

Review of: "The Association Between Fibromyalgia, Hypermobility and Neurodivergence Extends to Families: Brief Report"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This paper touched an interesting subject which is the association between fibromyalgia, hypermobility and neurodivergence, and the higher frequency of these conditions in the first and second degree relatives of index cases who have both fibromyalgia and joint hypermobility. The paper was well constructed and written in a good way. However, there some points to be considered.

It was found that about 70% of the index cases were autistic, whether the remaining 30% have other neurodivergent conditions was not clarified. So the majority of the sample has fibromyalgia, hypermobility and neurodivergence. This may result in overrepresentation of this association in the family members given the genetic background for neurodivergent conditions, and that neurodivergence predate hypermobility and fibromyalgia. So, probably we are dealing with neurodivergent patients who are more likely to have hypermobility, and both of these conditions predispose to fibromyalgia. Most cases of fibromyalgia and hypermobility in the relatives of index cases were seen in patients who also have neurodivergence (26 vs. 9, 46 vs. 12, respectively); which support what I suggest. So, the results cannot be generalized to patients with fibromyalgia alone.

I think it is better to use frequency instead of prevalence and incidence.

The type of neurodivergence in the relatives of index cases was not clarified.

The dependence on self-reported diagnosis compromised the strength of the study, although this was mentioned in the limitation.