

Hello intrepid Grey House team members and our doughty quaran-teammates! We are now 438 unbelievable days into our team-building exercise, and it's still underway, but maybe, maybe, maybe, it's nearing the end. I don't want to be overconfident here, but there might not be too many more of these goofy newsletters.

Bye bye Jens, Line, and Oscar. We will miss yall so much! Denmark here we come!



This week, Duke Office of Licensing and Ventures signed a licensing contract with TruDiagnostic for DunedinPoAm4x. We're in business!



Discover how fast you've been aging! (What if you don't want to know?)

Calendar of upcoming Grey House events:

May

11-12 Temi and Av in the office

14: Avshalom, and maybe Temi, fly to Israel (I have applied, STILL waiting to hear)

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, Susan goes on 2 week's vacation

25: Aaron's birthday

30: Neuroimaging renewal and DunedinPoAm4x applications due at NIA

Max and Emily move to Massachusetts.

July:

Aaron and Jessalee move to South Carolina

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

TEAM MEETING SCHEDULE, SUMMER 2021

Tuesdays 9am-6pm, Farm Meetings with those who want to zoom

9:00-10:00

10:30-11:30 Renate zoom

12:00-1:00 Genomics group with David and Av zoom

1:00-2:00 Ben and Karen zoom

2:00-3:00 Maria and Ahmad zoom

3:00-4:00 Susan zoom

4:00-5:00 Leah, Barry, Steph D'S. zoom

Wednesdays 9am-6pm Meetings with those who want face-to-face

8:00-10:00 drive to Durham

10:00-11:00 Ahmad and co

11:00-12:00 Max thru June

12:00-1:00 Line, thru May

1:30-2:30 HonaLee and Av

3:00-4:00

4:00-5:00 Dina Q odd weeks

5:00-6:00

Thursdays 9-5 Meetings with those who want face-to-face

9:30-10:30 Kyle

11:00-12:00 Aaron thru June

12:30-1:30 Jasmin

2:00-3:00 Stephanie L.

3:00-4:00

4:00-6:00 drive from Durham back to farm

After Line, Max, and Aaron depart (sad, sad, sad), times will open up for Tuesday zoomers to come into the office for meetings, moving gradually back toward some days in the office, per Duke's back-to-work plan for July. WHICH, the provost assures me, will be announced soon-ish.

FIRST THE HAPPY NEWS: The 22-tonne carcass of a rogue Chinese rocket fuselage missed all of us, hardi-harharhar!

The chickens and Oscar are both 1 year old. Av is 61.



Avshalom has put up the “Gone Fishing” sign, he is off to Israel this Friday, for a month. (this isn’t Israel actually, its Sri Lanka, but you get the idea.)



Kyle had a birthday, and this little glass cat popped up in his herbs.

Good news! Next Generation of Covid-19 Vaccines Could Be Pill or Spray! Drugmakers and government labs are developing doses easier to take and transport to avert future pandemics

Richie reported preliminary findings to the NZ Government this week from our survey of vaccine intentions in the Dunedin Study. Three things with immediate policy and/or action implications jump out:

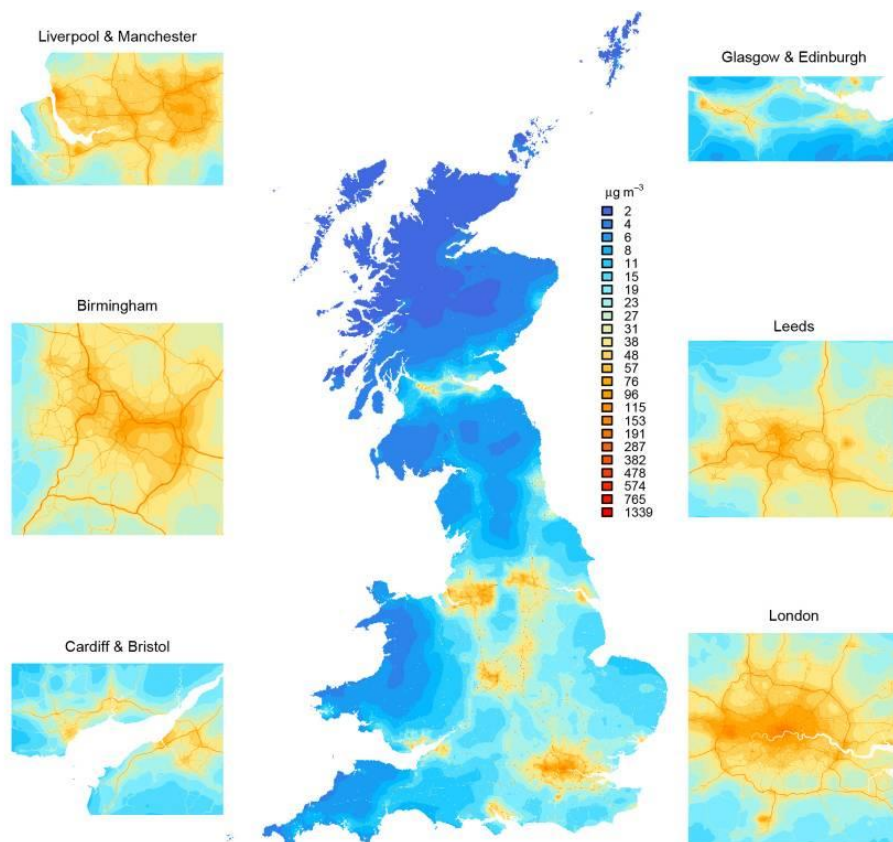
1. GPs/health practitioners are easily the most trusted source of information about COVID-19, endorsed by 83% of our participants. This implies that GPs/health practitioners should write letters/emails to their patients encouraging them to get vaccinated. Parenthetically, Ashley Bloomfield enjoys the next highest level of trust (“the countries doctor” perhaps at 65% 😊), along with scientists (at or just above 60%). Bottom line is that the most effective means for reducing vaccine hesitancy is likely to be via primary care doctors. But only 7% of study members said their doctor has talked to them about the vaccine.
2. A corollary to 1 above is that well know celebs in particular (2%), and to a lesser extent ‘government’ don’t seem to enjoy high levels of trust (all <50%). This implies that over-reliance on MoH and other Govt websites - in comparison to GPs – carries the risk of not getting the message across fully.
3. Finally, many of the reasons people endorse for hesitancy seem entirely reasonable, and relate to speed of development and the (currently) impossible question around medium and long-term side-effects. Clearly these are the issues that should be addressed upfront and honestly with people ie the need to balance low levels of potential long-term harms versus high levels of short-term benefit. To not address this issue risks hesitancy remaining high among a significant minority of the population.

NEXT, THE UN-HAPPY NEWS:
None that I know of. How nice is that?

This week's science visualisations:

Childhood Air Pollution Exposure Linked to Poor Mental Health at Age 18

As a risk factor, it is equivalent to lead exposure



A map of England, Scotland and Wales, showing Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) concentrations.
(Aaron Reuben, Duke University)

And Science news from Honalee (with help from Antony, Ness, and Sean):

Subject: Looking at who are the early respondents for the Covid survey

Following the note about the first half of the covid survey responders, here is an interesting chart that shows you something one seldom gets to see. Who responds to surveys! The graph below shows the scores for the following variables:

Conscientiousness, as rated by informants at phase 45

Conscientiousness, as rated by interviewers at phase 45

Life satisfaction at age 45

Attitudes toward aging at age 45.

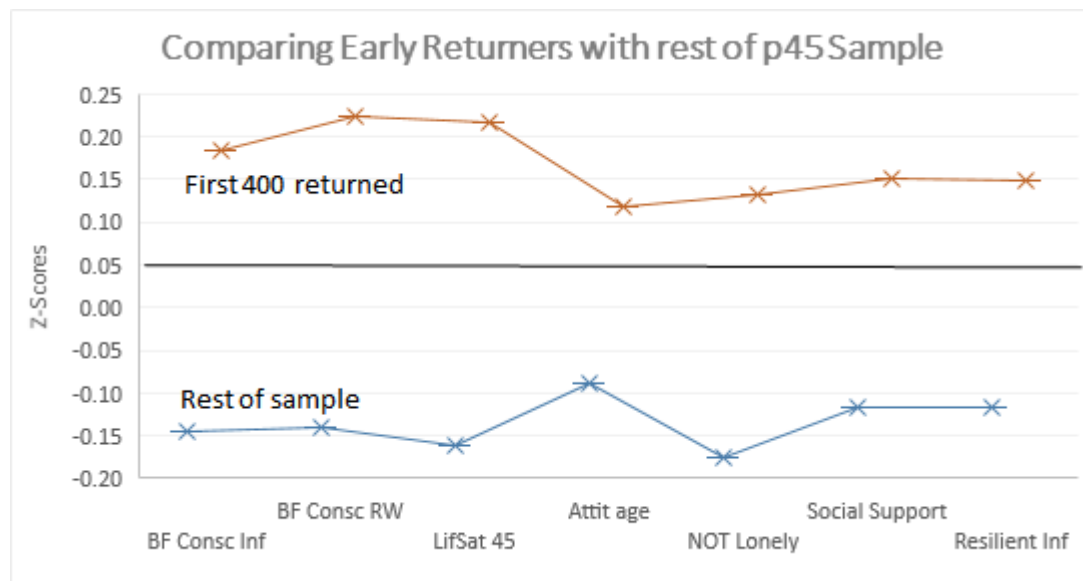
Loneliness at age 45 (reverse scored, so that a low score is lonely)

Social support at age 45

Resilient, as reported by informants at age 45.

All the variables have been put on the same metric, with mean = 0 and standard deviation = 1.

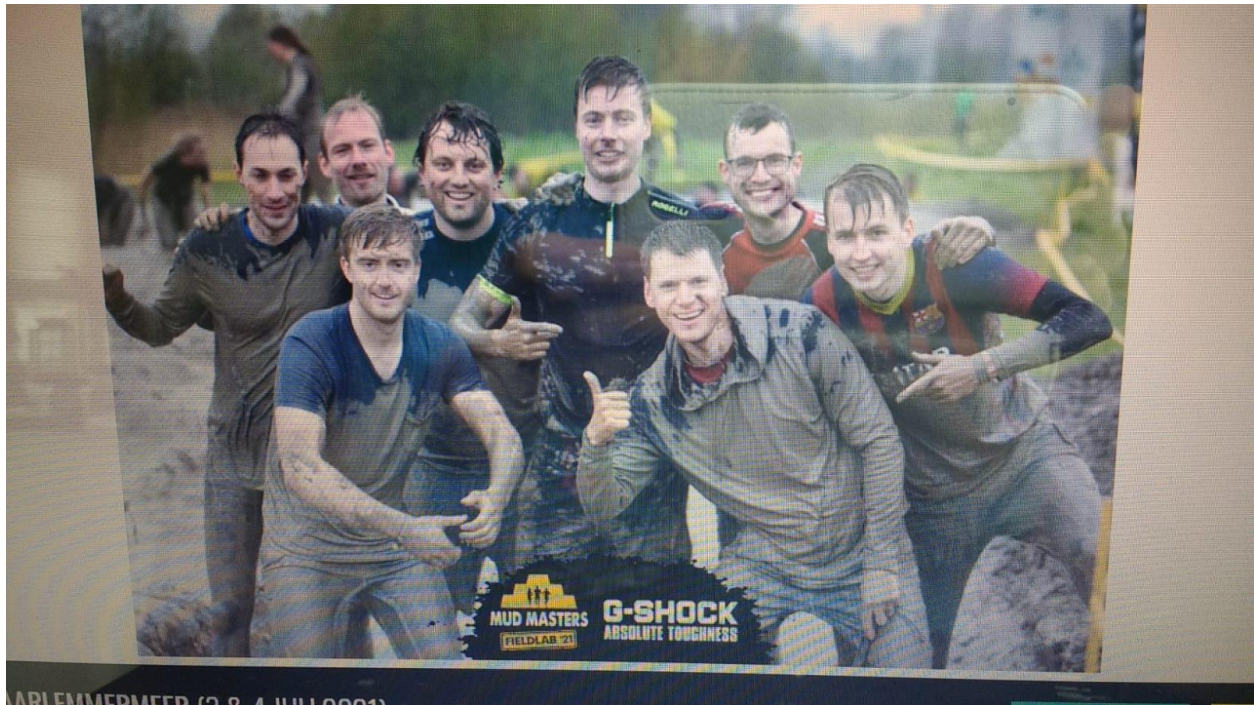
Thus, you can see that the first 400 returned have a conscientious score of .18 and the rest of the sample have a conscientiousness score of -.13, resulting in a 1/3 standard deviation unit difference between responders and non-responders. A difference that is large. As we expect, on the whole, the prompt returners are more conscientious, happier with their lives, and with more social support. Not shown here, but we have confirmed....they have higher IQ scores and less history of mental disorders. This is why the phone interviews to reach the rest of the cohort are so important. Thank you Ness and co!



RESEARCH-PROJECT PROGRESS SINCE 3 May:

Collaborator Jorim Tielbeek from the Netherlands has sent in his manuscript for mock review. “Genetic Architecture of Broad Antisocial Behavior: a Genome-Wide Association Study Meta-analysis.” Ben and JC have helped Jorim.

Jorim is the clean one.



Collaborator Geli Ronald’s paper is out for mock review too!

“The association between adult autistic traits and the p-factor: Implications for neurodevelopment and mental health”

Our Jon Schaefer did a [podcast interview](#) about his Enduring Mental Health paper! How Better Mental Health Epidemiology Can Lower Stigma. Go Jon, go!

Helen Fisher got a revise and resubmit for her E-Risk paper entitled "Associations between childhood victimization, inflammatory biomarkers and psychotic phenomena in adolescence: a longitudinal cohort study" from Brain Behavior and Immunity. Yaaay!

Temi and Avshalom got a paper accepted from the 2019 NIH Geroscience Summit:

Felipe Sierra, PhD^{1,2}, Avshalom Caspi, PhD³, Richard H. Fortinsky, PhD⁴, Laura Haynes, PhD⁴, Gordon J. Lithgow, PhD⁵, Richard A. Miller, MD, PhD⁶, Terrie E. Moffitt, PhD³, S. Jay Olshansky, PhD⁷, Daniel Perry⁸, Eric Verdin E, MD PhD⁵ and George A. Kuchel, MD⁴.

"Moving Geroscience from the Bench to Clinical Care and Health Policy."

Journal of the American Geriatrics Society.

Roma Buffarini and Joe Murray's paper "Intimate partner violence against women and child maltreatment in a Brazilian birth cohort study: co-occurrence and shared risk factors" has now been published online by BMJ Global Health.

Temi did a podcast in Denmark, an interview with Journalist Lone Frank, about 4 decades of mental health.

Avshalom, Temi, and Susan have nearly finished two proposals to NIA this week. We aim to get them in before Susan goes on 2 week's vacation June 14.

Have a happy week everyone.

