Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging

The Comprehensive Assessment of Neurodegeneration and Dementia (COMPASS-ND) cohort study of the Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging (CCNA) is a national initiative to catalyze research on dementia, set up to support the research agendas of CCNA teams. This cross-country longitudinal cohort of 2310 deeply phenotyped subjects with various forms of dementia and mild memory impairment or concerns, along with cognitively intact elderly subjects, will test hypotheses generated by these teams.

The COMPASS-ND protocol, initial grant proposal for funding, fifth semi-annual CCNA Progress Report submitted to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research December 2017, and other documents supplemented by modifications made and lessons learned after implementation was used to create the description of the study provided here.

The CCNA COMPASS-ND cohort includes participants from across Canada with various cognitive conditions associated with or at risk of neurodegenerative diseases. They will undergo a wide range of experimental, clinical, imaging, and genetic investigation to specifically address the causes, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of these conditions in the aging population. Data derived from clinical and cognitive assessments, biospecimens, brain imaging, genetics, and brain donations will be used to test hypotheses generated by CCNA research teams and other Canadian researchers. The study is the most comprehensive and ambitious Canadian study of dementia. Initial data posting occurred in 2018, with the full cohort to be accrued by 2020.

Availability of data from the COMPASS-ND study will provide a major stimulus for dementia research in Canada in the coming years [1].

[1]

Chertkow H, Borrie M, Whitehead V, Black SE, Feldman HH, Gauthier S, Hogan DB, Masellis M, McGilton K, Rockwood K, Tierney MC, Andrew M, Hsiung GR, Camicioli R, Smith EE, Fogarty J, Lindsay J, Best S, Evans A, Das S, Mohaddes Z, Pilon R, Poirier J, Phillips NA, MacNamara E, Dixon RA, Duchesne S, MacKenzie I, Rylett RJ. The Comprehensive Assessment of Neurodegeneration and Dementia: Canadian Cohort Study. Can J Neurol Sci. 2019 Jul 16:1-13. doi: 10.1017/cjn.2019.27. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31309917.