

## Analysis of Shared Heritability in Common Disorders of the Brain

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58 **One Sentence Summary: Comprehensive heritability analysis of brain phenotypes demonstrates a**  
59 **clear role for common genetic variation across neurological and psychiatric disorders and**  
60 **behavioral-cognitive traits, with substantial overlaps in genetic risk.**

61 **Abstract:** Disorders of the brain exhibit considerable epidemiological comorbidity and frequently share  
62 symptoms, provoking debate about the extent of their etiologic overlap. We quantified the genetic sharing  
63 of 25 brain disorders based on summary statistics from genome-wide association studies of 215,683  
64 patients and 657,164 controls, and their relationship to 17 phenotypes from 1,191,588 individuals.  
65 Psychiatric disorders show substantial sharing of common variant risk, while neurological disorders  
66 appear more distinct from one another. We observe limited evidence of sharing between neurological and  
67 psychiatric disorders, but do identify robust sharing between disorders and several cognitive measures, as  
68 well as disorders and personality types. We also performed extensive simulations to explore how power,  
69 diagnostic misclassification and phenotypic heterogeneity affect genetic correlations. These results  
70 highlight the importance of common genetic variation as a source of risk for brain disorders and the value  
71 of heritability-based methods in understanding their etiology.

72 The classification of brain disorders has evolved over the past century, reflecting the  
73 medical and scientific communities' best assessments of the presumed root causes of clinical  
74 phenomena such as behavioral change, loss of motor function, spontaneous movements or  
75 alterations of consciousness. A division between neurology and psychiatry developed, with the  
76 more directly observable phenomena (such as the presence of emboli, protein tangles, or unusual  
77 electrical activity patterns) generally defining the neurological disorders(1). Applying modern  
78 methods to understand the genetic underpinnings and categorical distinctions between brain  
79 disorders may be helpful in informing next steps in the search for the biological pathways  
80 underlying their pathophysiology(2, 3).

81 In general, brain disorders (here excepting those caused by trauma, infection or cancer)  
82 show substantial heritability from twin and family studies (4). Epidemiological and twin studies  
83 have explored patterns of phenotypic overlaps(5-7), and substantial comorbidity has been  
84 reported for many pairs of disorders, including bipolar disorder-migraine(8), stroke-major  
85 depressive disorder(MDD)(9), epilepsy-autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and epilepsy-attention  
86 deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)(10, 11). Furthermore, neurological and psychiatric  
87 research has shown that mutations in the same ion channel genes confer pleiotropic risk for  
88 multiple distinct brain phenotypes(12-14). Recently, genome-wide association studies (GWAS)  
89 have demonstrated that individual common risk variants show overlap across traditional  
90 diagnostic boundaries (15, 16), and that disorders like schizophrenia, MDD and bipolar disorder  
91 can have strong genetic correlations(17).

92 GWAS have also demonstrated that common genetic variation substantially contributes  
93 to the heritability of brain disorders. In most cases, this occurs via many common variants, each  
94 of small effect, with examples in Alzheimer’s disease(18), bipolar disorder(19), migraine(20),  
95 Parkinson’s disease(21), and schizophrenia(22). In addition to locus discovery, the degree of  
96 distinctiveness (23) across a wide set of neurological and psychiatric phenotypes can now be  
97 evaluated with the introduction of novel heritability-based methods(24) and sufficiently large  
98 sample sizes. These analyses can shed light on the nature of these diagnostic boundaries and  
99 explore the extent of shared common variant genetic influences.

100

### 101 *Study design*

102 We formed the Brainstorm consortium, a collaboration among GWAS meta-analysis  
103 consortia of 25 disorders (see Data sources), to perform the first comprehensive heritability and  
104 correlation analysis of brain disorders. We included all common brain disorders for which we  
105 could identify a GWAS meta-analysis consortium of sufficient size for heritability analysis that  
106 was willing to participate. The total study sample consists of 215,683 cases of different brain  
107 disorders and 657,164 controls (Table 1), and provides coverage of a majority of ICD-10 blocks  
108 covering mental and behavioral disorders and diseases of the central nervous system. Also  
109 included are 1,191,588 samples for 13 “behavioral-cognitive” phenotypes (n=744,486) chosen  
110 for being traditionally viewed as brain-related, and four “additional” phenotypes (n=447,102)  
111 selected to represent known, well-delineated etiological processes (e.g. immune disorders  
112 [Crohn’s disease] and vascular disease [coronary artery disease]; Table 2) or anthropomorphic  
113 measures (height and BMI).

114 GWAS summary statistics for the 42 disorders and phenotypes were centralized and  
115 underwent uniform quality control and processing(25). Where necessary, we generated  
116 European-only meta-analyses for each disorder to avoid potential biases arising from ancestry  
117 differences, as many of the brain disorder datasets included sample sets from diverse ancestries.  
118 Clinically relevant subtypes from three disorders (epilepsy, migraine and ischemic stroke) were  
119 also included; in these cases, the analyzed datasets are subsets of the top-level dataset, as shown  
120 in Table 1.

121 We have recently developed a novel heritability estimation method, linkage  
122 disequilibrium score regression (LDSC)(24), which was used to calculate heritability estimates  
123 and correlations, as well as to estimate their statistical significance from block jack-knife-based  
124 standard errors. Heritability for binary disorders and phenotypes was transformed to the liability-  
125 scale. We further performed a weighted-least squares regression analysis to evaluate whether  
126 differences relating to study makeup (such as sample size) were correlated with the magnitude of  
127 the correlation estimates. We also performed a heritability partitioning analysis using stratified  
128 LD score regression to examine whether the observed heritability was enriched in any tissue-

129 specific regulatory partitions of the genome, using the ten top-level tissue-type and 53 functional  
130 partitions from Finucane et al. (26). Finally, simulated phenotype data was generated under  
131 several different scenarios by permuting the 120,267 genotyped individuals from the UK  
132 Biobank (25) to both evaluate power and aid in interpreting the results (see Supplementary Text).

133

#### 134 *Heritability and correlations among brain disorders*

135 We observed a similar range of heritability estimates among the disorders and the  
136 behavioral-cognitive phenotypes (Fig. S1A-B and Table S1, S2), roughly in line with previously  
137 reported estimates obtained from smaller datasets (see Table S3 and Supplementary Text). Three  
138 ischemic stroke subtypes (cardioembolic, large-vessel disease and small-vessel disease) as well  
139 as the “agreeableness” personality measure from NEO Five-Factor Inventory(27) had insufficient  
140 evidence of additive heritability for robust analysis and thus were excluded from further  
141 analysis(25). We did not observe a correlation between heritability estimates and factors relating  
142 to study makeup (Table S4; Fig. S1C-F). Since some of the results interpretation depends on lack  
143 of observed correlation, we explored the behavior of observed correlation vs power (Fig. S2A),  
144 standard errors (Fig. S2B) and the individual results (Fig. S2C and D) to identify where we can  
145 be reasonably robust in claiming lack of correlation with current datasets.

146 In expanding on the number of pairwise comparisons in brain disorders, we observed  
147 widespread sharing across psychiatric disorders (Fig. 1 and S3) beyond those previously reported  
148 (17), but not among neurological disorders. Among the psychiatric disorders, schizophrenia  
149 showed significant genetic correlation with most of the psychiatric disorders, while MDD was  
150 positively (though not necessarily significantly) correlated with every other disorder tested.  
151 Further, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, anxiety disorders, MDD and ADHD each showed a high  
152 degree of correlation to the four others (average  $r_g=0.40$ ; Table S5). Anorexia nervosa,  
153 obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) and schizophrenia also demonstrated significant sharing  
154 amongst themselves. On the other hand, the common variant risk of both ASD and Tourette  
155 Syndrome (TS) appear to be somewhat distinct from other psychiatric disorders, although with  
156 significant correlation between TS, OCD and MDD, as well as between ASD and schizophrenia.  
157 Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) alone showed no significant correlation with any of the  
158 other psychiatric phenotypes (though some correlation to ADHD and MDD was observed, Fig.  
159 1). The modest power of the ASD, PTSD and TS meta-analyses, however, limits the strength of  
160 this conclusion (Fig. S2C).

161 Neurological disorders revealed greater specificity, and a more limited extent of genetic  
162 correlation than the psychiatric disorders (Fig. 2 and S4, Table S5). Parkinson’s disease,  
163 Alzheimer’s disease, generalized epilepsy and multiple sclerosis showed little to no correlation  
164 with any other brain disorders. Focal epilepsy showed the highest degree of genetic correlation  
165 among the neurological disorders (average  $r_g =0.46$ , excluding other epilepsy datasets), though

166 none were significant, reflecting the relatively modest power of the current focal epilepsy meta-  
167 analysis (Fig. S2C). However, the modest heritability and the broad pattern of sharing observed  
168 for focal epilepsy may be consistent with considerable heterogeneity and potentially even  
169 diagnostic misclassification across a range of neurological conditions.

170 In the cross-category correlation analysis, the overall pattern is consistent with limited  
171 sharing across the included neurological and psychiatric disorders (Fig. 3; average  $r_g=0.03$ ). The  
172 only significant cross-category correlations were with migraine, suggesting it may share some of  
173 its genetic architecture with psychiatric disorders; migraine-ADHD ( $r_g=0.26$ ,  $p=8.81 \times 10^{-8}$ ),  
174 migraine-TS ( $r_g=0.19$ ,  $p=1.80 \times 10^{-5}$ ), and migraine-MDD ( $r_g=0.32$ ,  $p=1.42 \times 10^{-22}$  for all  
175 migraine,  $r_g=0.23$ ,  $p=5.23 \times 10^{-5}$  for migraine without aura,  $r_g=0.28$ ,  $p=1.00 \times 10^{-4}$  for migraine  
176 with aura).

177 We observed several significant genetic correlations between the behavioral-cognitive or  
178 additional phenotypes and brain disorders (Fig. 4, Table S6). Results for cognitive traits were  
179 dichotomous among psychiatric phenotypes (Fig. S5A), with ADHD, anxiety disorders, MDD  
180 and Tourette Syndrome showing negative correlations to the cognitive measures, while anorexia  
181 nervosa, ASD, bipolar disorder and OCD showed positive correlations. Schizophrenia showed  
182 more mixed results, with significantly negative correlation to intelligence but positive correlation  
183 to years of education. Among neurological phenotypes (Fig. S5B), the correlations were all  
184 either negative or null, with Alzheimer's disease, epilepsy, ICH, ischemic stroke, early-onset  
185 stroke and migraine showing significantly negative correlations. Correlations with bipolar  
186 disorder(24), Alzheimer's disease and schizophrenia have been previously reported(28)).

187 Among the personality measures, significant positive correlations were observed for  
188 neuroticism (anorexia nervosa, anxiety disorders, migraine, migraine without aura, MDD, OCD,  
189 schizophrenia and Tourette Syndrome; Fig. S6A), depressive symptoms (ADHD, anxiety  
190 disorder, bipolar disorder, MDD, and schizophrenia) and subjective well-being (anxiety disorder,  
191 bipolar disorder, MDD, as well as replicating the previously reported correlation between  
192 neuroticism with both MDD and schizophrenia(29)). For smoking-related measures, the only  
193 significant genetic correlations were to never/ever smoked (MDD:  $r_g=0.33$ ,  $p=3.10 \times 10^{-11}$  and  
194 ADHD:  $r_g=0.37$ ,  $p=3.15 \times 10^{-6}$ ).

195 Among the additional phenotypes, the two diseases chosen as examples of disorders with  
196 well-defined etiologies had different results: Crohn's disease, representing immunological  
197 pathophysiology, showed no correlation with any of the study phenotypes, while the phenotype  
198 representing vascular pathophysiology (coronary artery disease) showed significant correlation  
199 to MDD ( $r_g=0.19$ ,  $p=8.71 \times 10^{-5}$ ) as well as the two stroke-related phenotypes ( $r_g=0.69$ ,  $p=2.47 \times$   
200  $10^{-6}$  to ischemic stroke and  $r_g=0.86$ ,  $p=2.26 \times 10^{-5}$  for early-onset stroke), suggesting shared  
201 genetic effects across these phenotype. Significant correlations were also observed for BMI,  
202 which was positively correlated with ADHD and MDD, and negatively correlated with anorexia  
203 nervosa (as previously reported with a different dataset(24)) and schizophrenia.

204 Our enrichment analysis (Fig. S7, Table S7 and S8) demonstrated novel significant  
205 heritability enrichments between central nervous system (CNS) and generalized epilepsy, MDD,  
206 TS, college attainment, intelligence, neuroticism, never/ever smoked); depressive symptoms and  
207 adrenal/pancreatic cells and tissues, as well as between immune system cells and multiple  
208 sclerosis. We also note with interest that the psychiatric disorders with large numbers of  
209 identified GWAS loci (bipolar disorder, MDD and schizophrenia) and the only cross-correlated  
210 neurological disorder with the same (migraine) all show enrichment to conserved regions, while  
211 the other neurological disorders with similar numbers of loci (MS and Alzheimer's and  
212 Parkinson's diseases) do not (Fig. S7A, B). Significant enrichment to conserved regions was also  
213 observed to neuroticism, intelligence and college attainment and to H3K9ac peaks for BMI. We  
214 also replicate the previously reported (CNS) enrichment for schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and  
215 years of education (here in a larger dataset compared to the original report, but with considerable  
216 sample overlap), and observe the previously reported enrichments for BMI (CNS), years of  
217 education (CNS), height (connective tissues and bone, cardiovascular system and other) and  
218 Crohn's disease (hematopoietic cells) from the same datasets (Fig. S7C, D) (26).

219

## 220 *Discussion*

221 By integrating and analyzing the current genome-wide association summary statistic data  
222 from consortia of 25 brain disorders, we find that psychiatric disorders broadly share a  
223 considerable portion of their common variant genetic risk, especially across schizophrenia,  
224 MDD, bipolar disorder, anxiety disorder and ADHD, while neurological disorders are more  
225 genetically distinct. Across categories, psychiatric and neurologic disorders share relatively little  
226 of their common genetic risk, suggesting that multiple different and largely independently  
227 regulated etiological pathways may give rise to similar clinical manifestations (e.g., psychosis,  
228 which manifests in both schizophrenia(30) and Alzheimer's disease(31)). Except for migraine,  
229 which appears to share some genetic architecture with psychiatric disorders, the existing clinical  
230 delineation between neurology and psychiatry is recapitulated at the level of common variant  
231 risk for the studied disorders.

232 Given that the broad and continuous nature of psychiatric disorder spectra in particular  
233 has been clinically recognized for a long time(32-34) and that patients can, in small numbers,  
234 progress from one diagnosis to another(35), we evaluated to what extent diagnostic  
235 misclassification could explain the observed correlations. Genetic correlation could arise if, for  
236 example, substantial numbers of patients progress through multiple diagnoses over their lifetime,  
237 or if some specific diagnostic boundaries between phenotype pairs are particularly porous to  
238 misclassification; while it would be unlikely to observe large-scale misclassification of migraine  
239 as schizophrenia, for example, there may be more substantial misclassification between other  
240 pairs, consistent with the clinical controversies in classification. Previous work(36) suggests that  
241 substantial misclassification (on the order of 15-30%, depending on whether it is uni- or

242 bidirectional) is required to introduce high levels of genetic correlation. We sought to confirm  
243 and expand upon these estimates by performing large-scale simulations and calculating the  
244 resulting correlations across a variety of scenarios (Fig. S8, S9, Table S9 and Supplementary  
245 Text). First, we established that the observed heritability of the simulated misclassified traits  
246 behaves as expected (Fig. S8A), and that the effects on observed correlation (Fig. S8B and S8C)  
247 are in line with the estimates from family data(36). We further explored the effect of  
248 misclassification on observed  $r_g$  given the correlation observed in real data. Reasonably low  
249 levels of misclassification or changes to the exact level of heritability appear unlikely to induce  
250 substantial changes in the estimated genetic correlation, though a lower observed heritability  
251 caused by substantial misclassification (Fig. S8A) will decrease the power to estimate the genetic  
252 overlap, as observed in the power analysis (Fig. S10). Further, such evidence of genetic overlap  
253 is unlikely to appear in the absence of underlying genetic correlation (Table S10), as it is  
254 apparent that a very high degree of misclassification (up to 79%) would be required to produce  
255 the observed correlations in the absence of any true genetic correlation. Therefore, the observed  
256 correlations suggest true sharing of a substantial fraction of the common variant genetic  
257 architecture among psychiatric disorders as well as between behavioral-cognitive measures and  
258 brain disorders.

259         The high degree of genetic correlation among the psychiatric disorders adds further  
260 evidence that current clinical diagnostics do not reflect the underlying genetic etiology of these  
261 disorders, and that genetic risk factors for psychiatric disorders do not respect clinical diagnostic  
262 boundaries. This suggests an interconnected nature for their genetic etiology, in contrast to  
263 neurological disorders, and underscores the need to refine psychiatric diagnostics. This study  
264 may provide important ‘scaffolding’ to support a new research framework for investigating  
265 mental disorders, incorporating many levels of information to understand basic dimensions of  
266 brain function, such as through the National Institute of Mental Health’s RDoC initiative.

267         The observed positive genetic correlations are consistent with a few different scenarios.  
268 For example,  $r_g$  may reflect the existence of some portion of common genetic risk factors  
269 conferring equal risks to multiple disorders where other distinct additional factors contribute to  
270 the eventual clinical presentation. The presence of significant genetic correlation may also reflect  
271 the phenotypic overlap between any two disorders; for example, the sharing between  
272 schizophrenia and ADHD might reflect underlying difficulties in executive functioning, which  
273 are well-established in both disorders(37). Similarly, the sharing between anorexia nervosa, OCD  
274 and schizophrenia may reflect a shared mechanism underlying cognitive biases that extend from  
275 overvalued ideas to delusions. Another scenario is that a heritable intermediate trait confers risk  
276 to multiple outcomes, thereby giving rise to the genetic correlation, as the genetic influences on  
277 this trait will be shared for both outcomes (e.g., obesity as a risk factor for both type 2 diabetes  
278 and coronary artery disease), or that even the majority of common genetic effects are shared  
279 between a pair of traits, but each individual effect may confer different degrees of risk and lead  
280 to different aggregate genetic risk profiles. While a combination of these is likely, it will become

281 increasingly feasible to evaluate these overlaps at the locus level as more genome-wide  
282 significant loci are identified in the future.

283 The low correlations observed across neurological disorders suggest that the current  
284 classification reflects relatively specific genetic etiologies, although the limited sample size for  
285 some of these disorders and lack of inclusion of disorders conceived as “circuit-based” in the  
286 literature, such as restless legs syndrome, sleep disorders and possibly essential tremor,  
287 constrains the generalizability of this conclusion. Generally, this analysis recapitulates the  
288 current understanding of the relatively distinct primary etiology underlying these disorders;  
289 degenerative disorders (such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s diseases) would not be expected *a*  
290 *priori* to share their polygenic risk profiles with a neuro-immunological disorder (like multiple  
291 sclerosis) or neurovascular disorder (like ischemic stroke). Similarly, we see limited evidence for  
292 the reported co-morbidity between migraine with aura and ischemic stroke(38) ( $r_g=0.29$ ,  
293  $p=0.099$ ); however, the standard errors of this comparison are too high to draw strong  
294 conclusions. At the disorder subtype level, migraine with and without aura ( $r_g=0.48$ ,  $p=1.79 \times 10^{-5}$ )  
295 shows substantial genetic correlation, while focal and generalized epilepsy ( $r_g=0.16$ ,  $p=0.388$ )  
296 show much less.

297 The few significant correlations across neurology and psychiatry, namely between  
298 migraine and ADHD, MDD and TS, suggest modest shared etiological overlap across the  
299 neurology/psychiatry distinction. The co-morbidity of migraine with MDD, Tourette Syndrome  
300 and ADHD has been previously reported in epidemiological studies (39-42), while in contrast,  
301 the previously reported co-morbidity between migraine and bipolar disorder seen in  
302 epidemiological studies (43) was not reflected in our estimate of genetic correlation ( $r_g=-0.03$ ,  
303  $p=0.406$ ).

304 Several phenotypes show only very low-level correlations with any of the other disorders  
305 and phenotypes studied here, despite large sample size and robust evidence for heritability,  
306 suggesting their common variant genetic risk may largely be unique. Alzheimer’s disease,  
307 Parkinson’s disease, and multiple sclerosis show extremely limited sharing with the other  
308 phenotypes and with each other. Neuroinflammation has been implicated in the pathophysiology  
309 of each of these conditions(44-46), as it has for migraine(47) and many psychiatric conditions,  
310 including schizophrenia(48), but no considerable shared heritability was observed with either of  
311 those conditions nor with Crohn’s disease, nor did we observe enrichment for immune-related  
312 tissues in the functional partitioning (Fig. S7) as we did for Crohn’s disease. While this  
313 observation does not preclude shared neuroinflammatory mechanisms in these disorders, it does  
314 suggest that on a large scale, common variant genetic influences on these inflammatory  
315 mechanisms are not shared between these disorders. Further, we only observed significant  
316 enrichment of heritability for immunological cells and tissues in multiple sclerosis, showing that  
317 inflammation-specific regulatory marks in the genome do not show overall enrichment for  
318 common variant risk for either Alzheimer’s or Parkinson’s diseases (though this does not  
319 preclude the effects of specific, non-polygenic neuroinflammatory mechanisms(49)). Among



320 psychiatric disorders, ASD and TS showed a similar absence of correlation with other disorders,  
321 although this could reflect small sample sizes.

322 Analysis of the Big Five personality measures suggest that the current sample sizes for  
323 personality data are beginning to be sufficiently large for correlation testing; neuroticism, which  
324 has by far the largest sample size, shows several significant correlations. Most significant of  
325 these was to MDD ( $r_g=0.737$ ,  $p=5.04 \times 10^{-96}$ ), providing further evidence for the link between  
326 these phenotypes, reported previously with polygenic risk scores(50) and twin studies(51, 52);  
327 others included schizophrenia, anxiety disorders, migraine, migraine without aura, and OCD  
328 (Table S6). Further, the observation of strong correlation between MDD and anxiety disorders  
329 together with their remarkably strong and similar patterns of correlation between each of these  
330 disorders and the dimensional measures of depressive symptoms, subjective well-being, and  
331 neuroticism suggests that they all tag a fundamentally similar underlying etiology. The novel  
332 significant correlation between coronary artery disease and MDD supports the long-standing  
333 epidemiological observation of a link between MDD and CAD(53), while the observed  
334 correlation between ADHD and smoking initiation ( $r_g=0.374$ ,  $p=3.15 \times 10^{-6}$ ) is consistent with  
335 the epidemiological evidence of overlap(54) and findings from twin studies(55), supporting the  
336 existing hypothesis that impulsivity inherent in ADHD may drive smoking initiation and  
337 potentially dependence (though other explanations, such as reward system dysfunction would fit  
338 as well).

339 For the neurological disorders, five (Alzheimer's disease, intracerebral hemorrhage,  
340 ischemic and early-onset stroke, and migraine) showed significant negative genetic correlation to  
341 the cognitive measures, while a further two (epilepsy and focal epilepsy) showed moderate  
342 negative genetic correlation (Fig. S5). For Alzheimer's disease, poor cognitive performance in  
343 early life has been linked to increased risk for developing the disorder in later life(56), but to our  
344 knowledge no such connection has been reported for the other phenotypes. ADHD, anxiety  
345 disorders and MDD show a significant negative correlation to cognitive and education attainment  
346 measures, while the remaining five of the eight psychiatric disorders (anorexia nervosa, ASD,  
347 bipolar disorder, OCD, and schizophrenia) showed significant positive genetic correlation with  
348 one or more cognitive measures. These results strongly suggest the existence of a link between  
349 cognitive performance already in early life and the genetic risk for both psychiatric and  
350 neurological brain disorders. The basis of the genetic correlations between education, cognition  
351 and brain disorders may have a variety of root causes including indexing performance  
352 differences based on behavioral dysregulation (e.g., ADHD relating to attentional problems  
353 during cognitive tests) or may reflect ascertainment biases in certain disorders conditional on  
354 impaired cognition (e.g., individuals with lower cognitive reserve being more rapidly identified  
355 for Alzheimer's disease).

356 BMI shows significant positive genetic correlation to ADHD, consistent with a meta-  
357 analysis linking ADHD to obesity(57), and negative genetic correlation with anorexia nervosa,  
358 OCD and schizophrenia. These results are consistent with the evidence for enrichment of BMI

359 heritability in CNS tissues(26) and that many reported signals suggest neuronal involvement(58);  
360 this may also provide a partial genetic explanation for lower BMI in anorexia nervosa patients  
361 even after recovery(59). Given that no strong correlations were observed between BMI and any  
362 of the neurological phenotypes, it is possible to hypothesize that BMI's brain-specific genetic  
363 architecture is more closely related to behavioral phenotypes. Ischemic stroke and BMI show  
364 surprisingly little genetic correlation in this analysis ( $r_g=0.07$ ,  $p=0.26$ ), suggesting that although  
365 BMI is a strong risk factor for stroke(60), there is little evidence for shared common genetic  
366 effects. These analyses also suggest that the reported reduced rates of cardiovascular disease in  
367 individuals with histories of anorexia nervosa (61, 62) are due to BMI-related effects; with the  
368 limited evidence of genetic correlation of anorexia nervosa with intracerebral hemorrhage,  
369 ischemic stroke, early-onset stroke and coronary artery disease, these results suggest that any  
370 lower cardiovascular mortality is more likely due to direct BMI-related effects rather than  
371 shared common genetic risk variants.

372 It is broadly apparent from the results presented here that the current clinical boundaries  
373 for the studied psychiatric phenotypes do not reflect distinct underlying pathogenic processes  
374 based on the genetic evidence, while in contrast, the studied neurological disorders show much  
375 greater genetic specificity. Although it is important to emphasize that while some disorders are  
376 under-represented here (e.g. personality disorders in psychiatry and circuit-based disorders [such  
377 as restless leg syndrome] in neurology), these results clearly demonstrate the limited evidence for  
378 widespread common genetic risk sharing between psychiatric and neurological disorders, while  
379 providing strong evidence for links between them and behavioral-cognitive measures. We  
380 highlight the need for some degree of restructuring of psychiatric nosology and that genetically  
381 informed analyses may provide a good basis for such activities, consistent with the historical  
382 knowledge from twin and family-based results. Further elucidation of individual disorders and  
383 their genetic overlap, especially as distinct loci map onto a subset of disorders and etiological  
384 processes, may form the basis for either defining new clinical phenotypes or support a move to a  
385 more continuous view of psychiatric phenotypes. Further study is needed to evaluate whether  
386 overlapping genetic contributions to psychiatric pathology may influence optimal treatment  
387 choices. Ultimately, such developments give hope to reducing diagnostic heterogeneity and  
388 eventually improving the diagnostics and treatment of psychiatric disorders.

389

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566 used in the paper are available either directly from, or via application submitted in, the web addresses listed below.  
567 Data on coronary artery disease has been contributed by CARDIoGRAMplusC4D investigators and have been  
568 downloaded from [www.CARDIOGRAMPLUSC4D.ORG](http://www.CARDIOGRAMPLUSC4D.ORG). *matSpD* is available at  
569 [neurogenetics.qimrberghofer.edu.au/matSpD/](http://neurogenetics.qimrberghofer.edu.au/matSpD/). This research has been conducted using the UK Biobank Resource  
570 (application #18597).

571  
572

## 573 **Data sources**

### 574 **Disorder or phenotype – Consortium or dataset identifier – web address:**

#### 575 *Psychiatric disorders*

576 ADHD – PGC-ADD2 - <http://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/results-and-downloads>  
577 Anorexia nervosa(63) – PGC-ED - <http://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/results-and-downloads>  
578 Anxiety disorder(64) – ANGST - <http://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/results-and-downloads>  
579 Autism spectrum disorders(65) – PGC-AUT - <http://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/results-and-downloads>  
580 Bipolar disorder – PGC-BIP2 - <http://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/results-and-downloads> (soon)  
581 Major depressive disorder – PGC-MDD2 - <http://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/results-and-downloads> (soon)  
582 OCD – PGC-OCDS - <http://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/results-and-downloads>  
583 PTSD – PGC-PTSD - <http://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/results-and-downloads>  
584 Schizophrenia(22) – PGC-SCZ2 – <http://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/results-and-downloads>  
585 Tourette Syndrome – TSAIGC – <http://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/results-and-downloads>

586

#### 587 *Neurological disorders*

588 Alzheimer's disease(18) – IGAP - <http://www.pasteur-lille.fr/en/recherche/u744/igap>  
589 Epilepsy and subtypes, focal and generalized(66) – ILAE – [http://www.epigad.org/page/show/gwas\\_index](http://www.epigad.org/page/show/gwas_index)  
590 Intracerebral hemorrhage(67) – ISGC - <http://www.strokegenetics.com/>  
591 Ischemic stroke and subtypes (cardioembolic, early-onset, small-vessel and large-vessel)(68) – METASTROKE  
592 dataset of the ISGC – <http://www.strokegenetics.com/>  
593 Migraine and subtypes, migraine with and without aura – IHGC – [www.headachegenetics.org](http://www.headachegenetics.org)  
594 Multiple sclerosis(69) – IMSGC - [http://eaglep.case.edu/ims\\_gc\\_web](http://eaglep.case.edu/ims_gc_web)  
595 Parkinson's disease(21) – IPDGC – [www.pdgene.org](http://www.pdgene.org)

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#### 597 *Behavioral-cognitive phenotypes*

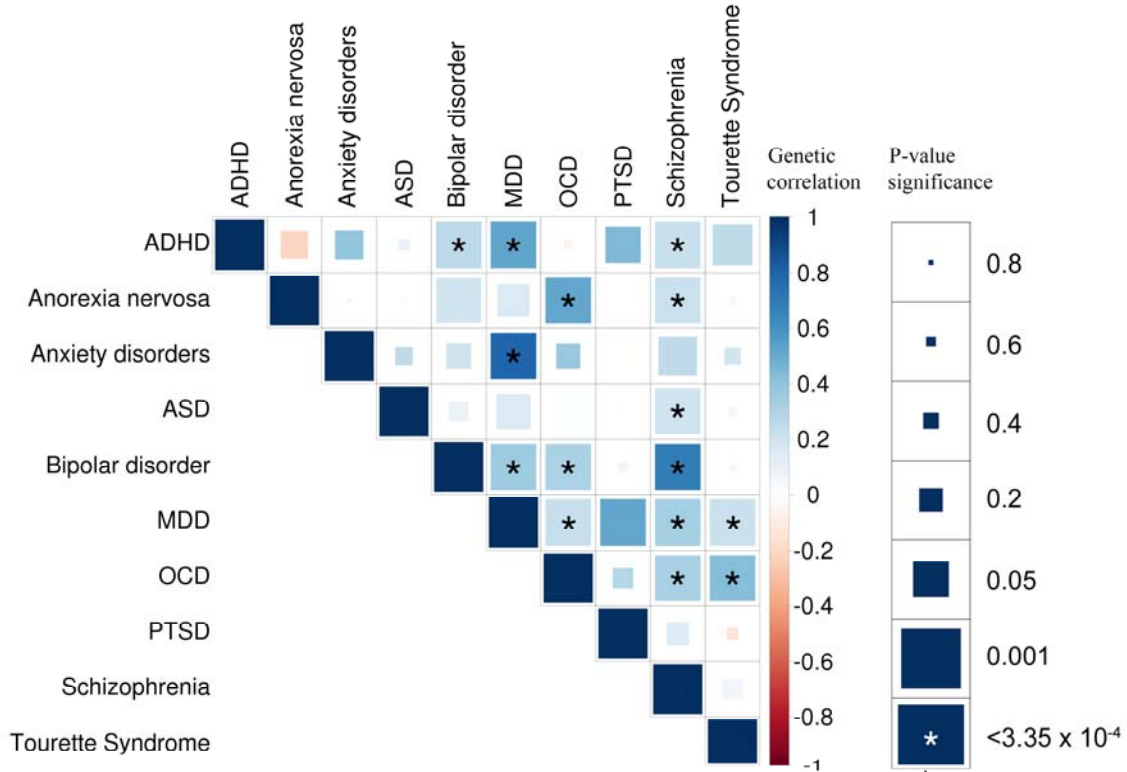
598 College attainment, years of education(70) – SSGAC – <http://www.thessgac.org/data>  
599 Childhood cognitive performance(71) – SSGAC – <http://www.thessgac.org/data>  
600 Extraversion, agreeableness, conscientiousness and openness (27) – GPC – <http://www.tweelingenregister.org/GPC/>  
601 IQ(72) – CTG - [http://ctg.cncr.nl/software/summary\\_statistics](http://ctg.cncr.nl/software/summary_statistics)  
602 Neuroticism, depressive symptoms and subjective well-being (73) – SSGAC - <http://www.thessgac.org/data>  
603 Never/ever smoked, cigarettes per day(74) - TAG - <http://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/results-and-downloads>

604

#### 605 *Additional phenotypes*

606 BMI(58) – GIANT – <https://www.broadinstitute.org/collaboration/giant>  
607 Height(75) – GIANT – <https://www.broadinstitute.org/collaboration/giant>  
608 Crohn's disease(76) – IBDGC - <http://www.ibdgenetics.org/downloads.html>  
609 Coronary artery disease(77) – Cardiogram – <http://www.cardiogramplusc4d.org/downloads/>

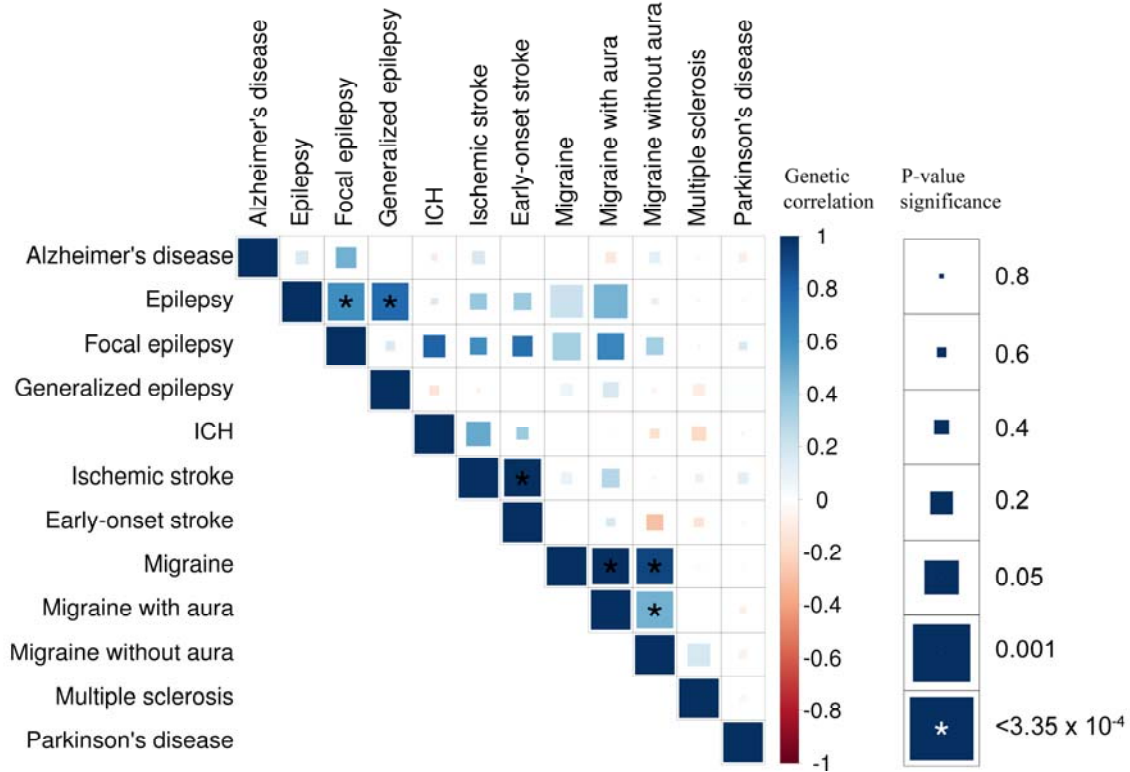
610 **Figure 1.** Genetic correlation matrix across psychiatric phenotypes.



Color of each box indicates the magnitude of the correlation, while size of the boxes indicates its significance, with significant correlations filling each box completely. Asterisks indicate genetic correlations which are significant after Bonferroni correction. ADHD – attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; ASD – autism spectrum disorder; MDD – major depressive disorder; OCD – obsessive-compulsive disorder; PTSD – post-traumatic stress disorder.

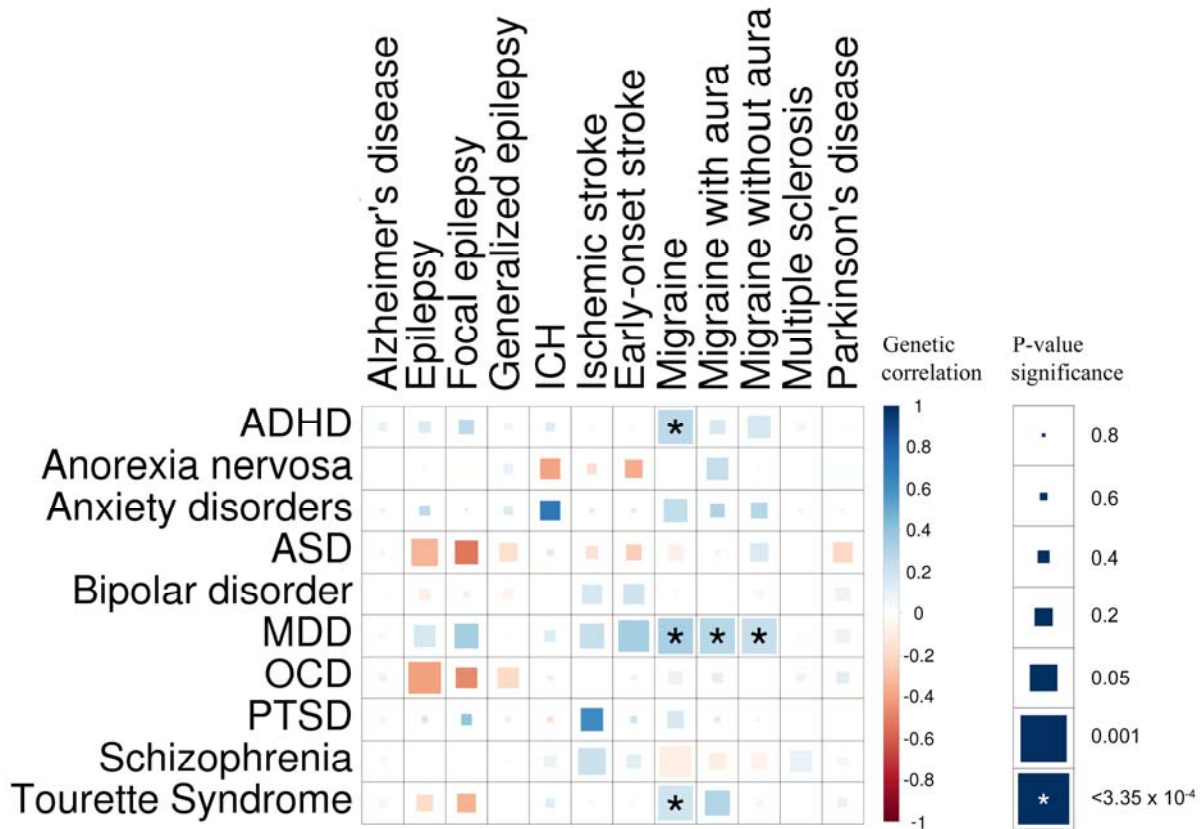


616 **Figure 2.** Genetic correlation matrix across neurological phenotypes.



618 *Color of each box indicates the magnitude of the correlation, while size of the boxes indicates its significance, with*  
 619 *significant correlations filling each box completely. Asterisks indicate genetic correlations which are significant*  
 620 *after Bonferroni correction. Some phenotypes have substantial overlaps (see Table 1), e.g. all cases of generalized*  
 621 *epilepsy are also cases of epilepsy. Asterisks indicate significant genetic correlation after multiple testing*  
 622 *correction. ICH – intracerebral hemorrhage.*

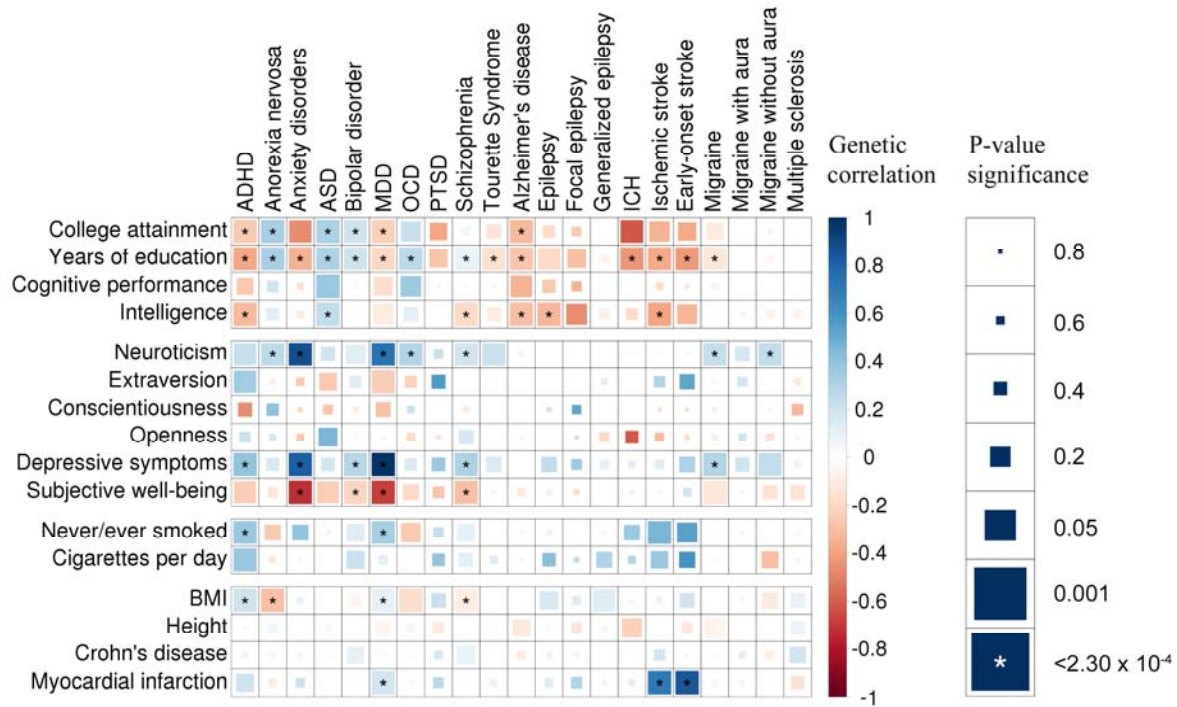
624 **Figure 3.** Genetic correlation matrix across neurological and psychiatric phenotypes.



625

626 *Color of each box indicates the magnitude of the correlation, while size of the boxes indicates its significance, with*  
 627 *significant correlations filling each box completely. Asterisks indicate genetic correlations which are significant*  
 628 *after Bonferroni correction. ADHD – attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; ASD – autism spectrum disorder; ICH*  
 629 *– intracerebral hemorrhage; MDD – major depressive disorder; OCD – obsessive-compulsive disorder; PTSD –*  
 630 *post-traumatic stress disorder.*

631 **Figure 4.** Genetic correlation matrix across brain disorders and behavioral-cognitive phenotypes.



632

633 *Color of each box indicates the magnitude of the correlation, while size of the boxes indicates its significance, with*  
 634 *significant correlations filling each box completely. Asterisks indicate genetic correlations which are significant*  
 635 *after Bonferroni correction. ADHD – attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; ASD – autism spectrum disorder; ICH*  
 636 *– intracerebral hemorrhage; MDD – major depressive disorder; OCD – obsessive-compulsive disorder; PTSD –*  
 637 *post-traumatic stress disorder; BMI –body-mass index.*

638 **Table 1.** Brain disorder phenotypes used in the Brainstorm project. Indented phenotypes are part of a larger whole,  
 639 e.g. the epilepsy study consists of the joint analysis of focal epilepsy and generalized epilepsy. Numbers in gray  
 640 denote a sample set which is non-unique, e.g. cardioembolic stroke samples are a subset of ischemic stroke samples.  
 641 ADHD – attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; OCD – obsessive-compulsive disorder. ‘Anxiety disorders’ refers  
 642 to a meta-analysis of five subtypes (generalized anxiety disorder, panic disorder, social phobia, agoraphobia and  
 643 specific phobias). Source details are listed under Data Sources and the references in Table S1.

644

**Psychiatric disorders**

**Neurological disorders**

Disorder	Source	Cases	Controls	Disorder	Source	Cases	Controls
ADHD	PGC-ADD2	12,645	84,435	Alzheimer's disease	IGAP	17,008	37,154
Anorexia nervosa	PGC-ED	3,495	11,105	Epilepsy	ILAE	7,779	20,439
Anxiety disorders	ANGST	5,761	11,765	Focal epilepsy	"	4,601	17,985
Autism spectrum disorder	PGC-AUT	6,197	7,377	Generalized epilepsy	"	2,525	16,244
Bipolar disorder	PGC-BIP2	20,352	31,358	Intracerebral hemorrhage	ISGC	1,545	1,481
Major depressive disorder	PGC-MDD2	16,823	25,632	Ischemic stroke	METASTROKE	10,307	19,326
OCD	PGC-OCDS	2,936	7,279	Cardioembolic stroke	"	1,859	17,708
PTSD	PGC-PTSD	2,424	7,113	Early-onset stroke	"	3,274	11,012
Schizophrenia	PGC-SCZ2	33,640	43,456	Large-vessel disease	"	1,817	17,708
Tourette Syndrome	PGC-OCDS	4,220	8,994	Small-vessel disease	"	1,349	17,708
				Migraine	IHGC	59,673	316,078
				Migraine with aura	"	6,332	142,817
				Migraine without aura	"	8,348	136,758
				Multiple sclerosis	IMSGC	5,545	12,153
				Parkinson's disease	IPDGC	5,333	12,019
<i>Total psychiatric</i>		<i>108,493</i>	<i>238,514</i>	<i>Total neurologic</i>		<i>107,190</i>	<i>418,650</i>

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647 **Table 2.** Behavioral-cognitive and additional phenotypes used in the study. Numbers in gray denote overlapping  
 648 study sets, e.g. samples in the college attainment analysis are a subset of those in the analysis for years of education.  
 649 (d) – dichotomous phenotype, (q) – quantitative phenotype. BMI – body-mass index. Source details are listed under  
 650 Data Sources, while references are listed in Table S2.

Phenotype	Source	Samples
<b>Behavioral-cognitive phenotypes</b>		
<i>Cognitive</i>		
Years of education (q)	SSGAC	293,723
College attainment (d)	"	120,917
Cognitive performance (q)	"	17,989
Intelligence (d)	CTG	78,308
<i>Personality measures</i>		
Subjective well-being	SSGAC	298,420
Depressive symptoms	"	161,460
Neuroticism (q)	"	170,911
Extraversion (q)	GPC	63,030
Agreeableness (q)	"	17,375
Conscientiousness (q)	"	17,375
Openness (q)	"	17,375
<i>Smoking-related</i>		
Never/ever smoked (d)	TAG	74,035
Cigarettes per day (q)	TAG	38,617
<b>Additional phenotypes</b>		
BMI (q)	GIANT	339,224
Height (q)	"	253,288
Coronary artery disease (d)	Cardiogram	86,995
Crohn's disease (d)	IIBDGC	20,883
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,124,048</b>

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653 **Supplementary Materials**

654 Materials and methods

655 Supplementary Text

656           Comparison with previous heritability estimates

657           Effect of phenotypic misclassification

658           Study-specific acknowledgements

659           Consortium memberships

660 Figures S1-10

661 Tables S1-10