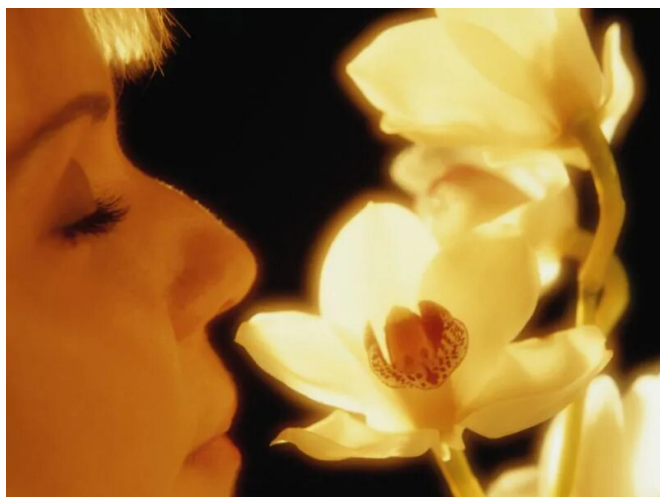


Objective olfactory dysfunction linked to mortality in seniors

23 October 2020



binary and linear measures of objective olfactory dysfunction (hazard ratios, 1.95 and 1.19, respectively). No association was seen between self-reported olfactory dysfunction and mortality. After further adjustment for the cognitive assessment battery and depression among [older adults](#), the association between objective [olfactory dysfunction](#) and [mortality](#) remained (hazard ratio, 1.18).

"This work emphasizes the importance of this special sense and shines a spotlight on its importance for the health and longevity of a rapidly growing segment of our population," write the authors of an accompanying editorial.

More information: [Abstract/Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)
[Editorial \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

(HealthDay)—For older adults, objective olfactory dysfunction is associated with increased mortality, according to a study published online Oct. 22 in *JAMA Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery*.

Copyright © 2020 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Janet S. Choi, M.D., M.P.H., from the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, and colleagues examined the association between olfactory dysfunction and all-cause five-year mortality in a cohort study involving 3,503 U.S. adults. Olfaction was assessed by self-report and with an objective measure (8-odor Pocket Smell Test).

The researchers found that the prevalence of olfactory dysfunction was 13.5 and 21.6 percent based on results of an objective smell test and based on self-report, respectively. Per 1-point decrease in [smell](#) test score, the risk for mortality increased by 18 percent in a multivariate model. The association was not significant among adults aged 40 to 64 years, but was significant among adults aged 65 years or older in association with

APA citation: Objective olfactory dysfunction linked to mortality in seniors (2020, October 23) retrieved 30 April 2021 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-10-olfactory-dysfunction-linked-mortality-seniors.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.