

問題・解答用紙

受験番号

英語

令和6年度 大学院教育学研究科 教育支援高度化専攻

入学試験【 前期 ・ 後期 ・ 第2次 ・ 第3次 】 問題・解答用紙

【臨床心理学コース】

( 2枚のうち1 )

採点

以下の文章について次の問いに答えなさい。

Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are well established risk factors for mental health problems. For example, a wealth of research has shown that children exposed to abuse, neglect, and dysfunctional home environments (such as domestic violence, parental separation, , and ) have a higher risk of developing internalising disorders such as depression and anxiety, and externalising disorders such as conduct disorder and attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). However, as highlighted recently by policy makers, charities, and scientists, the extent to which ACEs cause mental health problems is not known. This is because ACEs are not randomly distributed in the population, and children exposed to ACEs are likely to have other risk factors for mental health problems. In addition to wider environmental risks, one key potential vulnerability is genetic liability to mental health problems.

There are at least two reasons why children exposed to ACEs might have an elevated genetic liability to mental health problems. First, parents with mental health problems may pass on genetic variants conferring psychopathology risk to their child and provide them with an adverse rearing environment. This represents a 'passive gene-environment correlation', and is plausible as parental mental illness is considered to be an ACE, and other ACEs often occur in families where parents have mental health difficulties. Second, a child with early phenotypic expressions of genetic liability to mental health problems might be more likely to elicit harsh parenting or stress responses in their parents (e.g., depressive symptoms). This represents an 'evocative gene-environment correlation' and has been evidenced in adoption studies, where children at genetic risk of externalising problems were more likely to experience negative parenting from adoptive parents. Importantly, if children with increased genetic liability to mental health problems have an elevated risk of experiencing ACEs, the association between ACEs and mental health problems may partly reflect genetic confounding.

It is important to investigate the extent to which genetic influences contribute to associations between ACEs and mental health to provide insights into causality and interventions. For example, if the associations are partly confounded by genetic influences, then the causal contribution of ACEs to mental health is likely to be lower than estimated in non-genetically informative studies. If this is the case, then even if we succeeded in implementing effective primary prevention of ACEs, this would only partly reduce children's risk of mental health problems. In addition, secondary preventative strategies that support exposed children and address heritable vulnerabilities to psychopathology would be needed to reduce their risk of developing mental health problems. For example, this could include skills building components to manage negative emotions and behaviours as part of trauma-focused cognitive behavioural therapy. Of course, there is a moral imperative to reduce the likelihood that children will experience ACEs, regardless of the degree to which they impact mental health. However, this research can improve our mechanistic understanding of the relationship between ACEs and mental health in ways that can help optimise approaches to prevention and intervention.

(出典) Baldwin, J. R., et al. (2023). A genetically informed Registered Report on adverse childhood experiences and mental health. *Nature human behaviour*, 7(2), 269-290. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-022-01482-9> (一部改変)

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( 2枚のうち2 )

採点

問1. 文中の  の部分に入りうる適切な語句を2つ英語で書きなさい。

問2. 本文を日本語で要約しなさい。