Hello Grey House team members and our valued quarantin-teammates! We are now 424 days into our team-building adventure! Is it just me, or is there optimism in the air? (Presuming you are not living in India or Uruguay.) Maybe that’s just spring pollen. But it COULD be fairy dust. It could be!

The Vaccines are working. They’re working!

In the UK, cases, hospital admissions and deaths have fallen faster in older groups than younger ones

Cases, hospital admissions and deaths as a percentage of winter peak, by age group (log scale)

As each UK age group has been vaccinated, its share of cases has fallen

Percentage change in age group's share of all cases vs where it stood on Jan 25

Chart concept from James Ward / @JamesWard73
Source: UK government Covid-19 dashboard
© FT
France’s third wave saw cases, hospital patient numbers and deaths climb among the young and middle-aged, but remain stable among the elderly.

Different metrics as a percentage of winter peak, by age group (log scale)

The ‘UK variant’ B.1.1.7 has rapidly become dominant across Europe and is now spreading in North America.

Percentage of all sequenced cases of Covid-19 that are from the B.1.1.7 variant, by country.

Source: French health ministry
© FT

Source: FT analysis of GISAID data
© FT
In the US, hospitalisations continue to decline in older, more-vaccinated groups despite a resurgence among younger adults

Hospitalisation rate as a percentage of peak during each wave, by age group

Summer/fall, before vaccinations  
Winter/spring, since vaccinations

Fall in elderly hospitalisation rates was slower  
First dose given to 10% of elderly

Source: FT analysis of US CDC  
© FT

Cases, ICU occupancy and deaths are climbing fast among Chile’s younger population, but are stable or falling among the mostly-vaccinated elderly

Different metrics as a percentage of value on Feb 19, by age group (log scale)

Cases  
ICU patients  
Deaths

Source: Chilean science ministry  
© FT
People are getting out, doing things, and having fun again.

Ronen’s first Macon farm visit.
From Espen in Norway.....ski in the morning, swim in the evening!
Five-year wedding anniversary! Congratulations Pete and Jasmin!
Guess who found the wigs in the closet?
Calendar of upcoming Grey House events:

April:
https://investmenttu.com/history-of-420/

27: Ahmad Hariri’s birthday, tomorrow!

May
1: Masked Ball goodbye lunch for Line, Aaron, and Max at the Macon Farm at NOON
5: Avshalom’s birthday
14: Avshalom, and maybe Temi, fly to Israel
29: Susan Harward’s birthday
31: Line and Jens move to Copenhagen

June:
4: Honalee’s birthday
12: Avshalom’s K07 training grant submission due at NIA
14: Jasmin’s birthday
25: Aaron’s birthday
30: Neuroimaging renewal and DunedinPoAm4x applications due at NIA

July:
Aaron and Jessalee move to South Carolina
Max and Emily move to Massachusetts.

If you have events coming up, and would like to share them, do let me know. Temi

Avshalom, Temi, Line, Kyle, and Stephanie, back at Grey House!

Now that teaching has ended, instead of spending teaching Mondays at Grey house, Avshalom and I will be spending Wednesdays and Thursdays, starting next week. We are scheduling meeting times for days we are in the office for team members who want to meet face-to-face. Times have moved to a different day for those who prefer zoom for now.
FIRST THE HAPPY NEWS:

Announcing, ta da!!!!!!! Max Elliott passed his PhD defense last week with flying colours! Congratulations to Max! He did a magnificent job. Now begin to treat him with new respect. A wonderful day!

And to darling Emily. Who put up with it all.
NEXT, THE UN-HAPPY NEWS:

Jasmin got this unhappy message….Whoa! Her response…..Reminds me of that German saying that we once made fun of at a lab meeting but that I think is being proven true again and again, “trust is good, control is better” 😆

Dear MCS genetic data users,

I am contacting you as recipients of MCS phenotypic data linked to the MCS genetic data, following your application approval by either METADAC or CLS DAC.

The CLS data managers working on the generation of the phenotypic data have discovered that there was a mistake in the syntax code used to extract the phenotypic data from the CLS research database. This bug resulted in some phenotypic rows being scrambled and incorrectly linked to the genetic data…. 
THIS WEEK’s cool science visualizations: for you, from Honalee.

Comparing the Dunedin phase 45 sample with NZ National Health Survey (of 2018/19)

The NZ Ministry of Health conducts a regular survey of New Zealanders’ health. They have summary statistics available online for 9 waves spanning 2006/07 to 2018/19. Topics surveyed include; self-rated health, substance use, cardiovascular health, health conditions, nutrition and physical activity, sleep, mental health, service use, etc. If you are interested, you can explore the Survey data here.

The 2018/2019 survey sampled 13,752 adults. Data collection involved a face-to-face interview, followed by measurement of height and weight, waist circumference and blood pressure.

I have created a couple of figures comparing our Dunedin prevalence rates with those in the National Survey. (Note that the Survey population is a more ethnically diverse sample than the Dunedin Study. The Y axis varies by figure).
On Medication for High Cholesterol

Weekly Binge Drinker

Daily Smoker

Used Cannabis this year
RESEARCH-PROJECT PROGRESS SINCE 19 April:

Temi submitted a proposal to Duke's Incubator program for research that’s near the stage of intellectual property. For DunedinPoAm4x.

Accepted at Communications Biology! manuscript "Eleven Genomic Loci Affect Plasma Levels of Chronic Inflammation Marker Soluble Urokinase-type Plasminogen Activator Receptor" by Mr Joseph Dowsett and colleagues

Jasmin resubmitted her R&R from hell! Manuscript Title: “Vital personality scores and healthy aging: Life-course associations and familial transmission” at Social Science and Medicine

Announcing a new journal: Nature Psychology! https://www.nature.com/nrpsychol/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_content=ads&utm_campaign=NRRJ_1_MM01_OT_nrpsychol_announcing&fbclid=IwAR3hdIP0ibepQmFrnYLUEcBo41r9lpzCLEDwoD-Ol5kq-C-BhZwlqWuN74

NCI Webinar

Measuring Patients’ Pace of Biological Aging Through Life-Course Research

May 3, 1 pm-2pm ET

Daniel W. Belsky, Ph.D. Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health

Terrie E. Moffitt, Ph.D. Duke University King’s College London, UK

@NCIBehaviors @NCICancerCtrl
Have a serene week everyone.