

Life course socioeconomic determinants of multimorbidity in old age – a mapping review

Cornelia Wagner¹ MSc, Cristian Carmeli¹ PhD, Arnaud Chiolero^{1,2,3} MD PhD, Stéphane Cullati^{1,4} PhD



¹ Population Health Laboratory, University of Fribourg, 1700 Fribourg, Switzerland; ² Institute of Primary Health Care (BIHAM), University of Bern, Switzerland; ³ School of Population and Global Health, McGill University, Canada; ⁴ Department of Readaptation and Geriatrics, University of Geneva, Switzerland

BACKGROUND

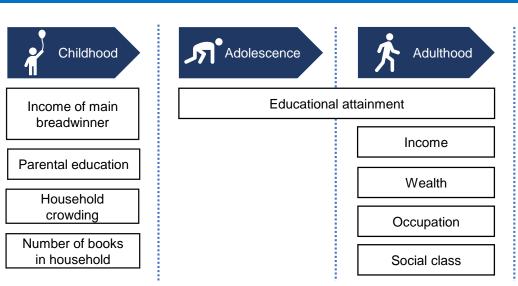
- The global rise in populations suffering from **multimorbidity** is a major public health concern.
- Multimorbidity disproportionally affects individuals exposed to socioeconomic deprivation.
- The question of how socioeconomic conditions (SEC) at different periods of the life course are linked with chronic conditions remains unanswered.

2 OBJECTIVE

This review aims to describe the mechanisms on how **SEC** at different moments during the life course influence the risk of multimorbidity in later life.

3 METHODS

Mapping review: cohort studies with prospective or retrospective data, cross-sectional studies with retrospective data



Later Life

Multimorbidity

2+ chronic diseases

4 RESULTS

- 12 studies included: 10 cohorts, 2 cross-sectional studies
- **Association** between SEC and multimorbidity in all included studies
- Childhood SEC mediated by adulthood SEC - chain of risk model
- Limitation: heterogeneity in SEC and multimorbidity assessment

KEY MESSAGE

There is an association between low SEC and higher multimorbidity risk. Studies adjusting for adulthood SEC found that it minimized the effect of childhood SEC, suggesting a pathway or chain of risk model.