

Considering Multimorbidity and Chronic Debilitating Conditions in Women

Chronic Debilitating Conditions in Women

| Impact on women | Condition (2019 Disability-associated Life Years lost) | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Higher incidence and/or morbidity | Depressive Disorders (1,704,524) | Migraine/ Headache (1,573,325) | Breast cancer (1,387,670) | Rheumatoid Arthritis (187,902) | Multiple Sclerosis (143,123) | Autoimmune diseases |
| Notably high morbidity | Heart Disease (3,396,660) | Lower back pain (3,168,583) | COPD (2,568,947) | Substance Use Disorders (2,323,237) | Stroke (2,098,900) | Diabetes (2,010,853) |

Adapted from Women's Health Consensus Report, 2021

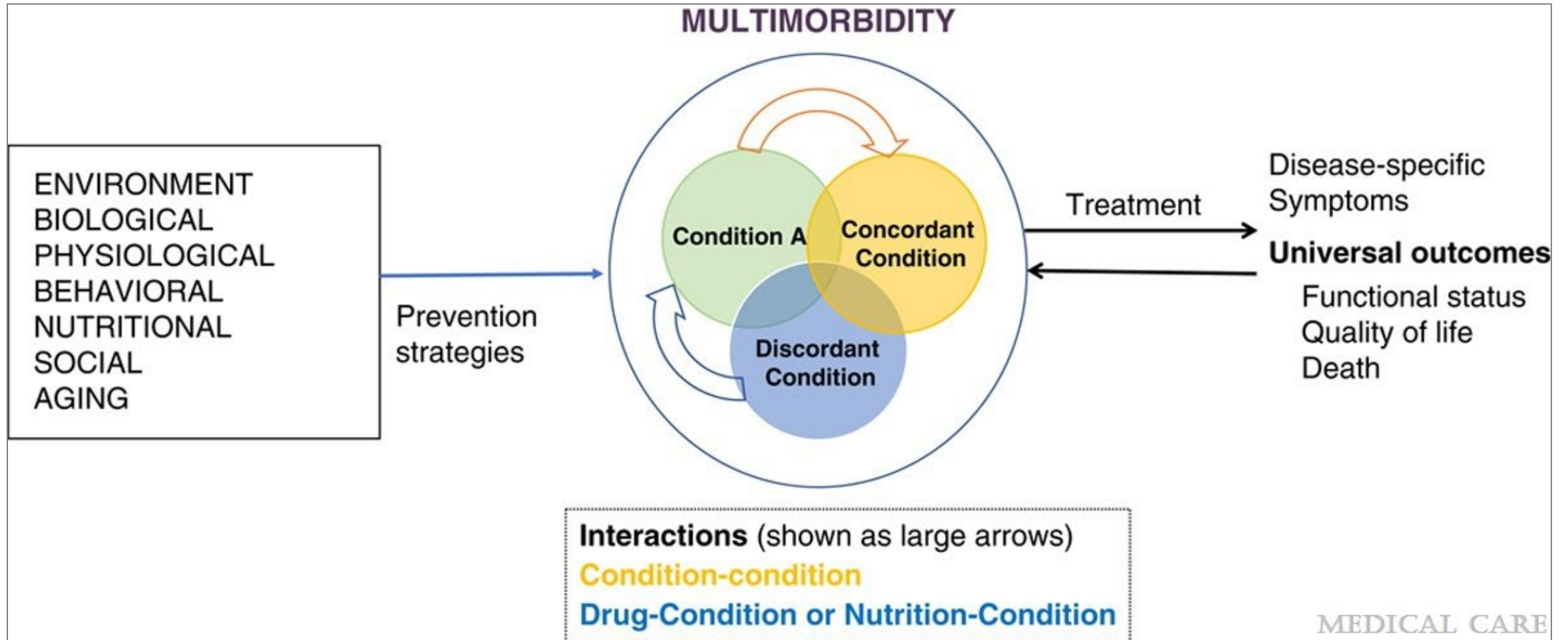
*Per MCS-WH reporting guidance, the following RCDC disease categories are particularly relevant to women's health

<http://www.healthdata.org/>

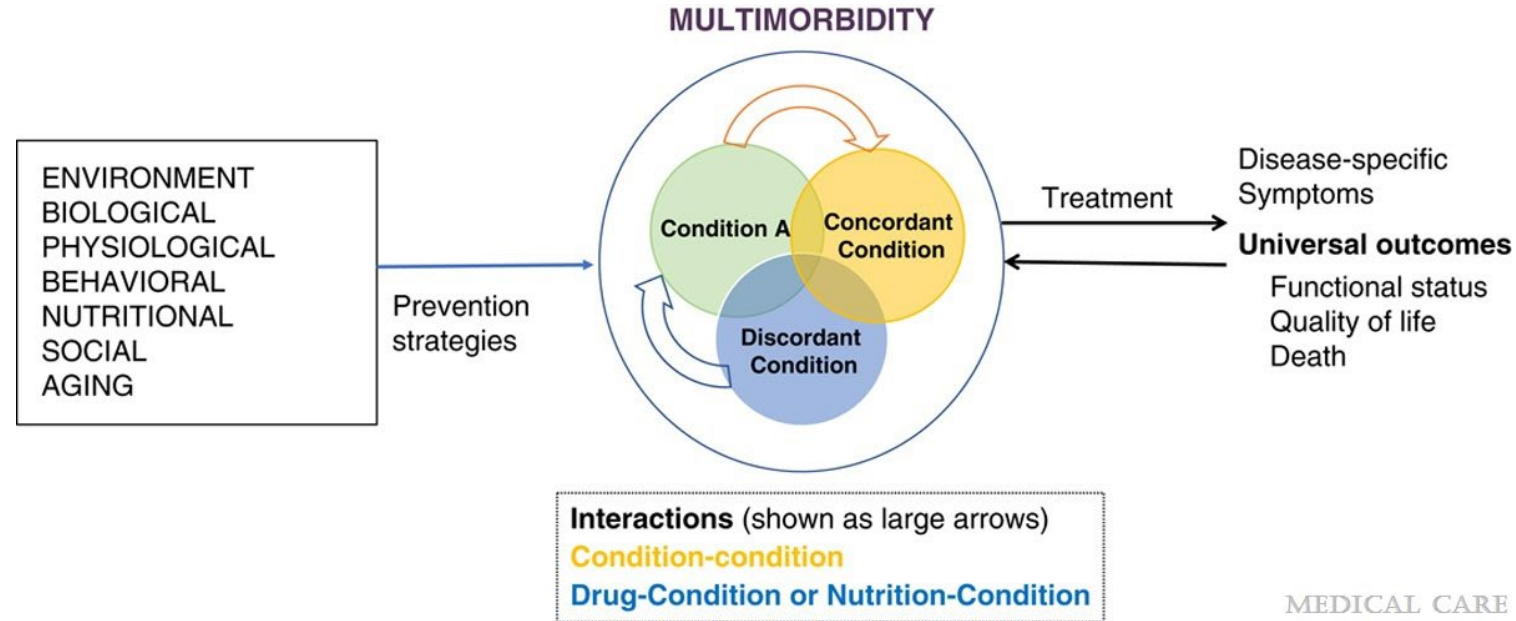


- 30% increase (2005-2014) in suicide for adolescent girls and young women
- 260% increase (1999 – 2017) in death rate from drug overdose in women
- 25% increase (2013-2018) in heart disease-related deaths in women aged 18-44

Conceptual Model of Multimorbidity (Office of Disease Prevention)



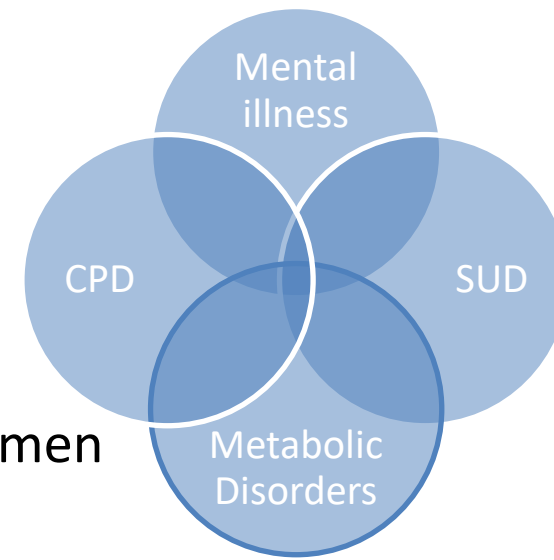
Chronic Debilitating Conditions and Multimorbidity



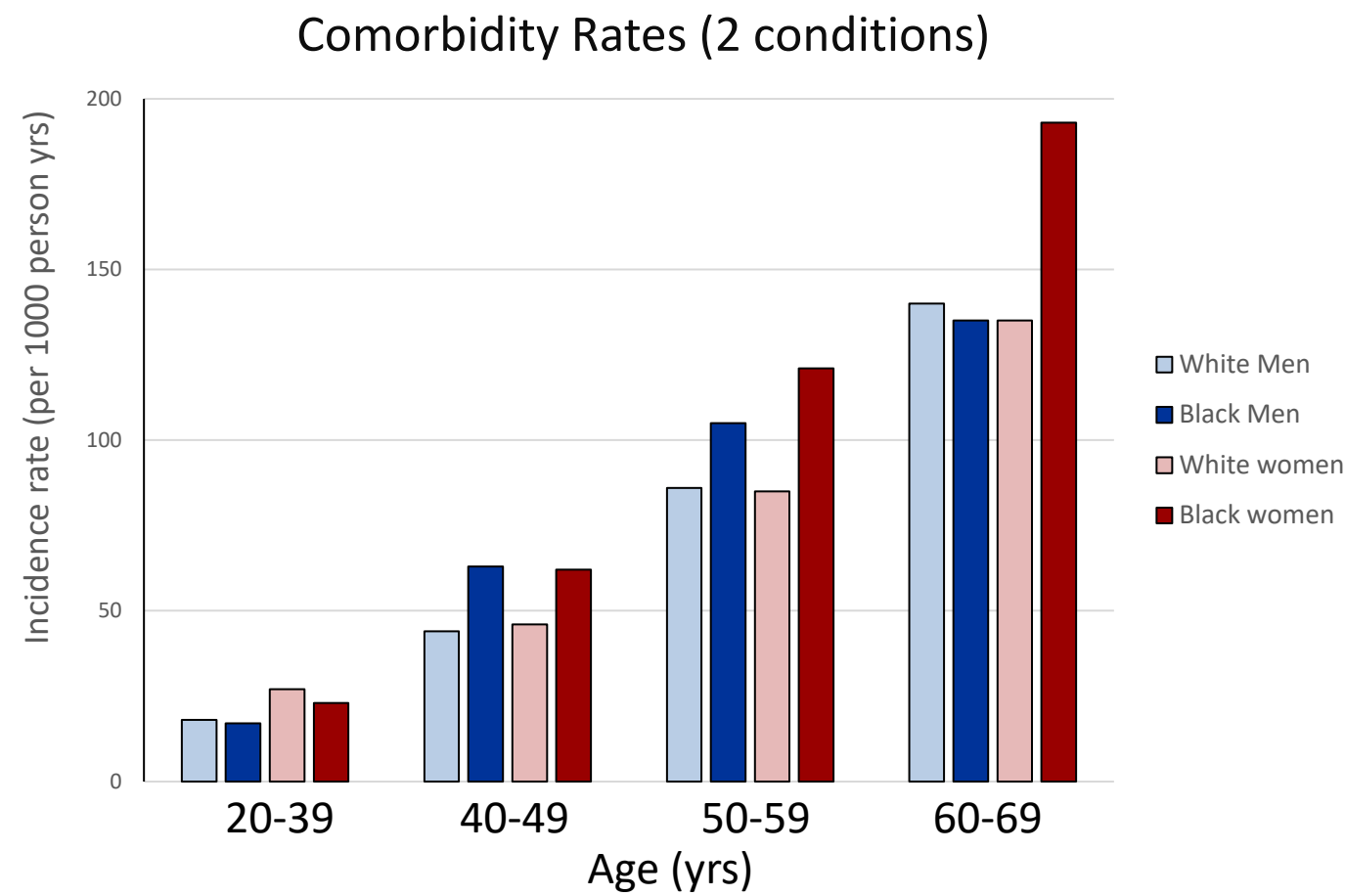
- Multimorbidity is *common* in chronic conditions
 - Comprises significant % of patients with chronic debilitating conditions
 - Can have developmental origins
 - Prevalence and severity increases across the lifespan

Multimorbidities common in women (selected findings)

- Higher comorbidity of diabetes and thyroid dysfunction with cardiovascular disease (CVD)
- Asthma-obesity comorbidity specific to girls/women
- Higher ADHD-Asthma comorbidity
- 2x the risk of comorbidity of Major Depressive Disorder and CVD
 - Women with longer history/more severe MDD show 3-fold the risk for CVD related clinical events and death
- Cardiovascular disease (CVD) comorbidity highest in women with
 - History of trauma
 - Severe mental illness
 - Chronic misuse of alcohol, cigarettes, psychostimulants
- More rapid progression of chronic alcohol-associated cardiovascular conditions (telescoping)



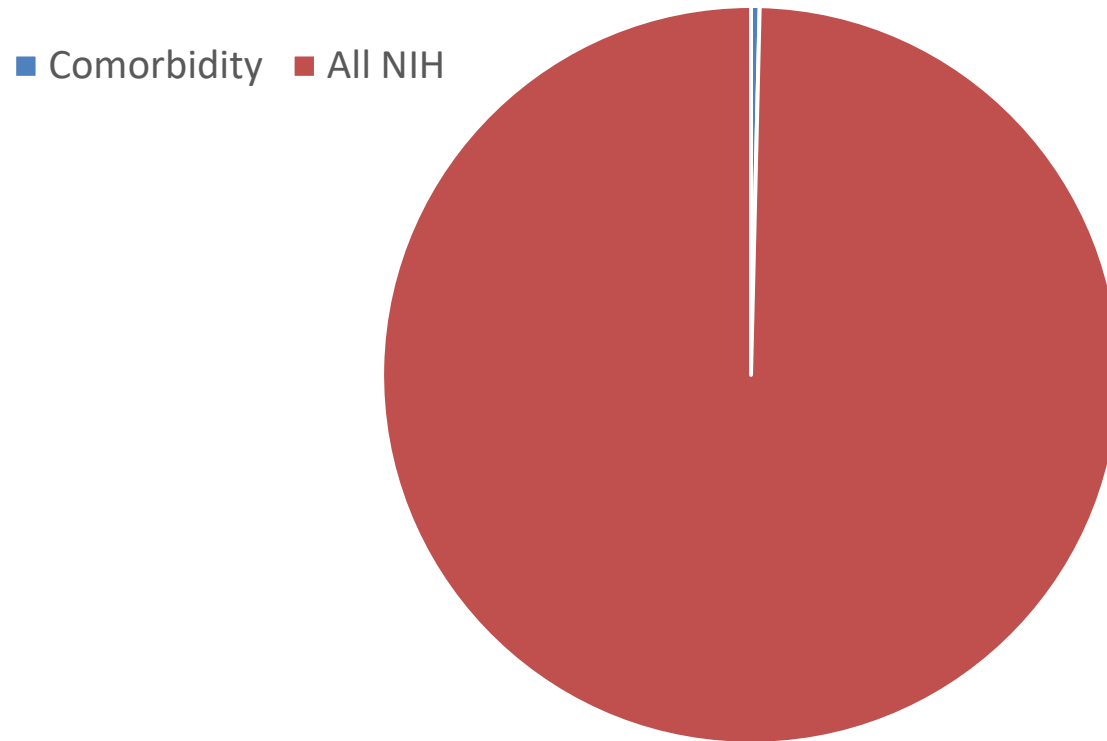
Multimorbidities disproportionately impact BIPOC Women



Multimorbidities are understudied and undertreated in BIPOC women

Source: St Sauver JL, Boyd CM, Grossardt BR, et al. *BMJ Open*. 2015.

Multimorbidity is systematically understudied

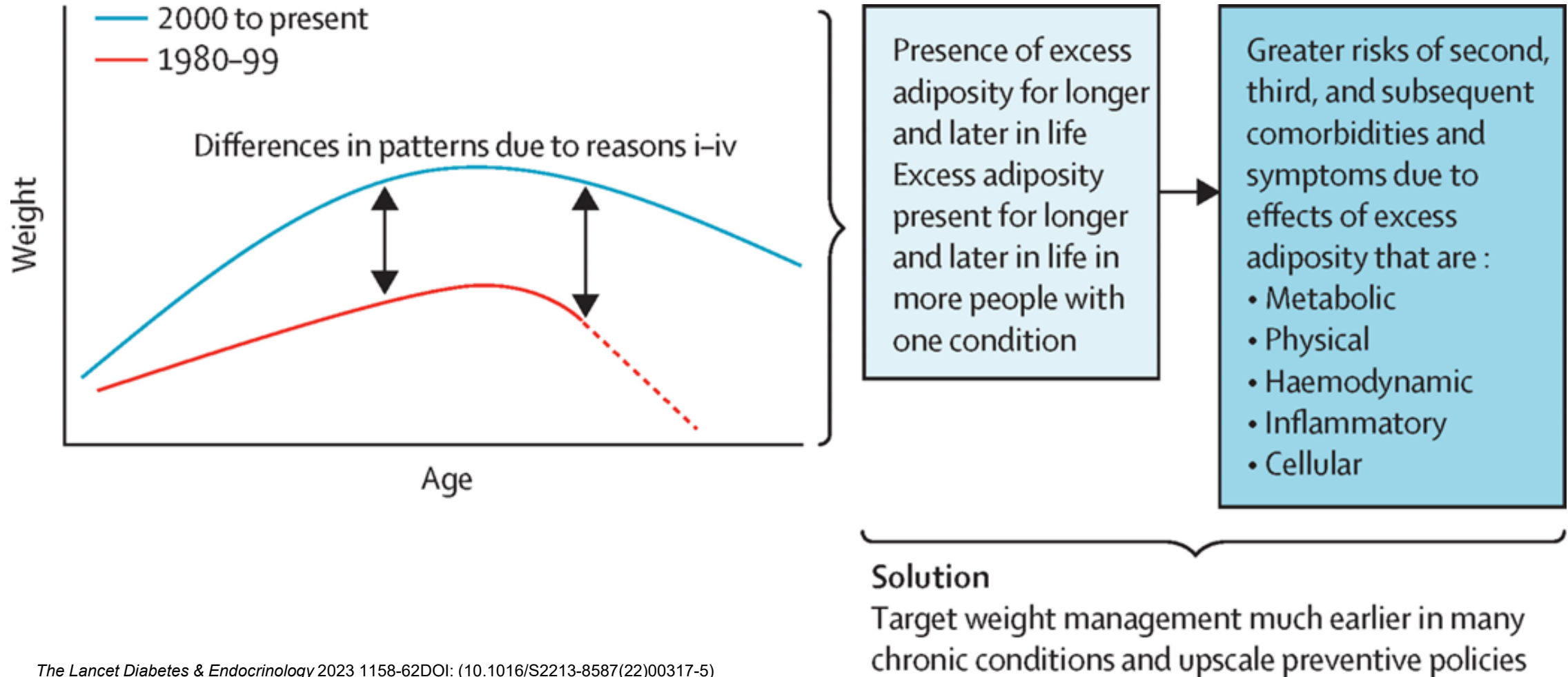




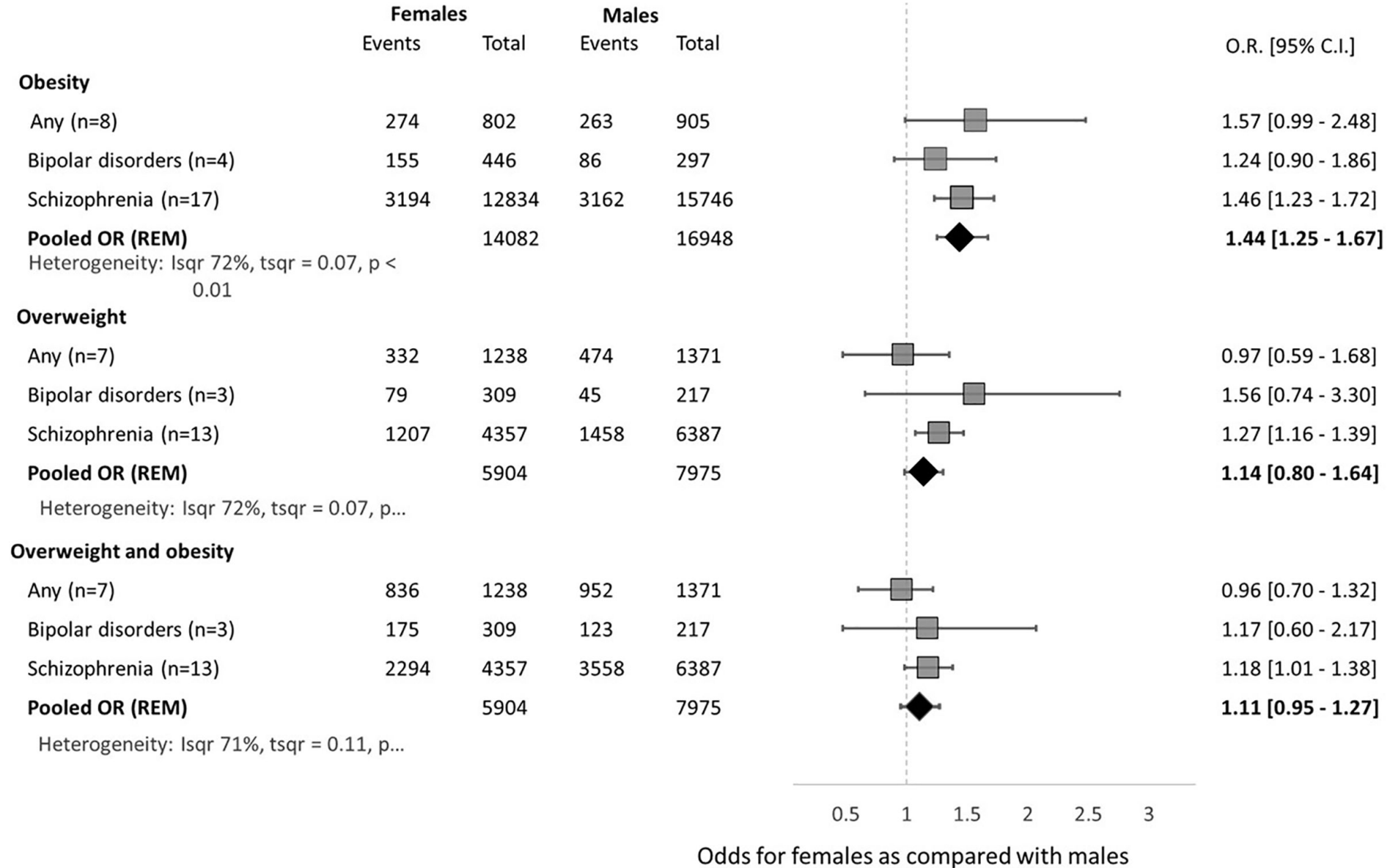
Sex and Gender Differences in Multimorbidity are Woefully Understudied



“Use case” – Comorbid metabolic disorders/obesity

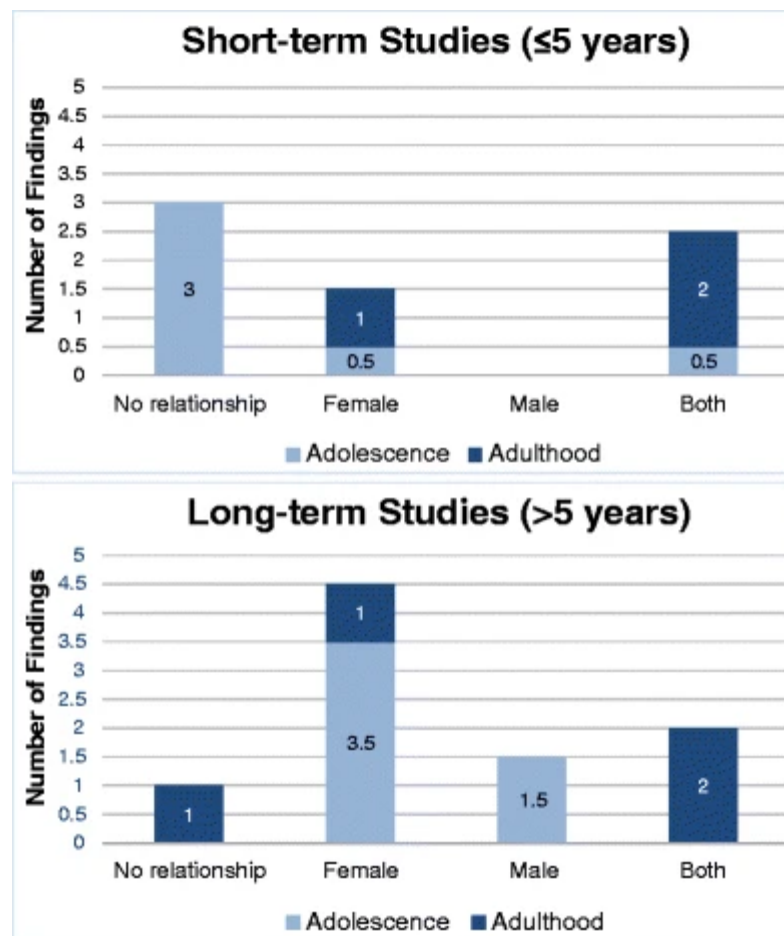


Association between sex and obesity in people with SMI

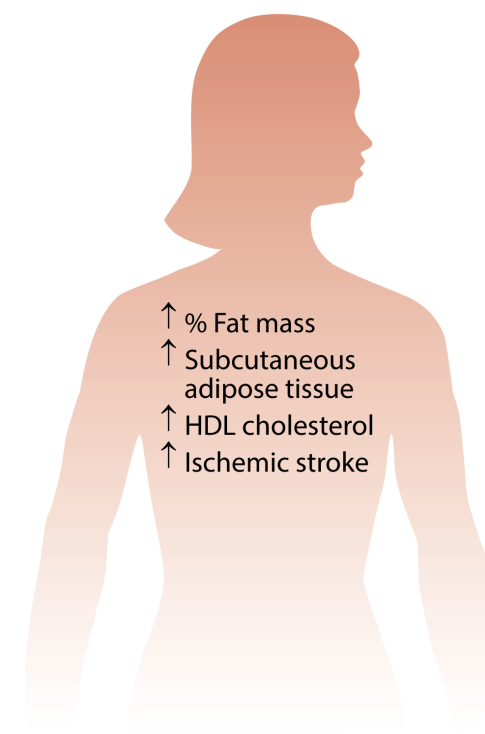
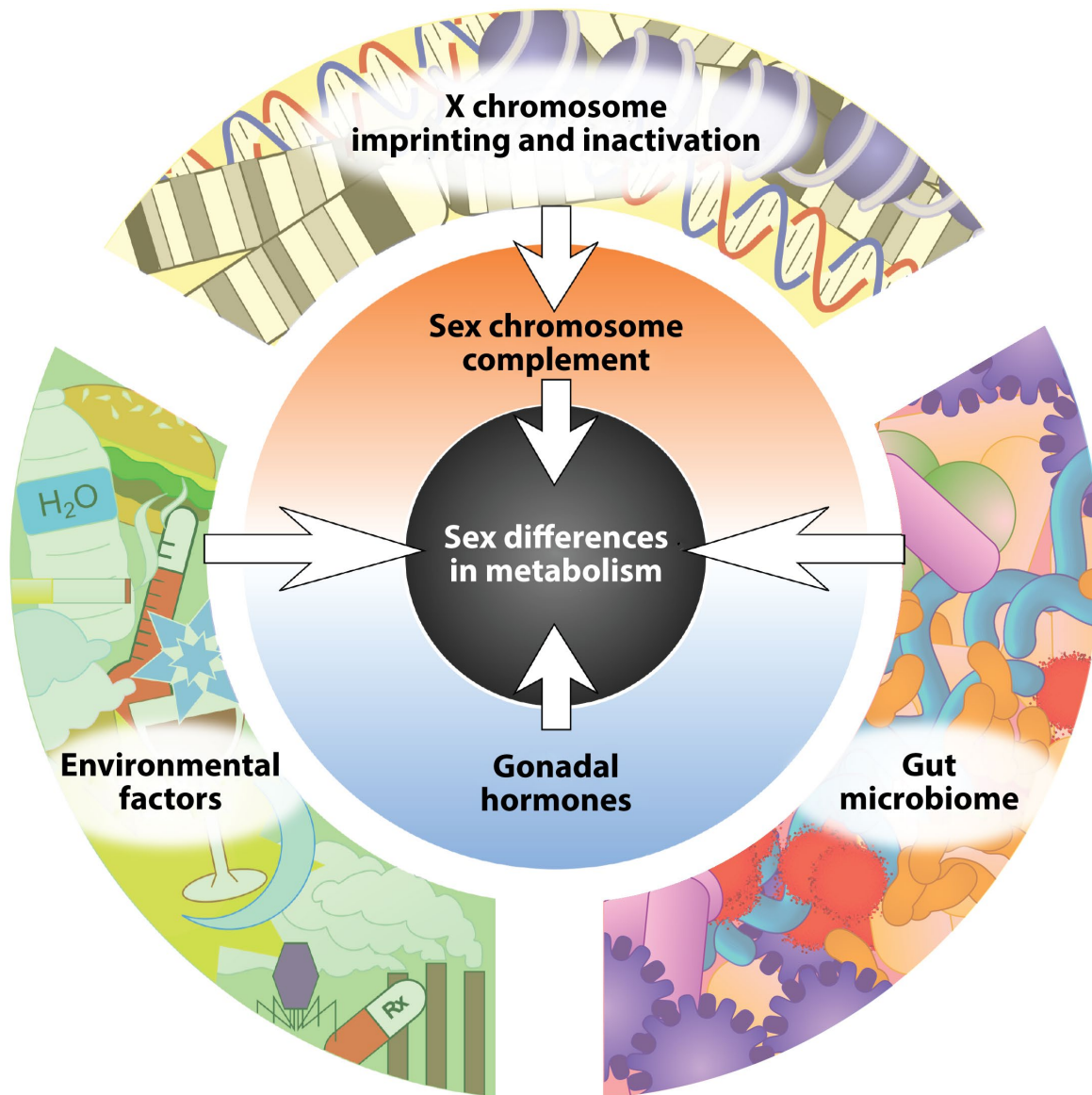


Developmental origins of sex/gender differences in complex morbidity

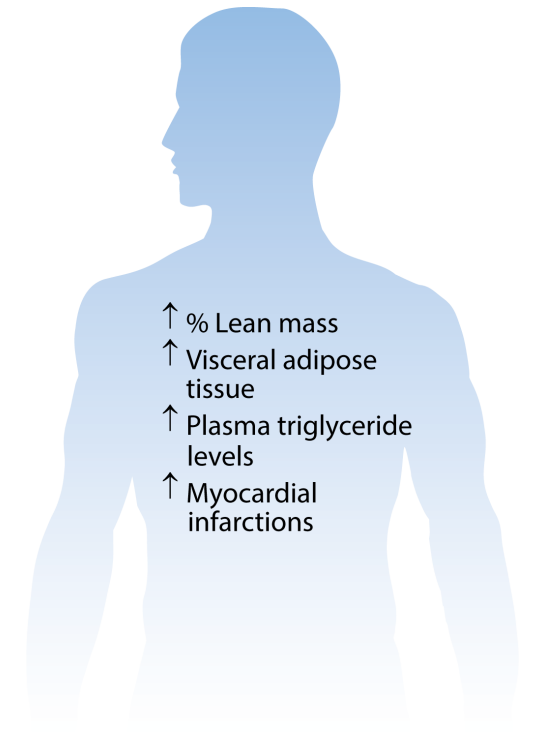
Obesity and Major Depression



Tronieri, J.S., Wurst, C.M., Pearl, R.L. et al. Sex Differences in Obesity and Mental Health. *Curr Psychiatry Rep* 19, 29 (2017). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11920-017-0784-8>

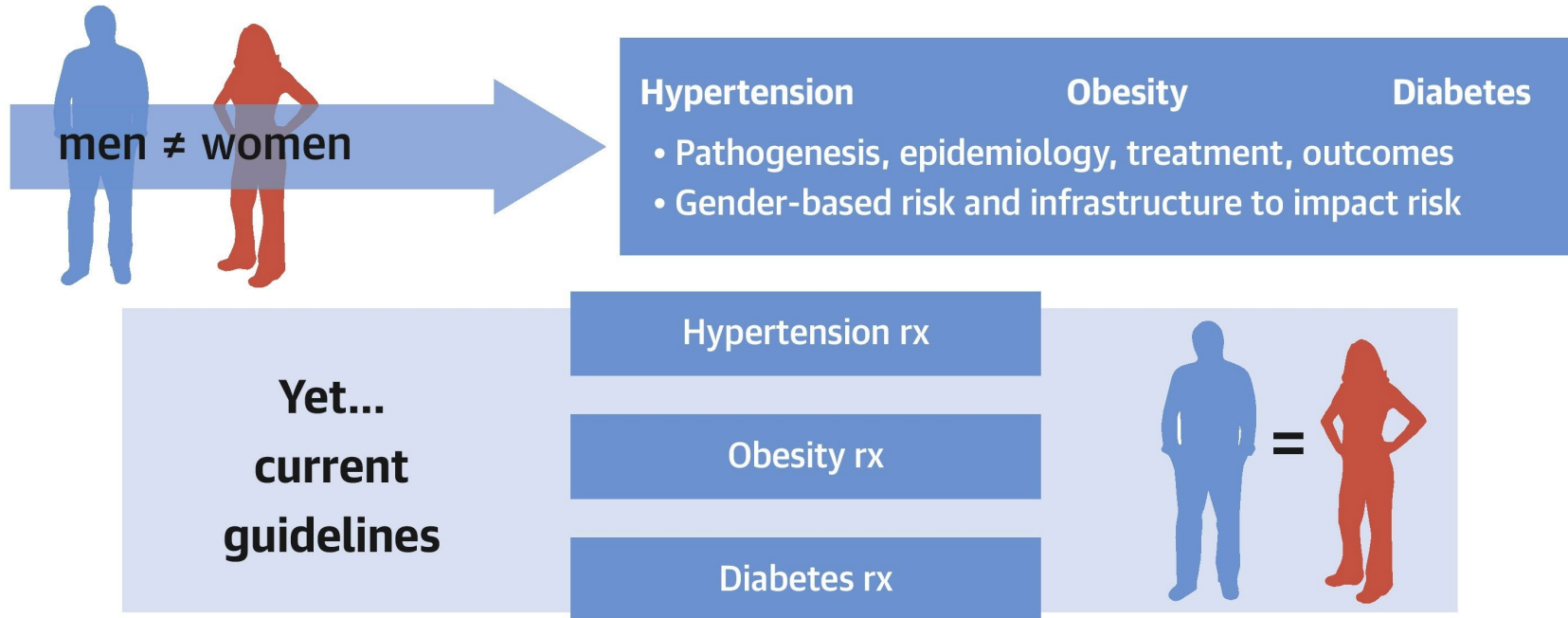


AR Link JC, Reue K. 2017.
Annu. Rev. Nutr. 37:225–45



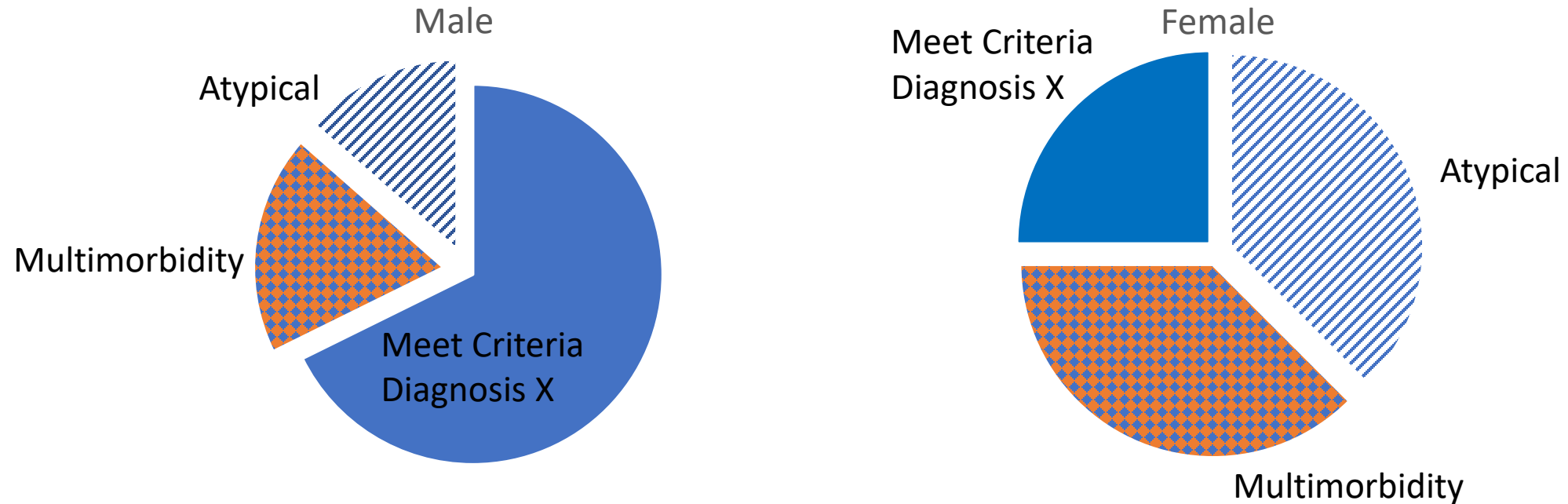
Evidence-based treatment without evidence

CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION: A Call to Action for Studying Sex Differences



Gaps in Clinical and Translational Research:

Exclusion of subjects with multi-morbidities decreases the validity and generalizability of research throughout the pipeline



Discovery is “self-limited” : New data relevant to “single-diagnosis” population that we already know the most about

Exclusion of subjects with multi-morbidities decreases the validity and generalizability of research throughout the pipeline

Telescoping of ecologic validity and pathways to treatment

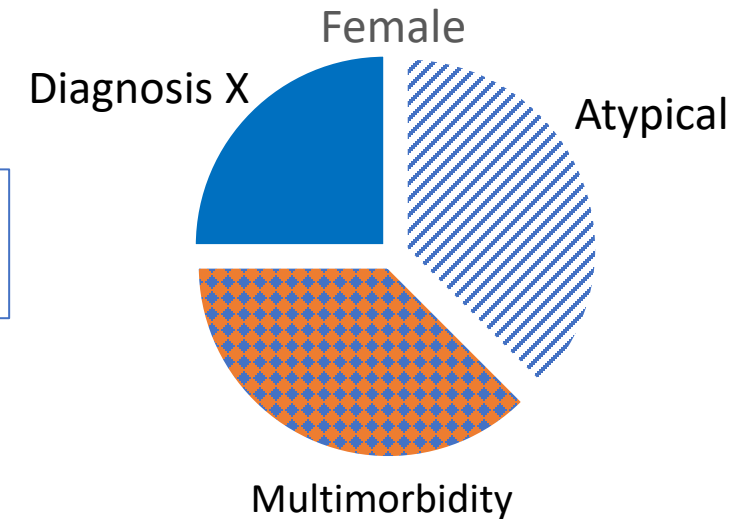
“Single-diagnosis” recruitment strategy leads to collection of data from a non-representative population



Mechanisms underlying disease as it is manifested in “real world” patients, especially women, not studied



Questions driving “translational” research, e.g. animal models, limited by findings from biased clinical research



Persistent Research Gaps

- Poor understanding of disease
- Limited/misdirected treatment development
- Limited/ineffective treatment options

Multimorbidity and Chronic Debilitating Conditions: Gaps in Research

Gaps in Study Design

- Rigorous measurement of multiple diseases and complex morbidity in epidemiological and mechanistic studies
- Longitudinal studies of disease processes and morbidity
- Inclusion of comorbidities in single-disease-focused studies
- Use of computational modeling incl. simulation to model complex morbidity

Intervention and Health Outcomes Research: *Person-centered approaches* incorporating

- biological and social context (age, sex, gender, dominant social factors)
- modeling of multimorbidity into learning healthcare systems
- integrated, continuum of care across primary care, geriatrics, disease specialties

[National Institutes of Health Advancing Multimorbidity Research](#) Salive, Marcel E.; Suls, Jerry; Farhat, Tilda; Klabunde, Carrie N., *Medical Care*59(7):622-624, July 2021. doi: 10.1097/MLR.000000000000156

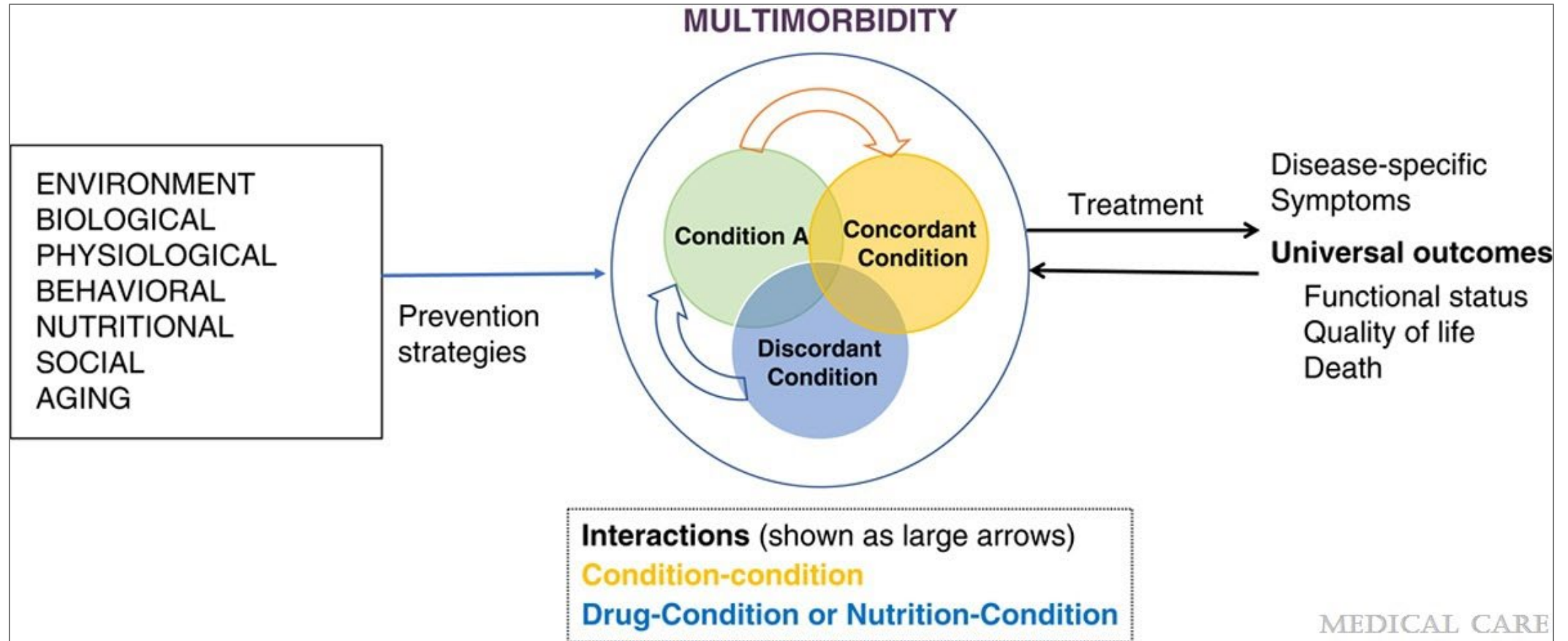
Research to Prevent or Delay Development of Multimorbidity: An Analysis of the NIH Portfolio
Tilley DL, Dwyer JT, Godette D, Salive M, Suls J, Vincent IS, Klabunde CN. Poster presented at the 2020 Society for Prevention Research Annual Meeting, Online, July 21-23, 2020.



Addressing morbidity in NIH-funded research: Research on Multimorbidity



Conceptual Model of Multimorbidity (Office of Disease Prevention)



ODP Initiatives

- [PAR-20-179](#): Advancing Research To Develop Improved Measures and Methods for Understanding Multimorbidity (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

- [PAR-20-180](#): Identifying Innovative Mechanisms or Interventions That Target Multimorbidity and its Consequences (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

(last submission date Jan 2024)

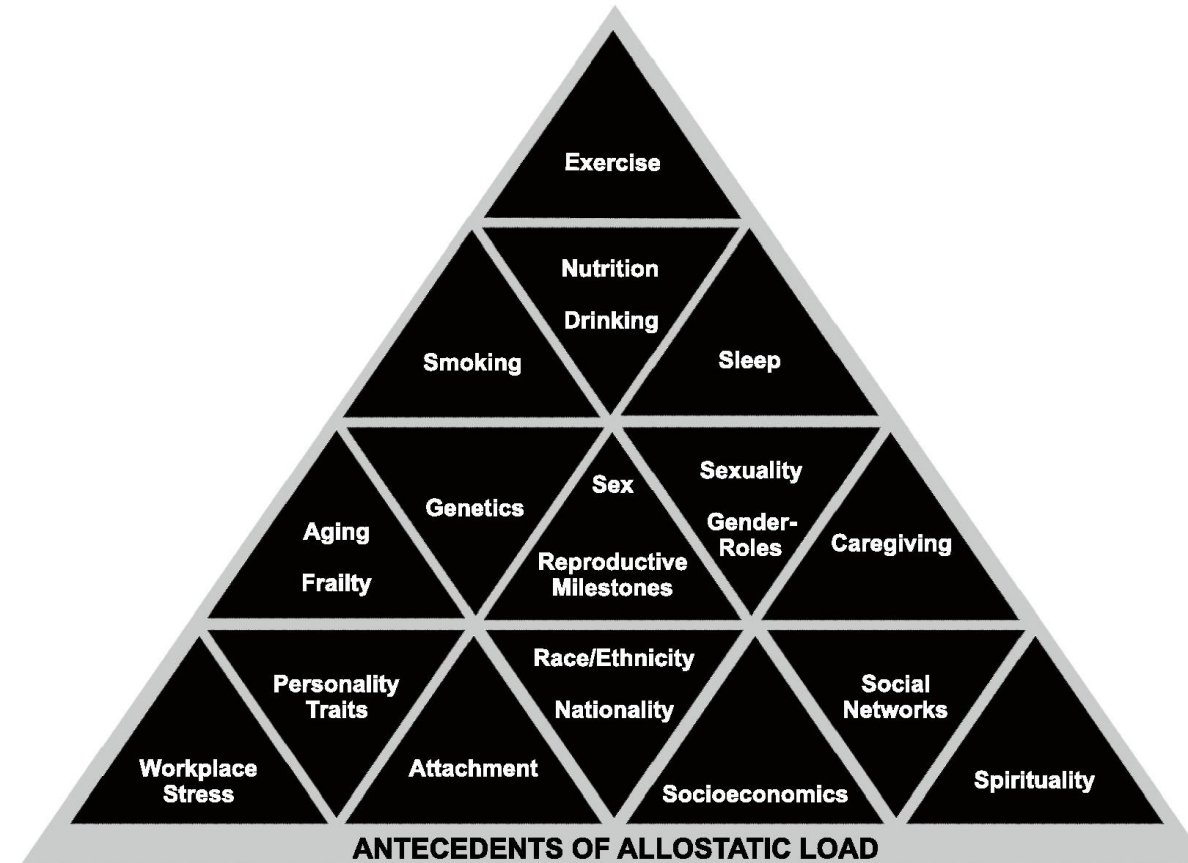
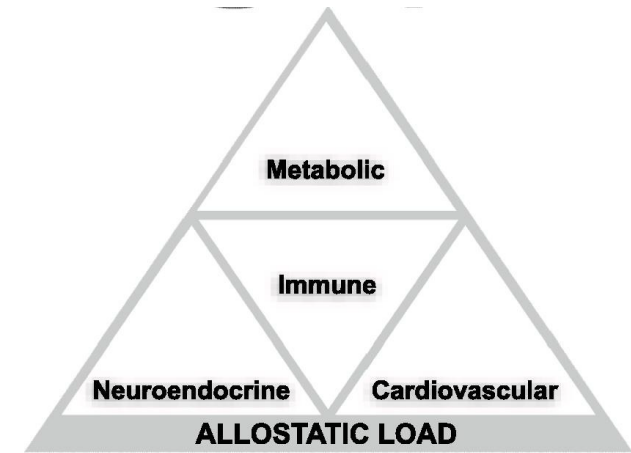


Addressing morbidity in NIH-funded research: Translational and Clinical Research



Translational research: Studying “morbidity” as deviations along *integrated systems function*

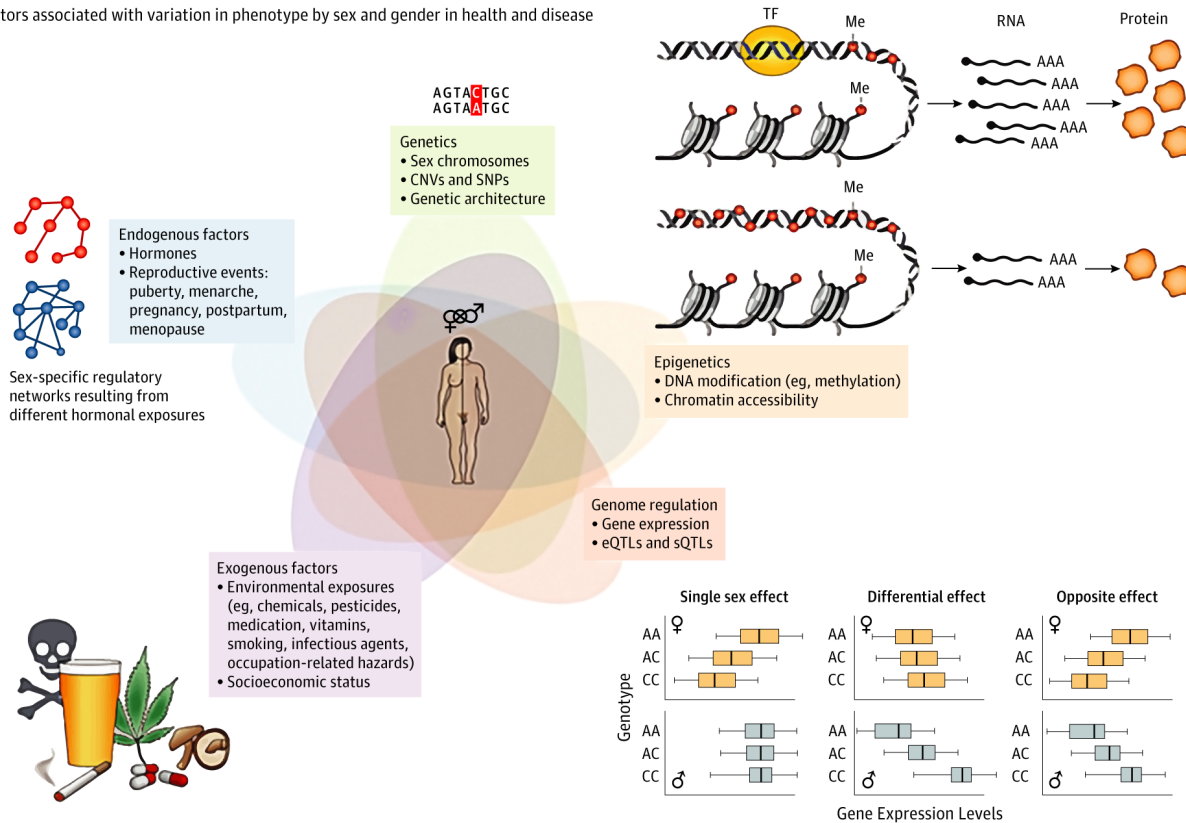
- Dimensions/Domains of function rather than the concept of diseases as discrete entities.
- Understanding how functional deviations in one system impact other systems



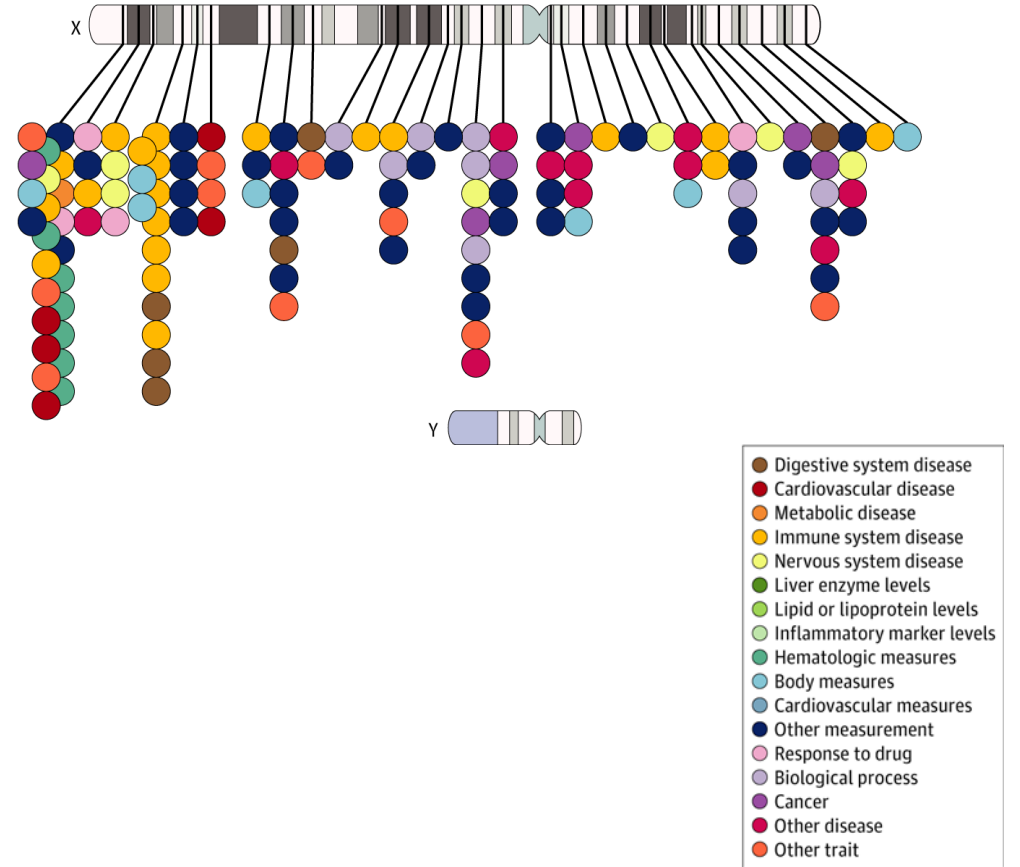
From: Clinical Advances in Sex- and Gender-Informed Medicine to Improve the Health of All: A Review

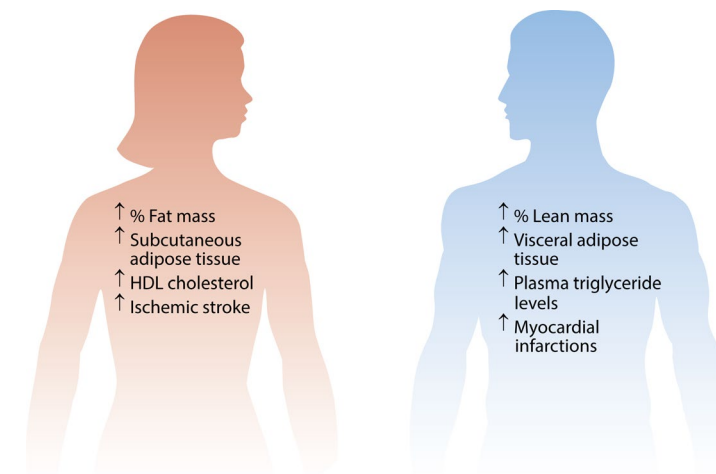
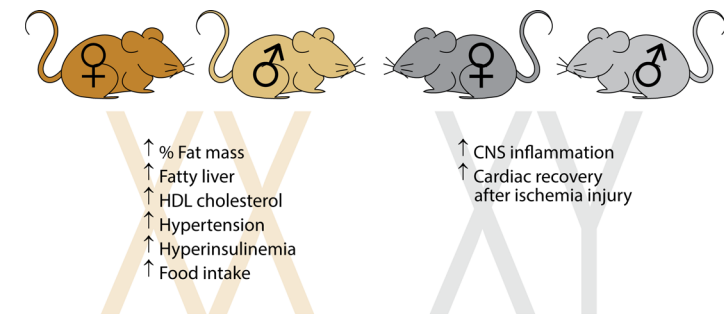
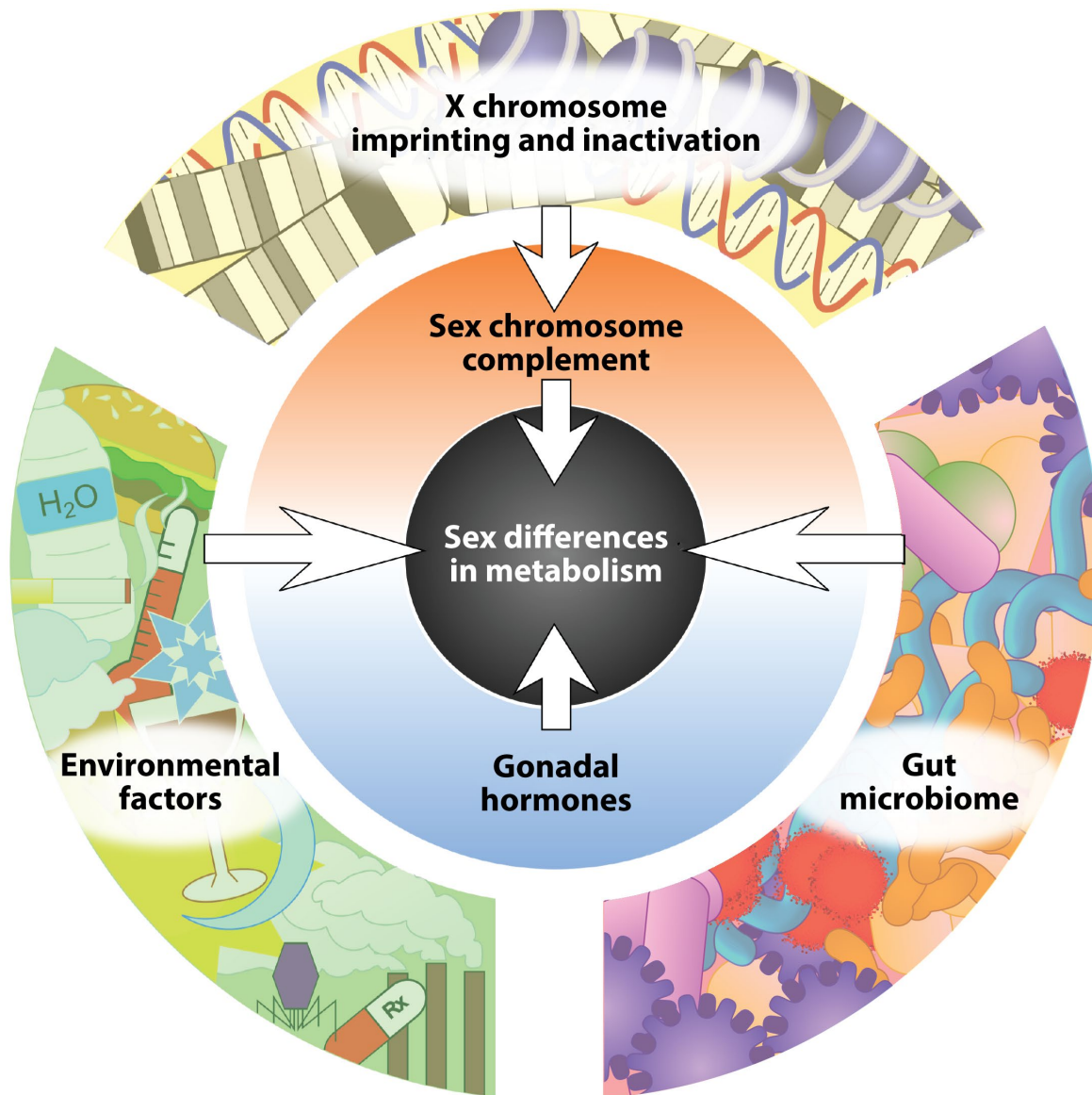
JAMA Intern Med. 2020;180(4):574-583. doi:10.1001/jamainternmed.2019

A Factors associated with variation in phenotype by sex and gender in health and disease

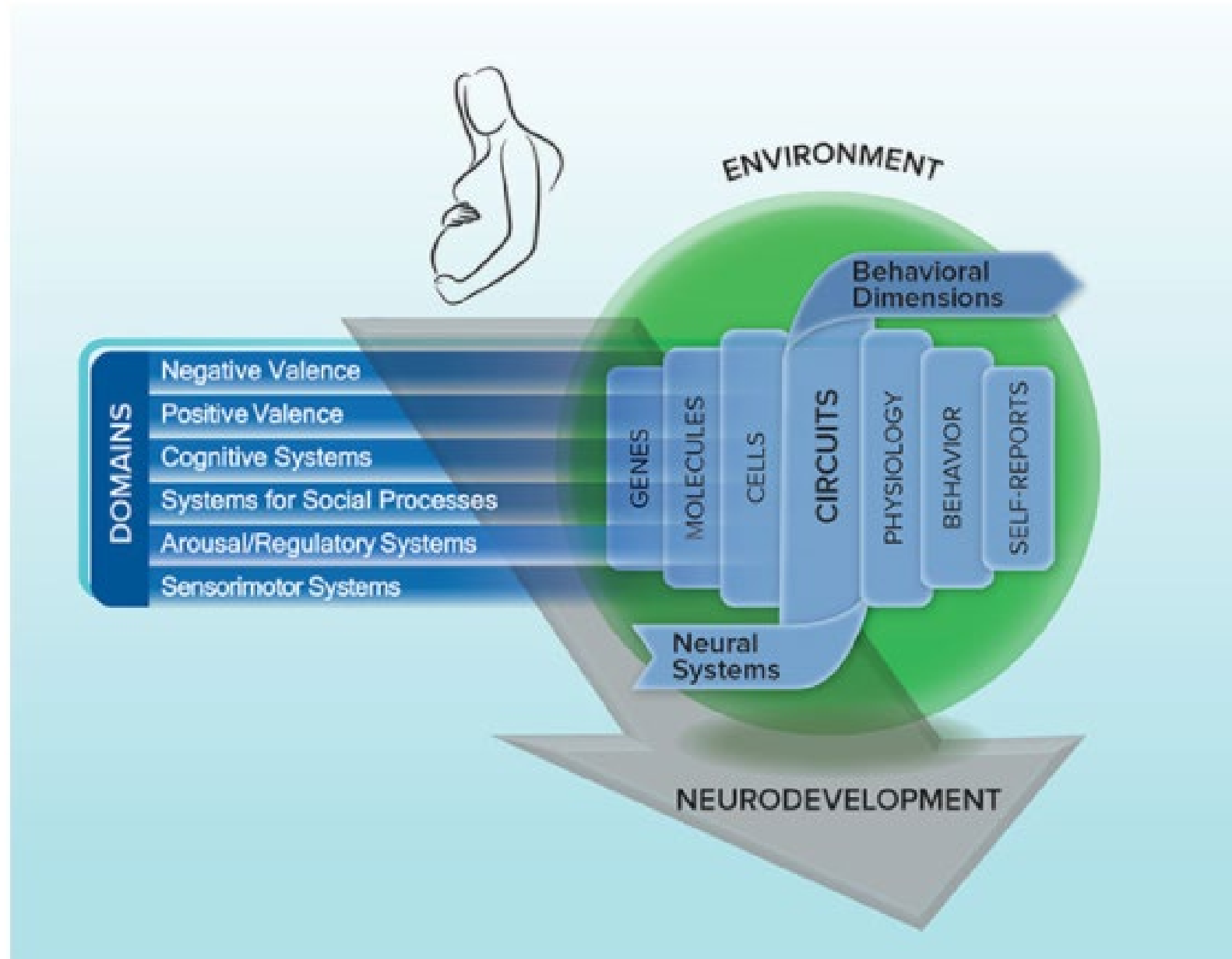


B Catalogue schematic of autosomal-like loci located on the X chromosome, color coded by phenotype

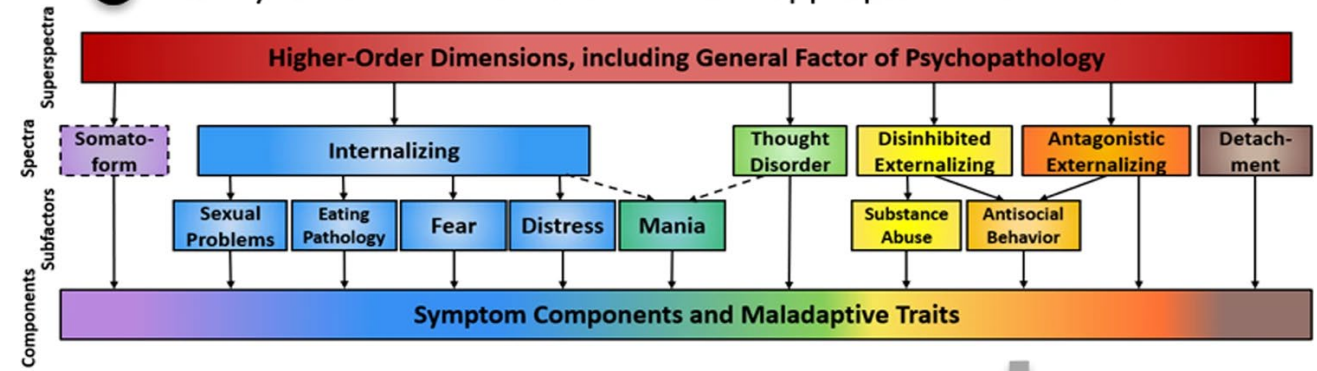




NIMH Research Domain Criteria (RDoC)



1 Identify relevant HiTOP constructs and appropriate measures.



2 Assess in representative population, potentially oversampling from range of maximal clinical relevance.



Dimension of Interest

High Risk

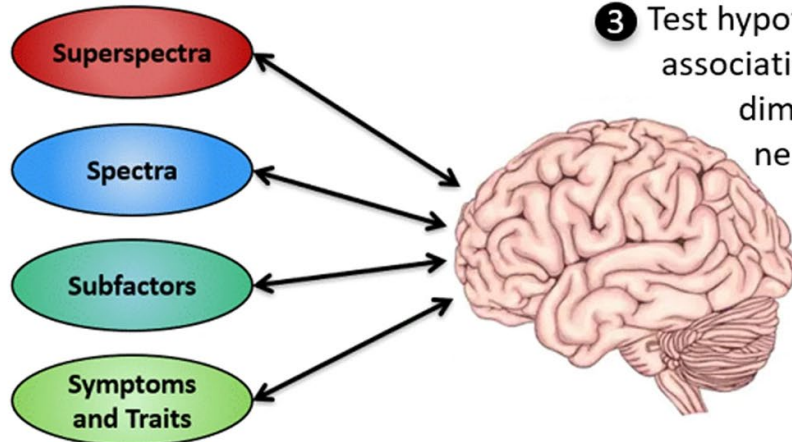
2 Assess in representative population, potentially oversampling from range of maximal clinical relevance.



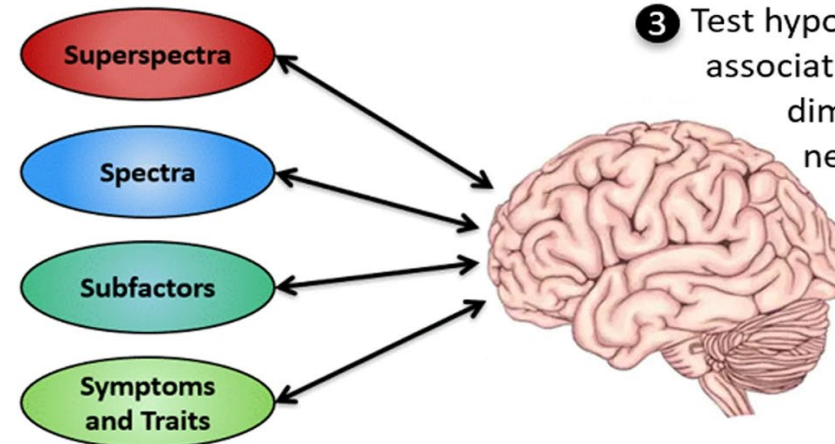
Dimension of Interest

High Risk

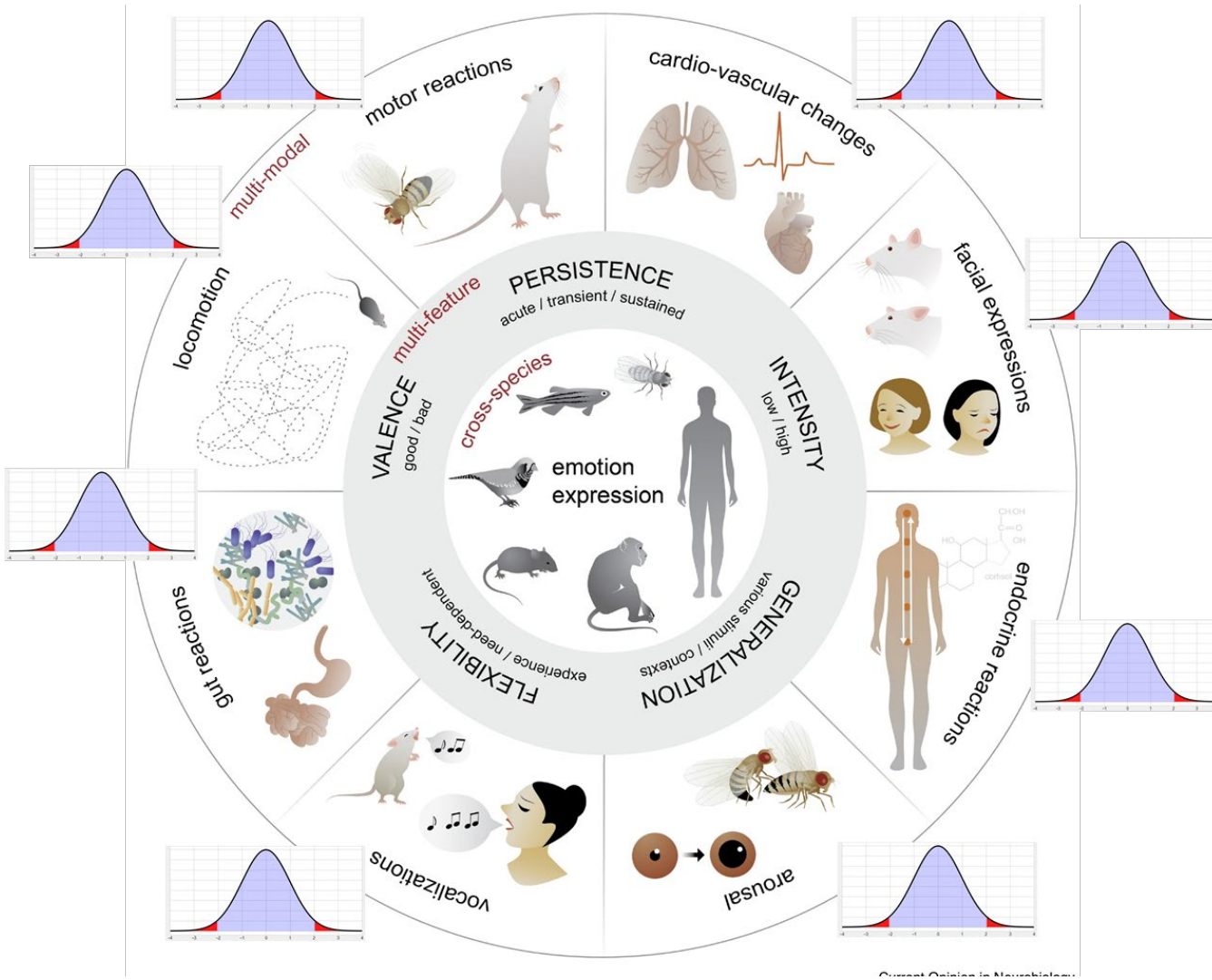
3 Test hypotheses associations of dimension neurobio vari



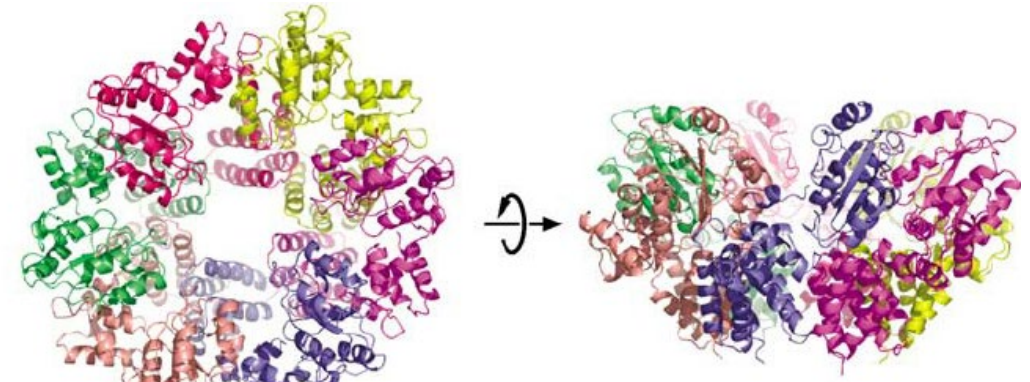
3 Test hypotheses about associations of HiTOP dimensions with neurobiological variables.



Computational Approaches to Understand Neuropsychopathology

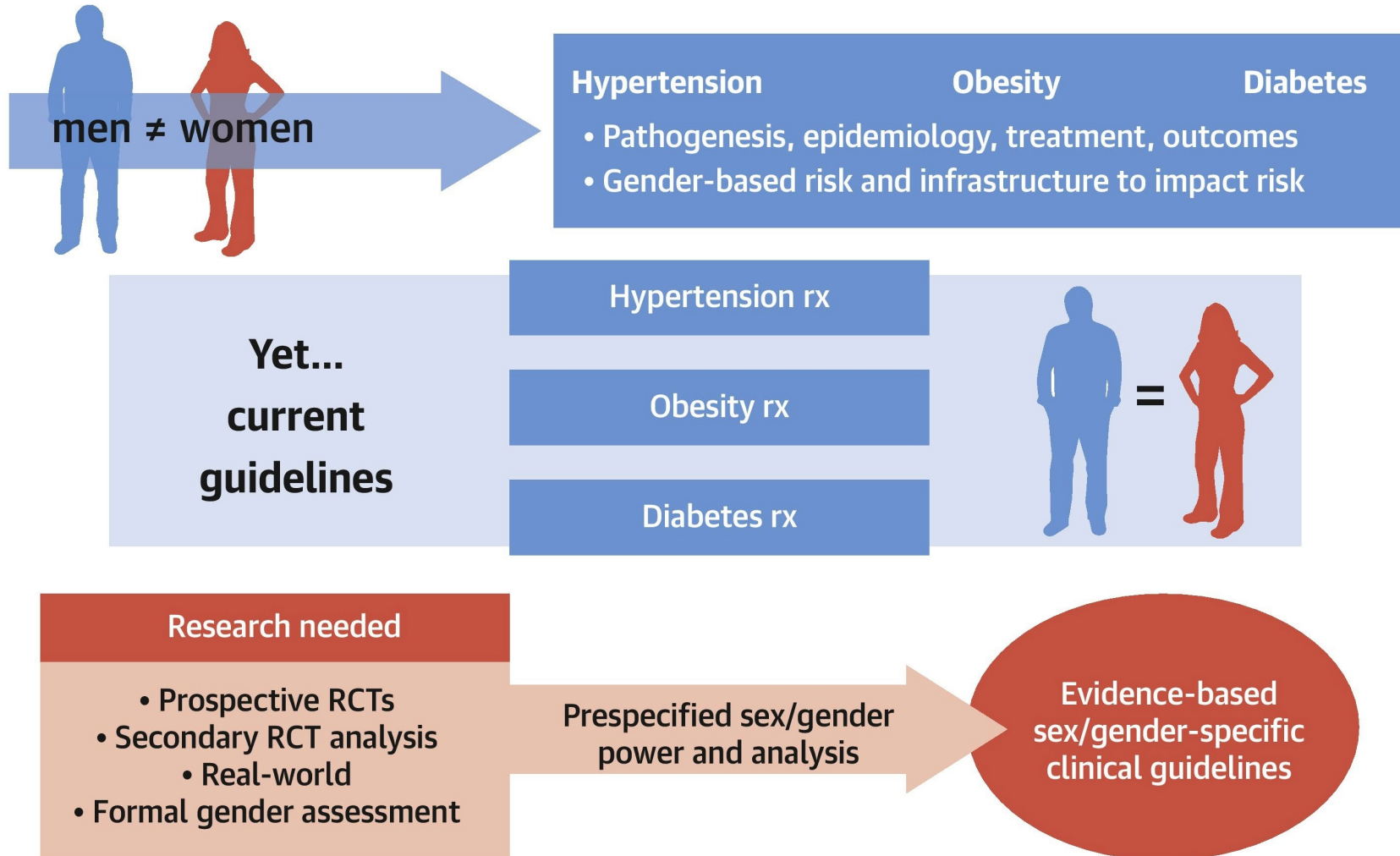


Dynamic



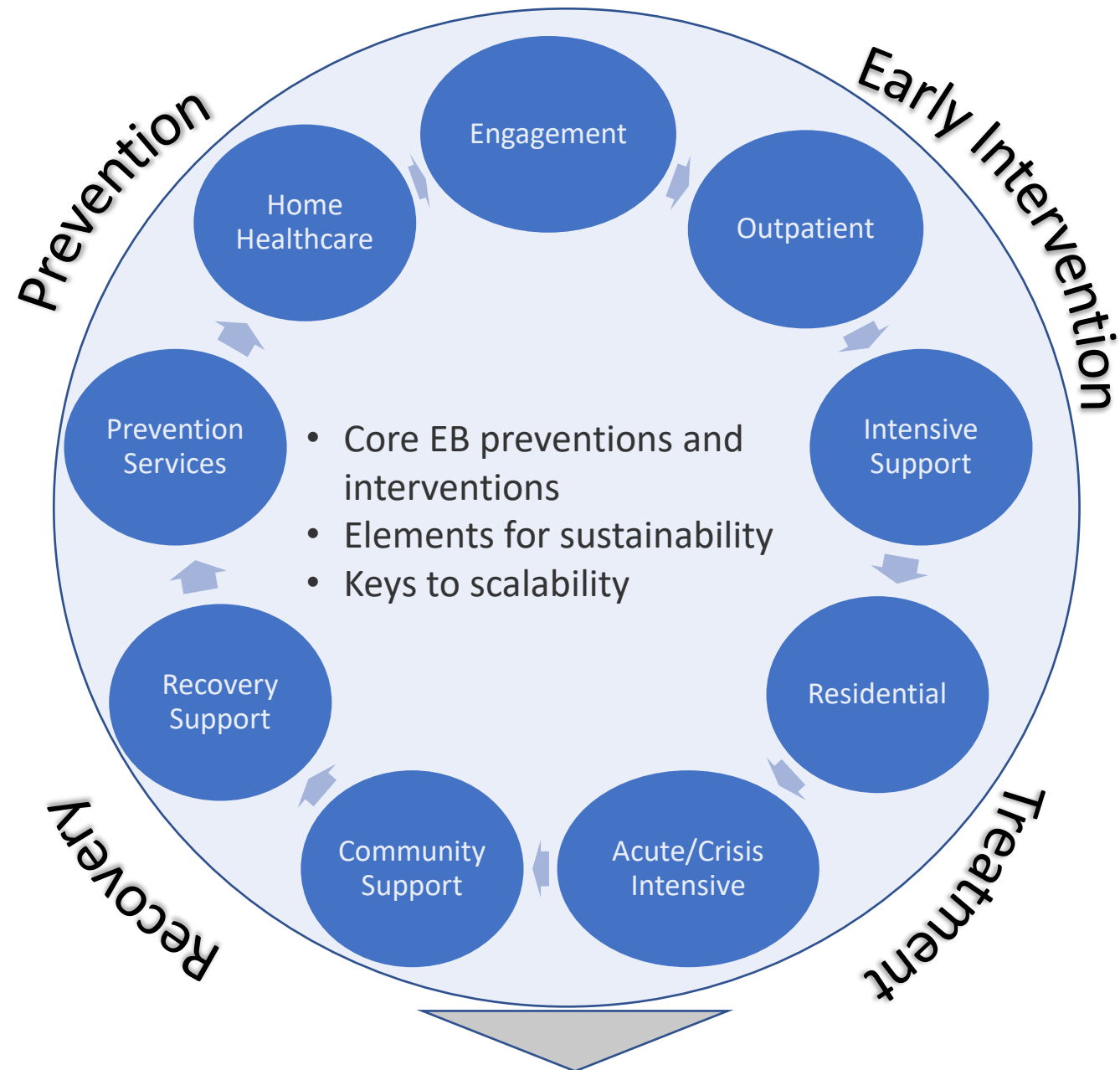
Evidence-based treatment without evidence

CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION: A Call to Action for Studying Sex Differences



Regensteiner JG, et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2022;79(15):1492-1505.

Addressing morbidity in NIH-funded research: Implementation Research



State and Local Health Agencies

Multidisciplinary teams Multidimensional data Multi-level Research

Clinical Research

Clinicians/Health Records

Epidemiology

Cognitive and Data Sciences

Computational Sciences

Cognitive and System Neuroscience

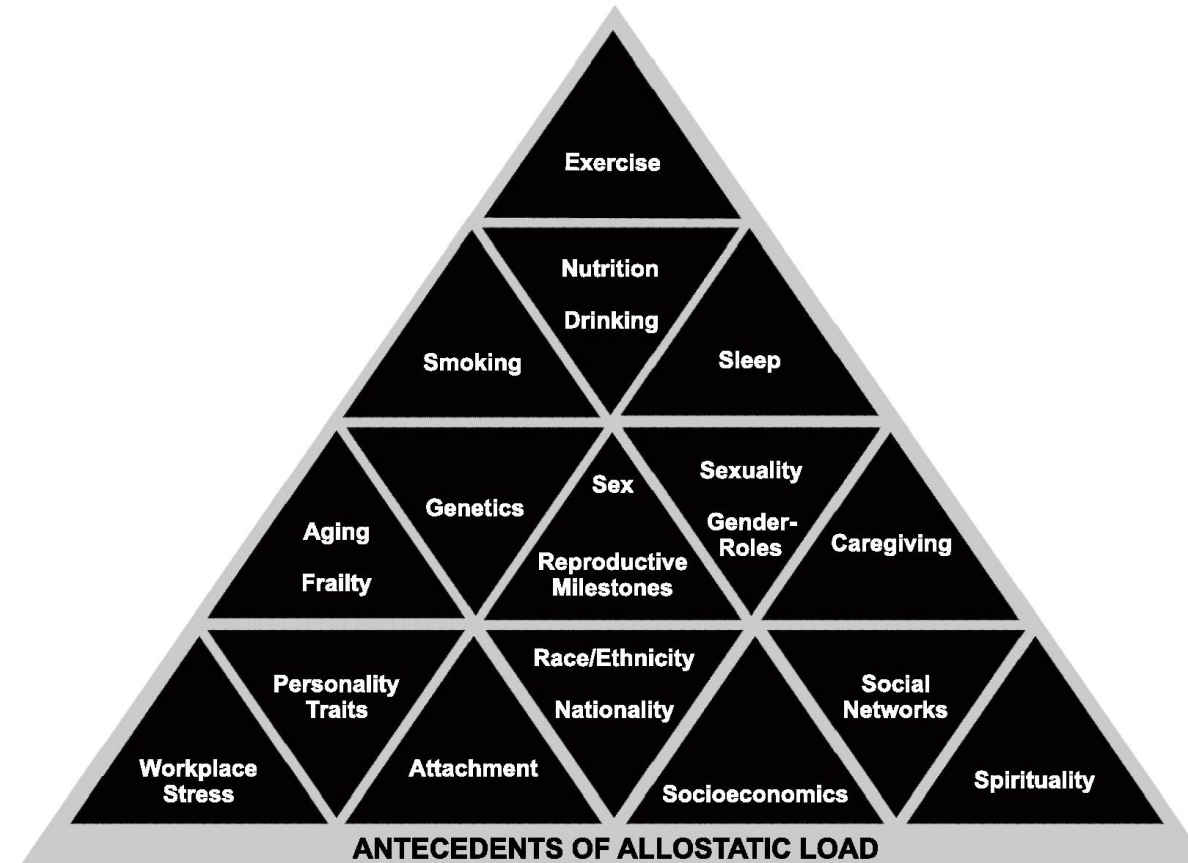
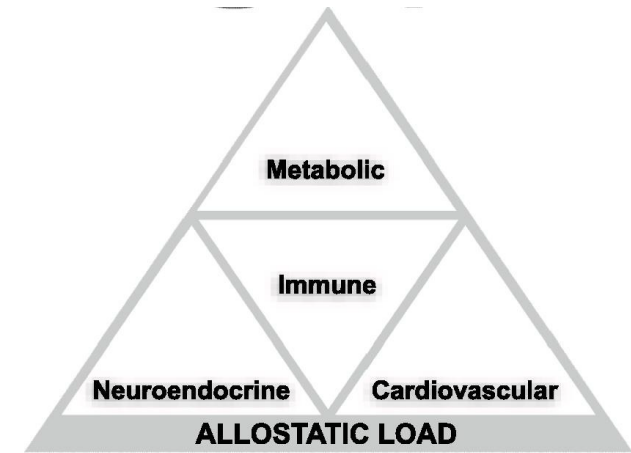
Engineering / Gadget people

Ethologists and Evolutionary Biologists

Patient advocates/stakeholders

Translational research: Studying “morbidity” as deviations along *integrated systems function*

- Dimensions/Domains of function rather than the concept of diseases as discrete entities.
- Understanding how functional deviations in one system impact other systems



Prevalence of obesity in people with SMI

Type of SMI

Any (n=27)
Bipolar disorders (n=22)
Schizophrenia (n=71)
Heterogeneity: Isqr 97%, tsqr = 0.59, p < 0.01

Setting

Inpatient (n=30)
Outpatient (n=60)
In and outpatient (n=24)
Community (n=6)
Heterogeneity: Isqr 98%, tsqr = 0.55, p < 0.01

Antipsychotic medication

Yes (n=107)
No (n=7)
Not reported (n=6)
Heterogeneity: Isqr 97%, tsqr = 0.54, p < 0.01

World Bank country classification

High income countries (n=95)
Low and middle income countries (n=25)
Heterogeneity: Isqr 97%, tsqr = 0.50, p < 0.01

World Bank Region

Africa (n=3)
East Asia and Pacific (n=32)
Europe and Central Asia (n=44)
Latin America and Caribbean (n=6)
Middle East and North Africa (n=2)
North America (n=28)
South Asia (n=5)
Heterogeneity: Isqr 98%, tsqr = 0.44, p < 0.01

Year of data collection

2005 and Older (n=11)
2006-2010 (n=31)
2011-2015 (n=49)
2016-Date (n=29)
Heterogeneity: Isqr 98%, tsqr = 0.75, p < 0.01

Overall (n=120)

Pooled frequency (REM)

Heterogeneity: I2 88%, t2 = 0.26, p < 0.01

Prevalence 95% CI

25.4% [20.1 - 31.7%]

27.5% [22.6 - 33.1%]

25.5% [22.2 - 29.3%]

25.9% [21.1 - 31.5%]

25.9% [22.4 - 30.1%]

23.8% [18.6 - 29.9%]

32.8% [25.2 - 41.8%]

25.8% [23.1 - 28.8%]

33.7% [24.8 - 43.8%]

18.8% [13.1 - 28.7%]

27.1% [24.1 - 29.9%]

22.4% [17.2 - 27.3%]

13.4% [6.7 - 25.1%]

22.1% [17.9 - 27.1%]

27.5% [22.9 - 32.6%]

31.7% [29.2 - 34.6%]

35.8% [23.8 - 44.8%]

30.0% [25.4 - 35.1%]

17.7% [10.5 - 28.5%]

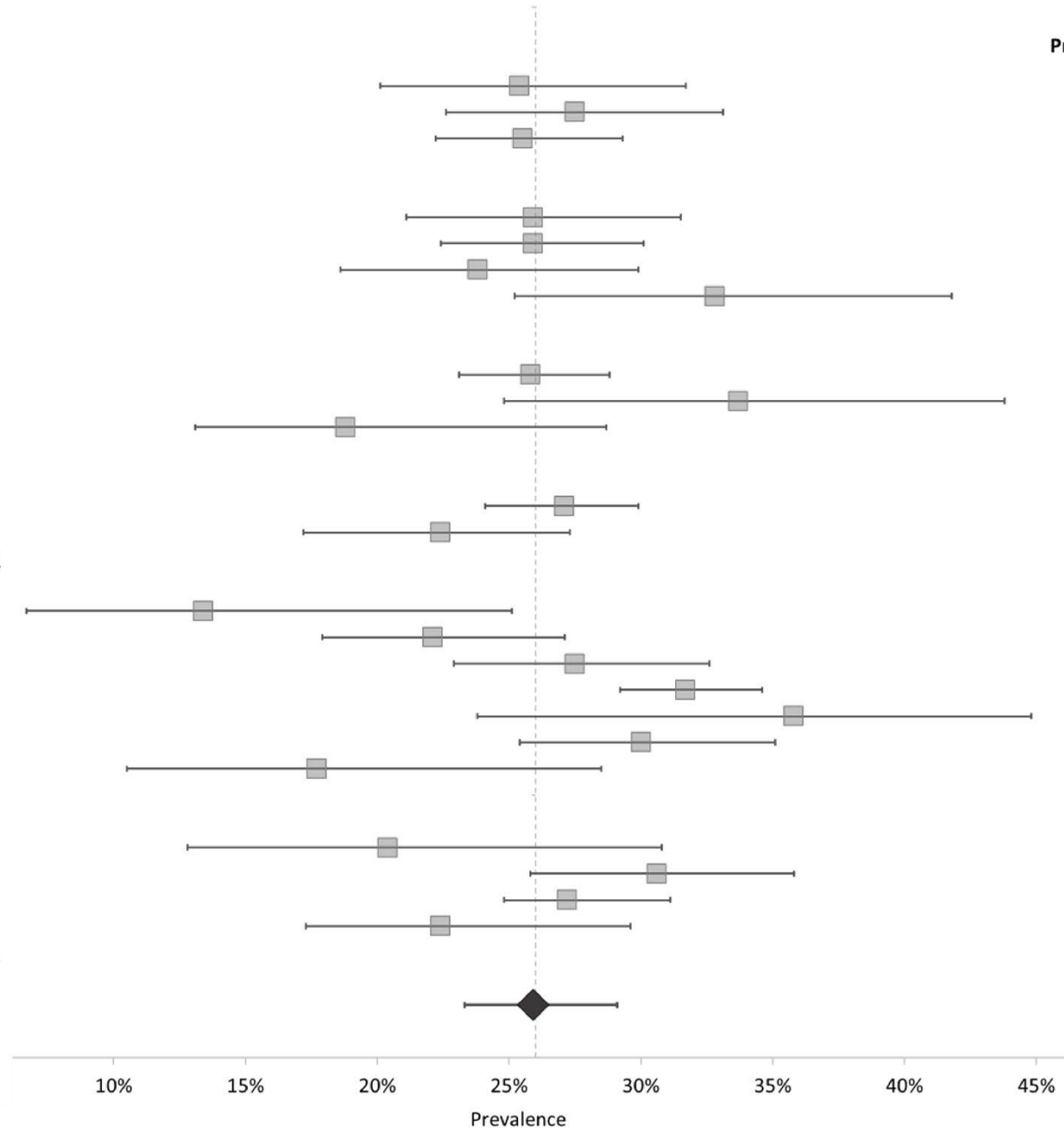
20.4% [12.8 - 30.8%]

30.6% [25.8 - 35.8%]

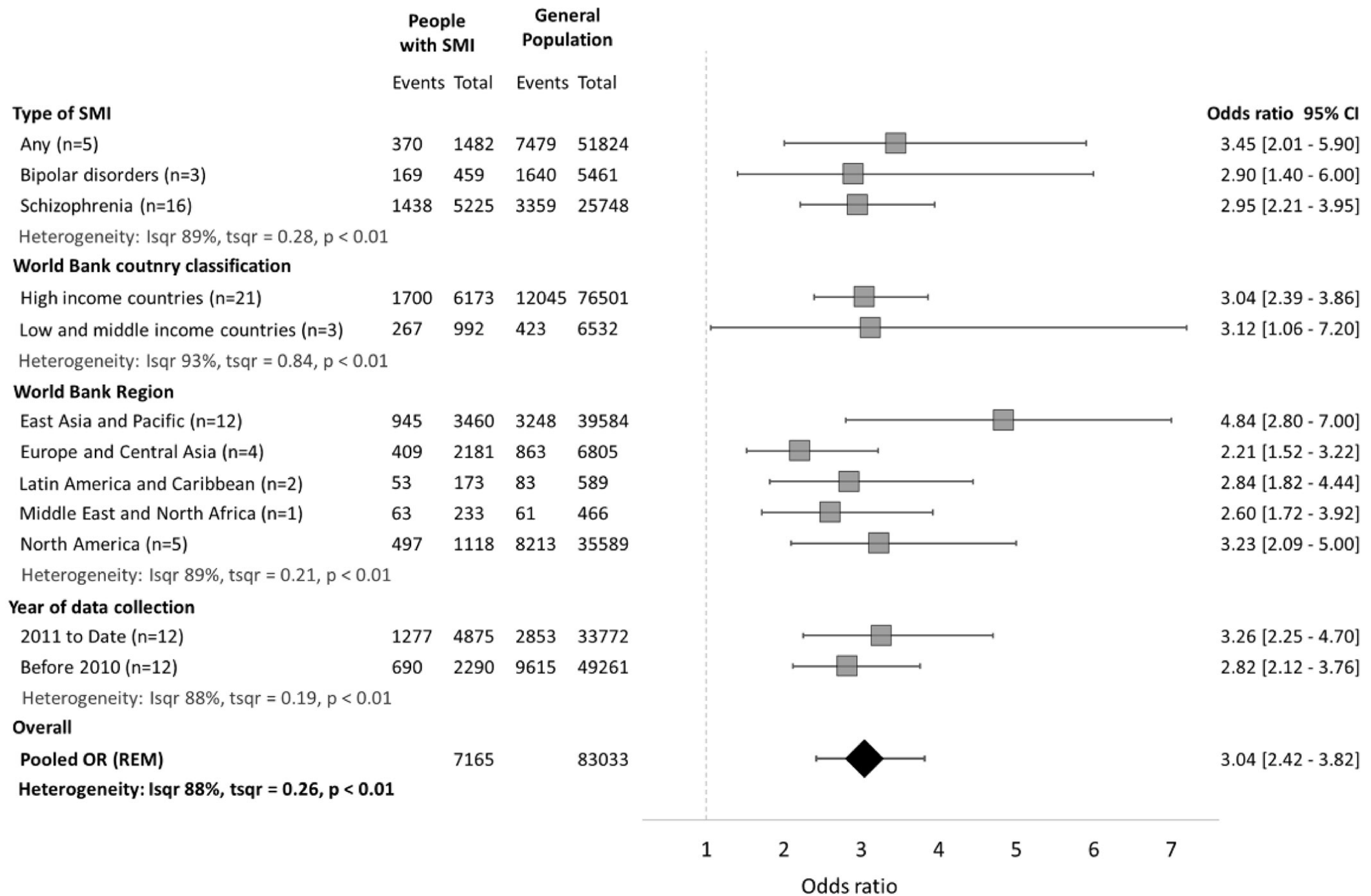
27.2% [24.8 - 31.1%]

22.4% [17.3 - 29.6%]

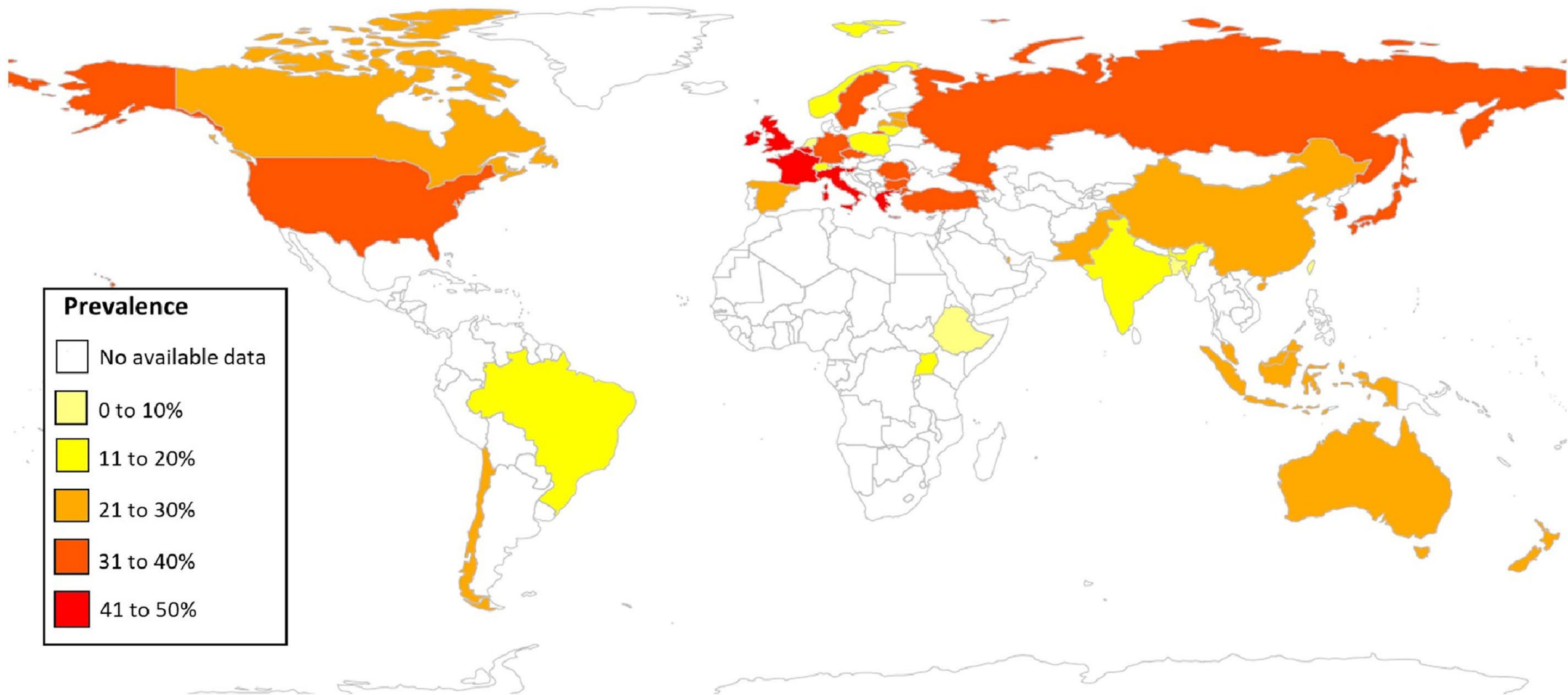
25.9% [23.3 - 29.1%]



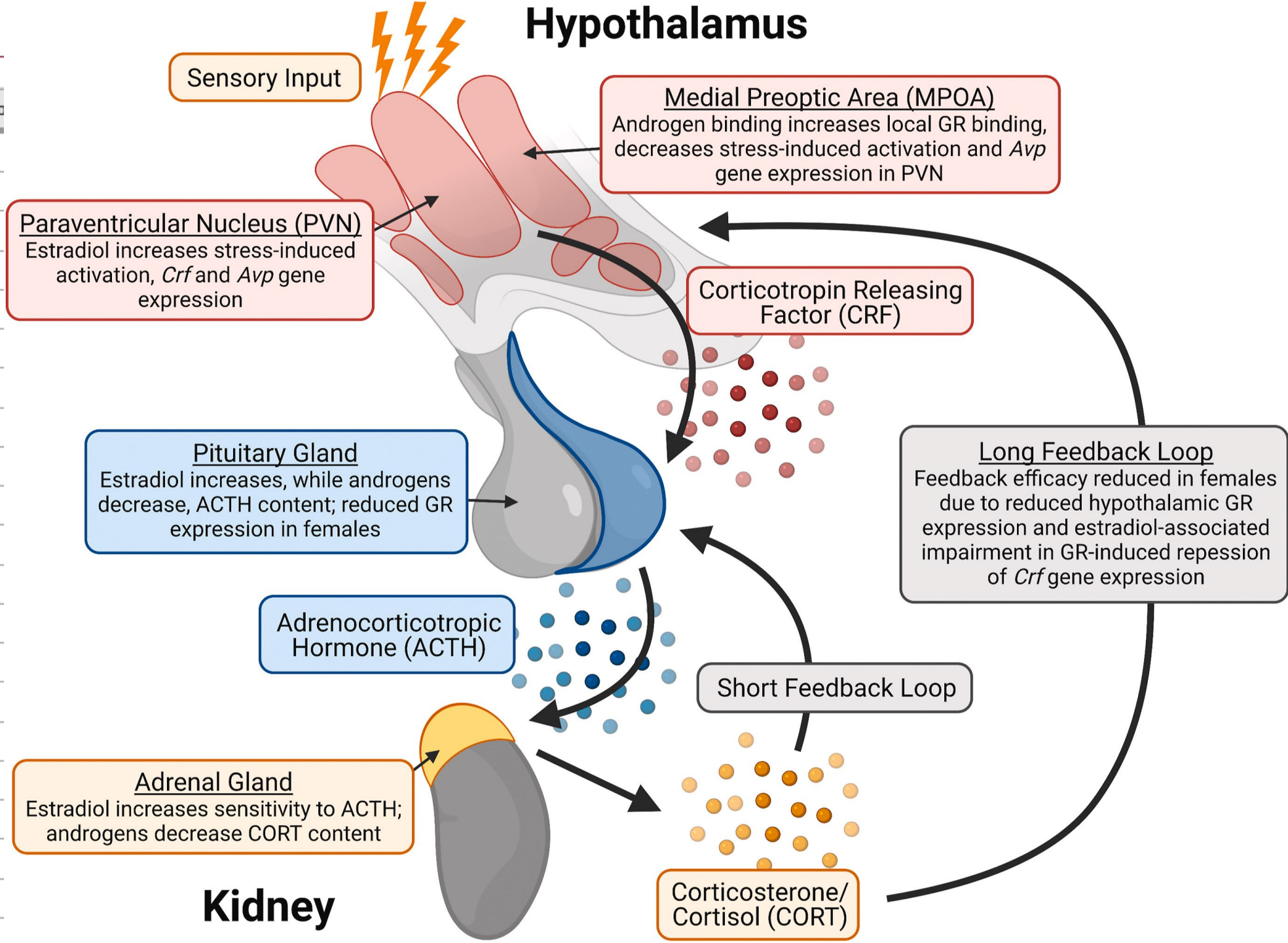
Odds of people with SMI of having obesity as compared with the general population



Prevalence of obesity in people with severe mental illness



Hypothalamus



No

No

No

No

No

Yes

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

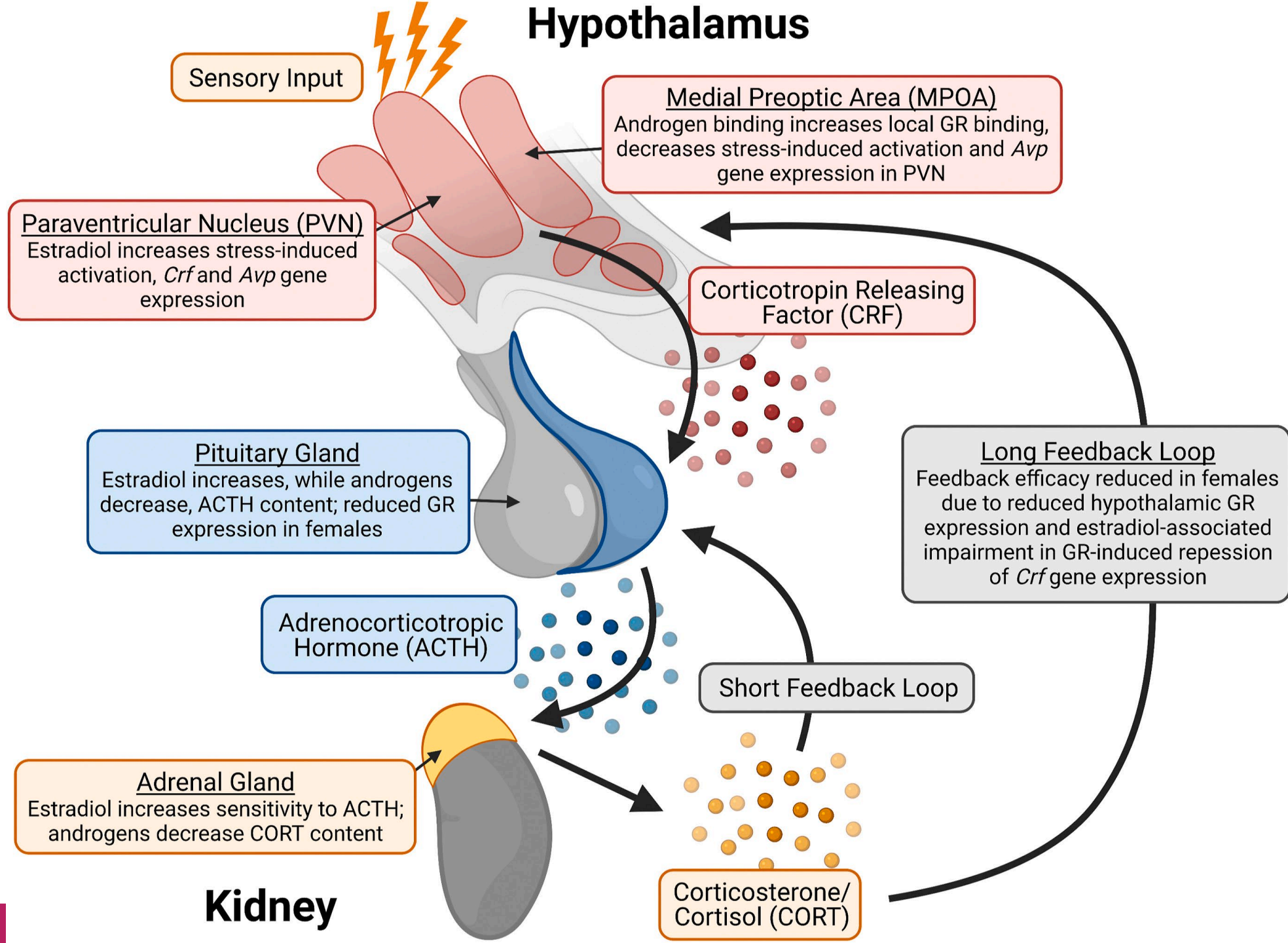
No

No

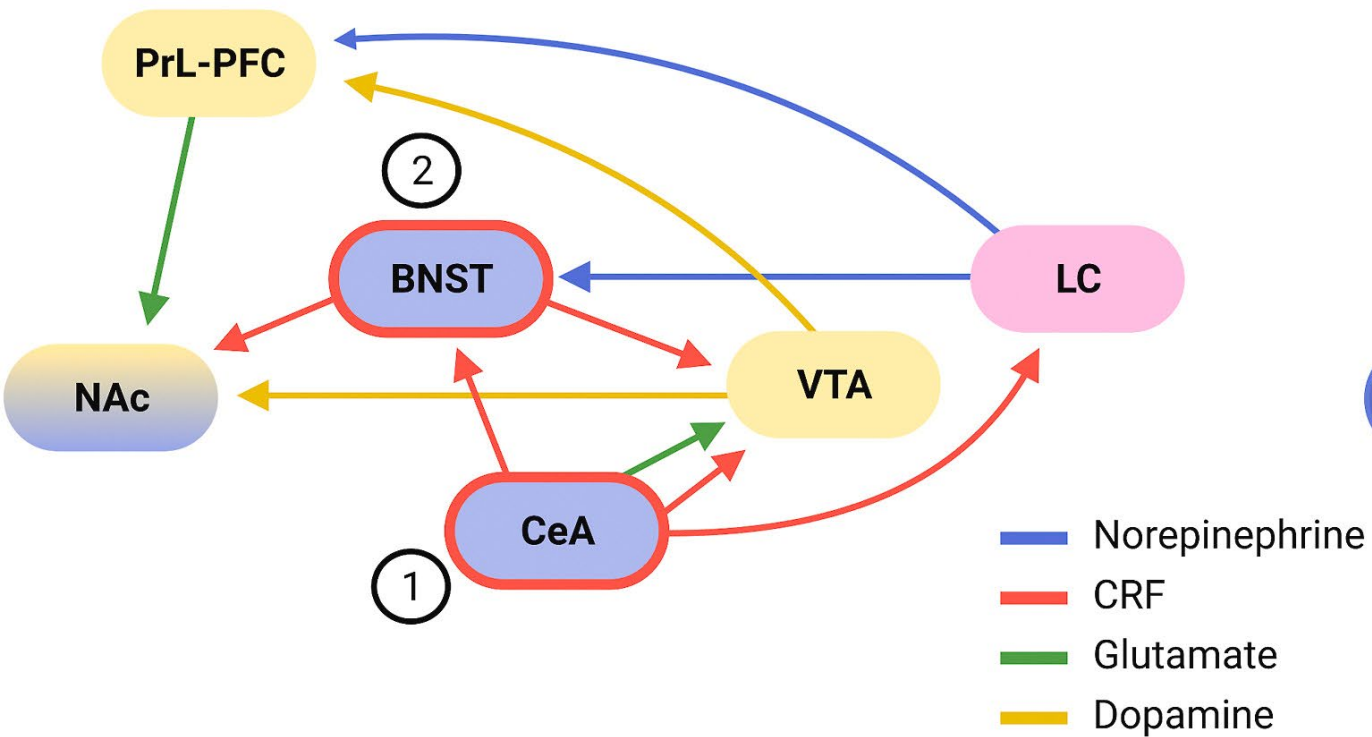
No

Yes

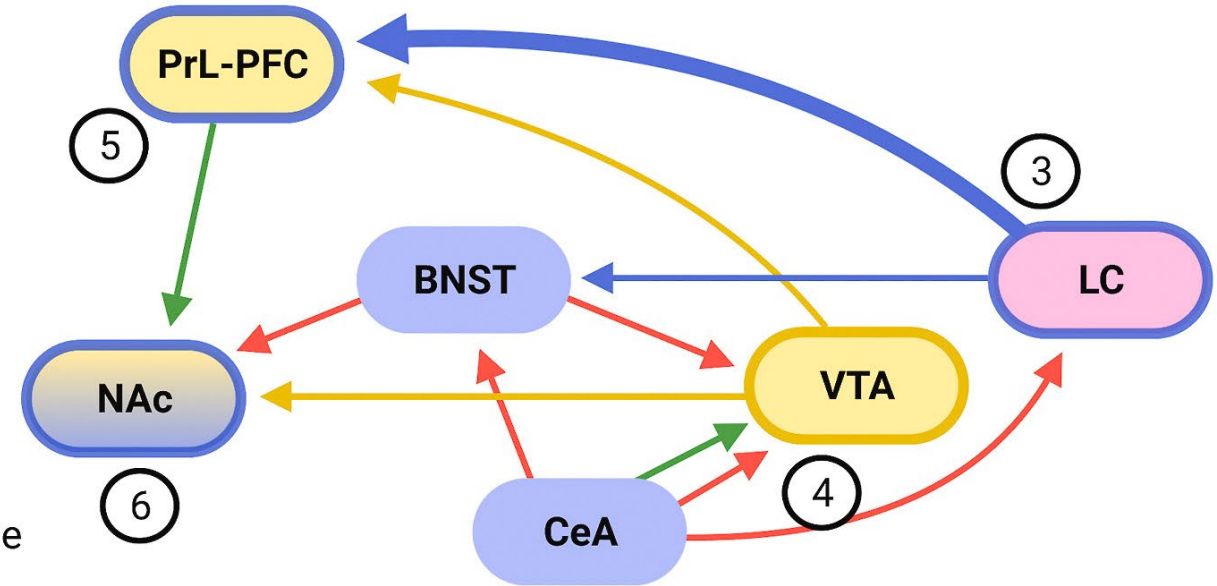
Hypothalamus



Male



Female





Landscape Analysis of Research on Multimorbidity

An example from NIDA



Chronic conditions progress to multimorbidity

NIDA's ORWH Portfolio Analysis Team

Rita Valentino, *Division Director, DNB*

Susan Wright, *Program Officer, DNB*

Christie Espinoza, *Program Analyst, DNB*

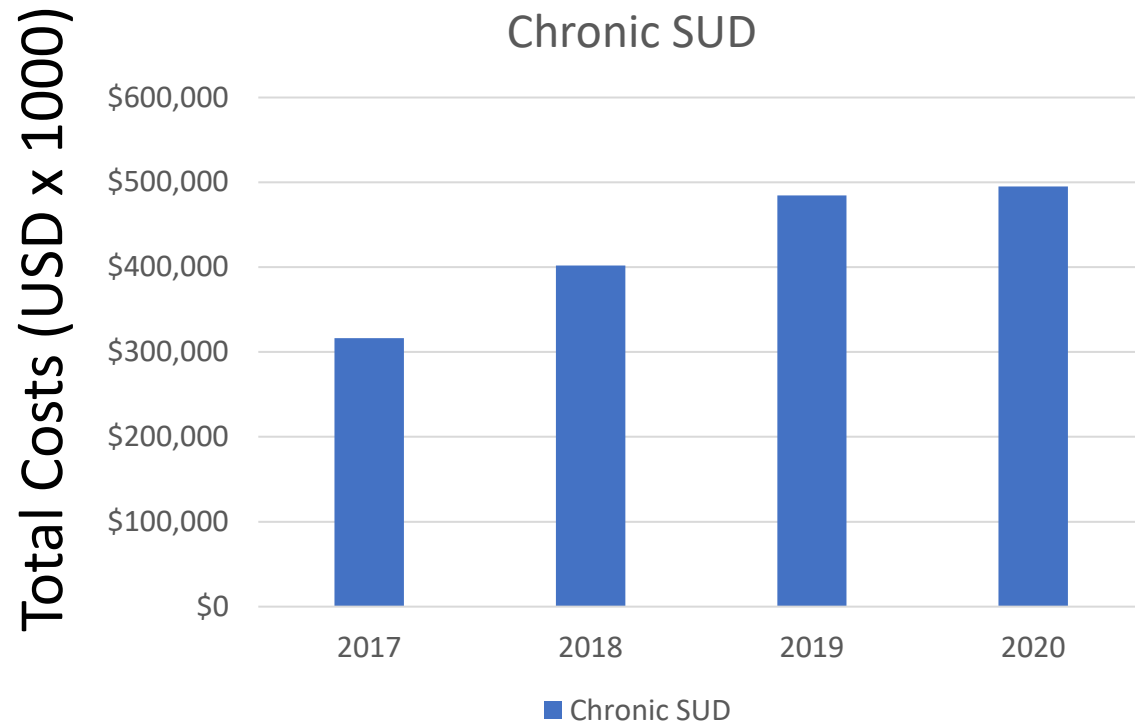
Keisher Highsmith, *Program Officer, DESPR*

Nic Johnston, *Program Analyst, DNB*

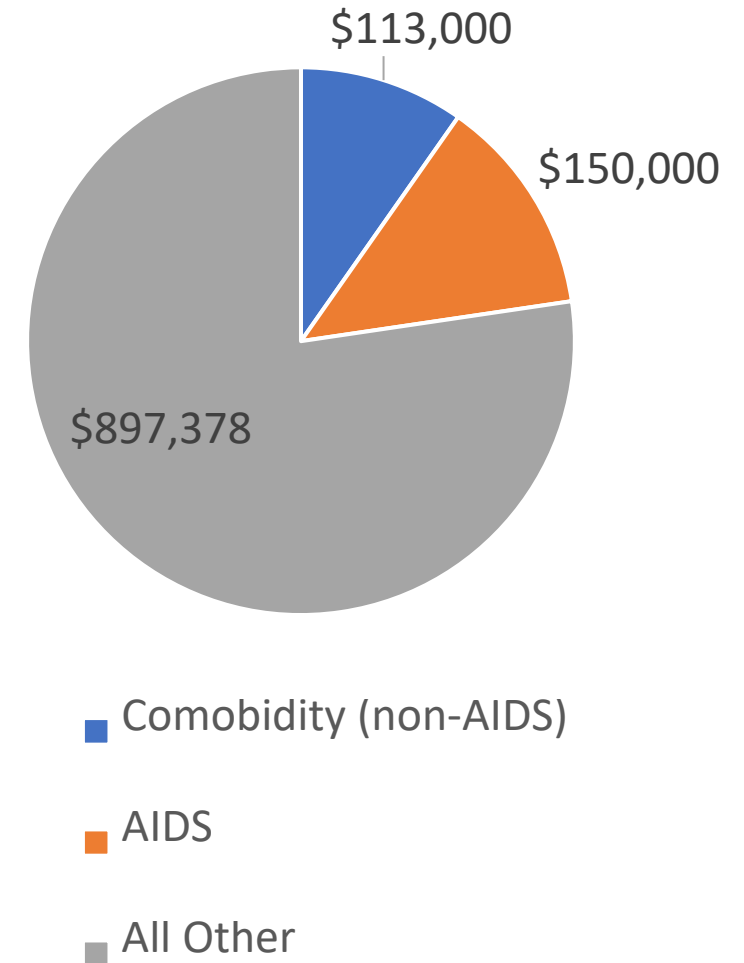
Holly Moore, *Program Officer, DNB*

Sunila Nair, *Program Officer, DNB*

Substance Use Disorder as a Chronic Debilitating Condition



Commitment to Research on Multimorbidities (\$ x 1000)



Next step in analysis:

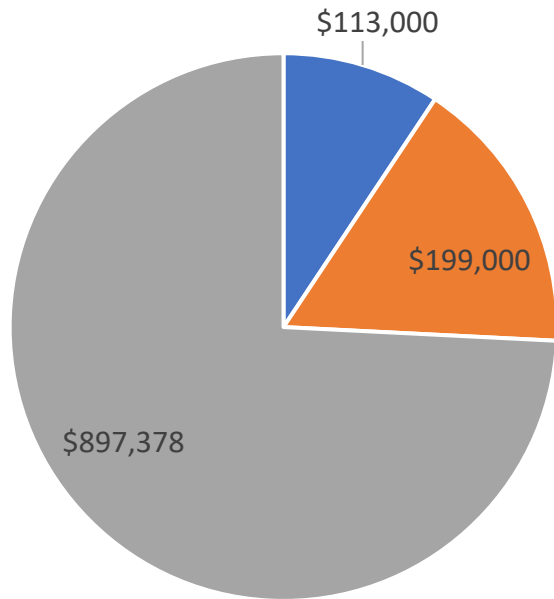
Substance Use Disorder X

| Category | Condition (2019 DALY) | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|-----------------------------|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| Female Specific | Cancers of the female reproductive tract* (900,843) | Dys-menorrhea/ Menstrual Abnormalities (289,608) | Fibroids* (64,009) | Endometriosis* and Adenomyosis (53,777) | Infertility*/ Early Pregnancy Loss (26,355) | Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (42,738) | Pelvic floor disorders, Organ prolapse (21,613) | Menopausal symptoms Pelvic Inflammatory Disease* Vulvodynia/Chronic gynecologic pain disorders – pelvic and vulvar Vaginosis | |
| More Common in Women/ Higher Morbidity for women | Depressive Disorders (1,704,524) | Migraine/ Headache (1,573,325) | Breast cancer* (1,387,670) | Sexually transmitted infections (37,316) | Rheumatoid Arthritis* (187,902) | Autoimmune diseases (*including RA) •SLE* •Sjögren’s Syndrome* •Scleroderma* | Temporomandibular Muscle/Joint Disorder (TMJD) Chronic Fatigue Syndrome* Fibromyalgia* Candidiasis Post-traumatic stress Irritable Bowel syndrome HPV infection Osteoporosis | | |
| High morbidity for women | Musculo-skeletal disorders (8,170,164) | Cardio-vascular Disease (7,538,622) | Mental Health (4,164,912) | Chronic respiratory diseases (3,643,271) | Substance Use Disorders (2,736,126) | Stroke (2,098,900) | Diabetes (2,010,853) | Chronic Kidney Disease (1,105,286) | Obesity/metabolic disease Comorbidity with aging |
| higher morbidity/ potentially neglected in women | Unintentional Injuries (including intimate partner violence*) (2,050,026) | Alzheimers/ Dementia* (1,296,376) | Osteo-arthritis (1,257,042) | Endocrine, metabolic, blood, and immune disorders (853,247) | Recurrent UTI/ Interstitial Nephritis (201,529) | Multiple Sclerosis (143,123) | HIV (118,596) | Contraception- Exogenous hormone use- Neuropathy Overactive bladder/Incontinence Chronic pain including chronic pelvic pain | |

*Per MCS-WH reporting guidance, the following RCDC disease categories are particularly relevant to women's health

SUD Comorbidity with other Chronic Debilitating Conditions

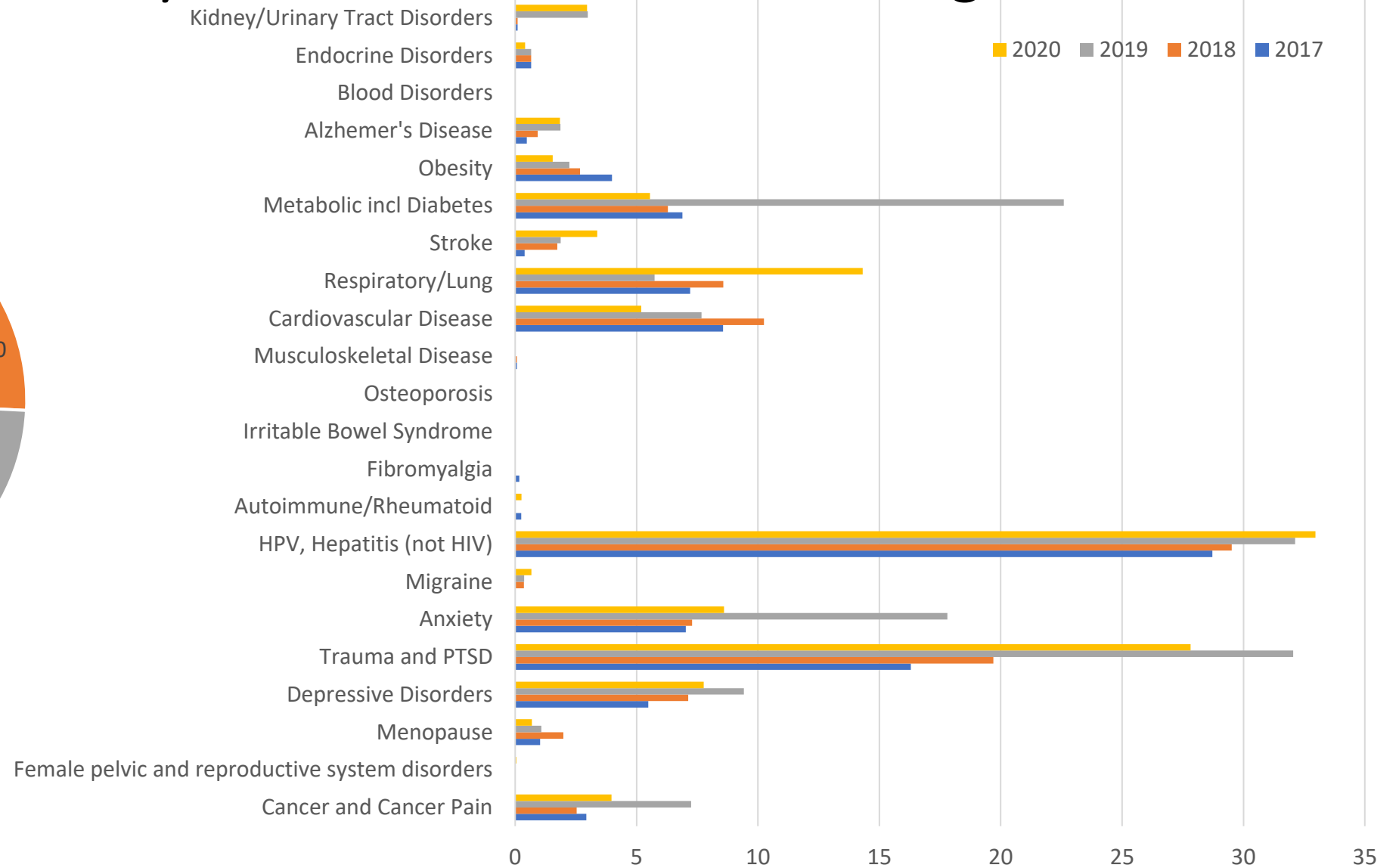
Dollars (in thousands)



Comorbidity (non-AIDS)

AIDS

All Other



From: **Clinical Advances in Sex- and Gender-Informed Medicine to Improve the Health of All: A Review**

JAMA Intern Med. 2020;180(4):574-583. doi:10.1001/jamainternmed.2019.7194

