P. Stefanatou[1,*], C.S. Karatosidi (MSc)[2], E. Kattoulas[1], N. Stefanis[1], N. Smyrnis[1]
[1] *Eginition Hospital, Medical School, University of Athens, 1st Department of Psychiatry, Athens, Greece*
[2] *Eginition Hospital, Medical School, University of Athens, Clinical Neuropsychology, Athens, Greece*
[*] *Corresponding author.*

Introduction Premorbid adjustment (PA) is one of the main prognostic indicators of schizophrenia. Both social and cognitive deficits observed during the premorbid period hold a predictive value for the onset of schizophrenia.
Objectives To investigate how cognitive functions are related to aspects of PA.
Aims To examine the relationship of each PA domain (academic and social) at each of the three developmental stages (childhood,