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# Impaired Verbal Memory

March 11, 2014



A collaborative study including Mr. Joseph Lowry, Ms. Anissa Austin, and Mr. Hasan Al-Sayegh, alumni of the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health at Georgia Southern University examine impaired verbal memory as a significant predictor of early cerebral-cardiovascular death. The report is coauthored by Dr. Jian Zhang, associate professor of epidemiology at the the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health Georgia Southern University. The mortality pattern of individuals with impaired verbal memory (IVM) has not yet been well described. We sought to describe the risk of all-causes, as well as specific causes of death associated with IVM. The study used data of 4151 nationally representative adults  $\geq 60$  years old who participated in the third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 1988-1994, and completed one non-contextual (i.e., word list memory) and one contextual delayed-recall tests (i.e., short story recall). The participants were passively followed up through 31 December 2006.

The study concluded that the predictability of memory scores to early cerebral-cardiovascular deaths demonstrated that central challenge among individuals with cognitive impairment was cardiovascular diseases management.

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