

Applicant

Dr. Jessica Dennis, University of British Columbia

E-mail Address

jessica.dennis@ubc.ca

Project Title

Genetic analyses of mental health trajectories in aging adults

Project Summary

As people age, changes in mental health can occur. The genetic and environmental factors that influence these changes are unclear. Certain genetic variations have been linked to an increased risk of developing conditions such as depression, anxiety, substance use disorders, and cognitive decline. Environmental factors such as stress, trauma and the environment also play a role in mental health outcomes, and these non-genetic factors are dynamic over time. In this project, we will look at how genetic and environmental factors associate with mental health trajectories as individuals age. Results from our project will ultimately help us target the right prevention and treatment strategies to the right person at the right time.

Keywords

complex traits, longitudinal data, genetic epidemiology, mental health, statistical genetics, GWAS