

stress and another cortisol stress biomarker—cortisol reactivity to an acute stress event. Byrd and colleagues round out the symposium with a presentation on the directionality of relationships between perceived stress and depressive symptoms contributing to health disparities among Blacks. Discussant Jackson will explore implications of these studies for more nuanced research related to mechanisms of health disparities and for more targeted approaches to the prevention of health disparities among older adults.

MECHANISMS OF CARDIOMETABOLIC DISPARITIES: STRESSOR CHARACTERISTICS LINKED TO HPA-AXIS DYSREGULATION

Julie Ober Allen,¹ Briana Mezuk,² Tomohiro Ko,² Jane Rafferty,³ Jamie Abelson,³ Viktoryia Kalesnikava,⁴ and James Jackson,⁴ 1. *University of Oklahoma, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States*, 2. *University of Michigan School of Public Health, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States*, 3. *University of Michigan ISR, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States*, 4. *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States*

Diurnal cortisol slopes are stress-sensitive HPA-axis biomarkers implicated in cardiometabolic health outcomes and disparities. This study used two longitudinal cohort studies (CREATE and TRIAD) with harmonized variables to comprehensively examine what types of exposure to stressors are most salient for cortisol dysregulation in later life, and whether the characteristics of stressor exposure accounts for Black-White disparities in cortisol dysregulation (merged sample N=209, 65% male, mean age 61, 17% Black). Black participants reported greater stressor exposure than Whites along some dimensions (e.g., # recent major stressors, appraised severity of lifetime stressors, all $p < .02$) but comparable exposure in others (e.g., # of lifetime stressors and life domains). Stressor exposure measures that captured psychological components (i.e., appraised severity, psychological distress) and pervasiveness (i.e., # life domains with major stressors) were more closely related to cortisol dysregulation than more objective measures (e.g., # of recent /lifetime stressors). Everyday discrimination was associated with racial disparities.

DO DEPRESSIVE SYMPTOMS SHAPE BLACKS' PERCEPTIONS OF STRESS OVER TIME?

DeAnnah Byrd,¹ Roland Thorpe,² and Keith Whitfield,¹ 1. *Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, United States*, 2. *Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland, United States*

The established association between stress and depression is typically examined only in one direction and cross-sectionally. Data from the Baltimore Study of Black Aging-Patterns of Cognitive Aging was used to longitudinally examine the bi-directional relationships between (1) stress-depression and (2) depression-stress, and age as a modifier. The sample consisted of 602 community-dwelling Blacks, aged 48-92 years at baseline and 450 at follow-up 33 months later. While the stress-depression relationship was non-significant; the depression-stress was ($b = 0.236$, $p < 0.000$) and this association varied by age with the impact of baseline depression on changes in stress greatest among Blacks in their 60's versus those in their 50's ($b = 0.257$,

$p = 0.002$), controlling for model covariates. Findings highlight the importance of depression in shaping Blacks' perception of stress over time. Future work should continue to identify stress and mental health risk factors that contribute to poor health and health disparities in older Blacks.

WHICH CONTEXTUAL FEATURES PREDICT PHYSIOLOGICAL STRESS REACTIVITY IN MIDLIFE TO LATE LIFE?

Viktoryia Kalesnikava, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States*

Chronic stress creates vulnerability to adverse mental and physical health outcomes in later life. While claims about the negative effects of stress on health are primarily based on self-report, it is unclear how subjective stress measures (chronic or perceived stress) and other environmental or individual characteristics (neighborhood, social and health behaviors) relate to physiological stress response. This study examines which contextual features contribute to differences in physiological stress reactivity among adults at risk of type II diabetes (Richmond Stress and Sugar Study, $n = 125$, aged 40-70). Psycho-social stress was induced via Trier Social Stress Test. Using advanced selection methods, we simultaneously explore multiple predictors and illustrate how different sets of risk and protective factors contribute to normal or abnormal stress reactivity profiles. Preliminary results suggest that the top five important predictors are education, contact with friends, perceived stress, ruminative coping, and sedentary behavior. Implications for research and targeted interventions are discussed.

SESSION 5505 (SYMPOSIUM)

COGNITIVE AGING IN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

Chair: Sunshine Rote

Co-Chair: Jacqueline Angel

Discussant: Fernando Torres-Gil

The Latino population is rapidly aging, with the number of adults 65 and older expected to increase by more than six times to 17.5 million by 2050. Mexico's population is also aging and will increase by 227 percent over the next 25 years. We focus on the consequences of rising longevity and increasing numbers of older Latinos living with dementia both in the U.S. and in Mexico. Providing cost-effective and appropriate services to aging Latinos with dementia will require a clear understanding of the intra-diversity among this group in different social and national circumstances. The purpose of this symposium is the understand how migration between and within countries and other social and health factors (e.g., diabetes) impact risk for cognitive impairment and dementia using three national datasets: the HRS, MHAS, and HEPESE. Four paper presentations and one discussant will examine several thematic issues as they relate to cognitive aging for Latinos, including: (1) cross-national estimates of dementia prevalence in Mexico and the U.S.; (2) the healthy immigrant effect and health convergence hypothesis for cognitive impairment for Latinos in the U.S. and Mexico; and (3) implications of these trends for long-term care service needs for Latinos living with dementia in the U.S. and Mexico. The resulting discussion will provide new empirical