CONQUER CHIARI



CHIARI 1000

RECENT ANALYSES AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS DOROTHY LOTH & PETER MALLIK UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

WHAT IS THE CHIARI 1000?

- Comprehensive self-report survey + Medical Imaging
 - https://chiari1000.uakron.edu/
 - Launched September 2015
 - Uses the Internet to gather information from a large number of Chiari patients, both adults and children.
 - Goal= 1000 surveys + 1000 Medical Images (MR, CT)
 - Secure- All identifying information retained separate from all data
- Information collected is used to study various aspects of Chiari malformation and its impact

WHAT IS THE CHIARI1000?



- 1. Chiari patient completes online Chiari1000 survey and shares MR images to the CCRC
- 2. Participant is mailed a specially designed t-shirt
- 3. Data is analyzed
- 4. Chiari1000 is gateway to future participation in research with the CCRC



WHAT IS THE CHIARI1000?

• Survey Data

- ~250 questions on:
 - Demographics
 - Chiari diagnosis
 - Symptoms
 - Additional Diagnoses
 - Surgical History
 - Quality of Life
 - Neuropsych variables
 - Depression
 - Anxiety
 - Memory
 - Coping
 - Pain
 - Hypermobility

Analysis

Morphometric Data

Detailed measurements on MR brain images





DEMOGRAPHIC

- 1196 People completed the entire Chiari 1000 survey including additional measures
 - 1062 female participants (89%)
 - 134 male participants (11%) (of these only 73 are adult males)
 - 95% Caucasian
- Age-ranges
 - 65 participants- ages 0-7 (5%)
 - 67 participants- ages 8-17 (6%)
 - 1064 participants- ages 18+ (89%)
- Participants from every state (except Hawaii) and 17 different countries





mpleted Chiari1000 surveys by country

FAMILY HISTORY

- Diagnosed immediate family
 - 172 individuals had at least 1 immediate family member with CM
- Diagnosed extended family
 - 136 individuals had at least 1 extended family member with CM

How many immediate family members with Chiari?

1 member	73.84%
2 members	19.19%
3 members	4.65%
4 members	2.33%

How many extended family members with Chiari?

1 member	79.23%
2 members	16.92%
3 members	3.08%
4 members	0.77%

DIAGNOSTIC HISTORY

- Age at diagnosis
 - 119 0-7
 - 147 8-17
 - 1,136 18+
- Misdiagnosed
 - 908 (64%) people, who have completed the Chiari 1000, have experienced a misdiagnosis
- Multiple Misdiagnoses
 - 695 (49%) people, who have completed the Chiari 1000, have experienced more than 1 misdiagnosis

ADDITIONAL DIAGNOSES/RELATED CONDITIONS

- Top 10 additional diagnoses/related conditions
 - Migraine headaches (66%)
 - Autoimmune Conditions (37%)
 - Spinal Defects (35%)
 - Scoliosis (22%)
 - Tissue Disorders (21%)
 - Syringomyelia (21%)
 - Fibromyalgia (20%)
 - Chronic Fatigue (16%)
 - ADHD (10%)
 - Ehler-Danlos Syndrome (9%)

GENDER DIFFERENCES IN ADDITIONAL DIAGNOSES

- Men have higher prevalence of
 - Syringomyelia
 - Reynaud's
- Women have a higher prevalence of
 - EDS
 - Migraine Headaches
 - Fibromyalgia
 - Meniere's Disease



SYMPTOMS

- Top 10 most prevalent symptoms associated with Chiari
 - Headache (93%)
 - Overall Pain (90%)
 - Sleep Interference (81%)
 - Overall Numbness (80%)
 - Neck Pain (79%)
 - Fatigue (75%)
 - Dizziness (74%)
 - Weakness (72%)
 - Balance problems (70%)
 - Shoulder Pain (66%)

SYMPTOM SEVERITY

- Not at all severe 2%
- Mild 7%
- Moderate 32%
- Severe 41%
- Very Severe 18%



GENDER DIFFERENCES IN SYMPTOMS

- Men have higher prevalence of
 - Sleep Apnea
- Women have higher prevalence of
 - Pain
 - Numbness
 - Cognitive issues
 - Weakness
 - Depression
 - Fainting
 - Hearing loss
- No difference in symptom severity despite differences in symptom presentation

SURGICAL HISTORY

- 766 individuals had surgery related to CM (54%)
- 733 individuals had decompression surgery (52%)
 - 123/733 had multiple decompression surgeries (17%)
 - Ranging between 2-10 decompressions
- Majority of individuals reported at least some improvement after surgery
 - 73%
- No gender differences in surgical history or in surgical impact
 - Despite differences in symptoms

QUALITY OF LIFE CHANGES

- How does CM influence the individual's quality of life?
- 5% of individuals report they cannot work due to CM
- 27% of individuals reported they worked prior to CM diagnosis but stopped after diagnosis
- 46% of individuals report negative financial outcomes related to CM
 - CM was limiting their financial ability
- 43% of individuals reported CM impacting their education/their school experiences

PEDIATRIC CHIARI



- It is important to understand how symptoms, additional diagnoses, and outcomes are represented in children.
- 171 Pediatric cases

DIAGNOSTIC HISTORY

- Age at diagnosis
 - 109 (64%) 0-7
 - 62 (36%) 8-17
- Misdiagnosed
 - 100 (58%) people, who have completed the Chiari 1000, have experienced a misdiagnosis
- Multiple Misdiagnoses
 - 76 (44%) people, who have completed the Chiari 1000, have experienced more than 1 misdiagnosis

ADDITIONAL DIAGNOSES

- Top 10 Additional Diagnoses for Children
 - Migraine Headaches (47%)
 - Developmental Delays (37%)
 - Spinal Defects (26%)
 - Syringomyelia (25%)
 - Tissue Disorders (24%)
 - Autoimmune Disorders (21%)
 - Scoliosis (18%)
 - ADHD (16%)
 - Seizures (15%)
 - Failure to Thrive (13%)

SYMPTOMS

- Top 10 symptoms associated with Pediatric Chiari
 - Dizziness (89%)
 - Headache (80%)
 - Vision Issues (72%)
 - Pain (72%)
 - Cognitive Issues (65%)
 - Balance Problems (55%)
 - Weakenss (54%)
 - Fatigue (51%)
 - Sensitivity to Noise (50%)
 - Neck Pain (49%)



SYMPTOM SEVERITY

- Not at All Severe 8%
- Mild 11%
- Moderate 37%
- Severe 33%
- Very Severe 11%



SURGICAL HISTORY

- 84 individuals had surgery related to CM (53%)
- 78 individuals had decompression surgery (93%)
 - 11/78 had multiple decompression surgeries (14%)
 - Ranging between 2-4 decompressions
- Majority of individuals reported at least some improvement after surgery
 - 79%

QUALITY OF LIFE CHANGES

- 19% Withdrew from school
- 54% Reported a negative school impact
- 41% Reported a negative impact on performance at school

PUBLICATIONS AND CURRENT PROJECTS

- There are currently X publications through Conquer Chiari
- Cover a wide variety of topics related to the illness experience
 - Cognition
 - Morphometric information
 - Related conditions
- Upcoming projects
 - Self-report papers for both children and adults using Chiari 1000 survey data
 - DTI
 - Many more!

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Because data contains no identifying information it can be shared with researchers outside of the CCRC allowing for a variety of perspectives and analyses
- Identify factors that contribute better/worse surgical outcomes
- Further understand gender differences, age differences, in CM
- Provide researchers and medical professionals with the information needed to reduce potential misdiagnoses