Ageing in Women and Men: A Longitudinal Study of Gender Differences in Health Behaviour and Health among Elderly


Cohort Acronym
GENDER

Cohort type
General population-based cohort

Disease
Alzheimer's disease, Dementia (unclassified), Frontotemporal dementia, Other NDs not listed, Parkinson's disease, Vascular dementia

Participant type
No diagnosis

Profile
Recruitment Period 1994
Sample size at start or planned sample size if still recruiting
Estimated Current Sample Size
Age at Recruitment 69-88
Gender Male and Female

Abstract

GENDER is a study of unlike-sex twin pairs born between 1906 and 1925 (Gold et al., 2002). A survey concerning health and health behavior was mailed in 1994 with responses from 1,210 twins from 605 pairs where both responded. Mean age at baseline questionnaire assessment was 74.43 (SD 4.28) and all are Caucasians. A baseline in-person evaluation of 498 twins from 249 pairs between 70 and 80 years of age was undertaken between 1995 and 1997, and included an interview and tests of cognitive and physical functioning. Two additional in-person waves followed at 4-year intervals. Finally, a second survey was mailed in 2007 to all living twins who participated in the first mailed survey.

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Variables Collected

**Brain related measures:**
Cognitive function, Mental health, Neurological

**Functional rating:**
Individual physiological, Individual psychological

**Anthropometric:**
Blood pressure, Height, Hip circumference, Waist circumference, Weight

**Physical:**
Cardiovascular, Hearing and Vision, Musculoskeletal, Reproductive, Respiratory

**Biological samples:**
Blood

**Genotyping:**
Gene screening

**Brain imaging:**
N/A

**Brain banking:**
Consent for brain donation

**Lifestyle:**
Alcohol, Dietary habits, Physical activity, Smoking

**Socio-economic:**
Education, Housing and accommodation, Income and finances, Informal support, Marital status, Occupation and employment, Unpaid care

**Health service utilisation:**
Formal health and social care service utilisation including private care