# Serum iron parameters, HFE C282Y genotype, and cognitive performance in older adults: results from the **FACIT** study

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**TABLE 3**Associations between iron parameters and cognitive performance at baseline in healthy older adults\*

| Cognitive performance indices | n   |            |       |          |       |                 |       |
|-------------------------------|-----|------------|-------|----------|-------|-----------------|-------|
|                               | -   | Serum iron | p     | Ferritin | p     | Non-transferrin | p     |
|                               |     |            |       |          |       | bound iron      |       |
| Memory                        | 794 | -0.019     | 0.807 | 0.002    | 0.951 | 0.070           | 0.362 |
| Sensorimotor speed            | 789 | -0.185     | 0.012 | -0.073   | 0.033 | 0.141           | 0.054 |
| Complex speed                 | 788 | -0.081     | 0.296 | -0.077   | 0.019 | 0.081           | 0.266 |
| Information processing speed  | 791 | -0.109     | 0.141 | -0.069   | 0.046 | 0.078           | 0.291 |
| Word fluency                  | 794 | -0.050     | 0.519 | -0.062   | 0.092 | 0.057           | 0.462 |

<sup>\*</sup> Adjusted for the covariates age, sex, level of education, alcohol consumption, smoking, body mass index, physical activity, *APOE* E4 carrier status, serum C-reactive protein, and hemoglobin concentration in hierarchical linear regression analyses.

**TABLE 4**Longitudinal associations between iron parameters and cognitive performance over 3 years of follow-up in healthy older adults\*

| Cognitive performance indices | n   | Parameter estimate for longitudinal effect |       |          |       |                         |       |
|-------------------------------|-----|--|-------|----------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
|                               | _   | Serum iron                                 | p     | Ferritin | p     | Non-transferrin         | p     |
|                               |     |  |       |          |       | bound iron <sup>†</sup> |       |
| Memory                        | 800 | 0.002                                      | 0.307 | -0.001   | 0.292 | 0.000                   | 0.965 |
| Sensorimotor speed            | 799 | 0.001                                      | 0.396 | 0.000    | 0.806 | 0.001                   | 0.925 |
| Complex speed                 | 798 | -0.002                                     | 0.086 | -0.001   | 0.221 | -0.016                  | 0.052 |
| Information processing speed  | 799 | 0.001                                      | 0.501 | 0.000    | 0.578 | -0.005                  | 0.446 |
| Word fluency                  | 800 | 0.002                                      | 0.215 | 0.000    | 0.991 | 0.018                   | 0.121 |

<sup>\*</sup> Adjusted for the covariates age, sex, level of education, alcohol consumption, smoking, body mass index, physical activity, *APOE* E4 carrier status, serum C-reactive protein, and hemoglobin concentration in linear mixed models.

<sup>†</sup> Non-transferrin bound iron was measured at baseline only. Memory, n=794; sensorimotor speed, n=793; complex speed, n=792; information processing speed, n=793; word fluency, n=794.

**TABLE 5 [optional]**Cross-sectional and longitudinal (3-year) associations between the *HFE* C282Y mutation and cognitive performance in healthy older adults\*

| Cognitive performance indices |     | Cross-sectional analyses |       | Longitudinal analyses  |       |  |
|-------------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-------|------------------------|-------|--|
|                               | n   | Standardized regression  | p     | Parameter estimate for | p     |  |
|                               |     | coefficient $(\beta)$    |       | longitudinal effect    |       |  |
| Memory                        | 753 | -0.033                   | 0.332 | -0.005                 | 0.845 |  |
| Sensorimotor speed            | 748 | -0.003                   | 0.930 | -0.024                 | 0.183 |  |
| Complex speed                 | 748 | 0.029                    | 0.389 | -0.022                 | 0.343 |  |
| Information processing speed  | 750 | -0.010                   | 0.772 | -0.009                 | 0.659 |  |
| Word fluency                  | 753 | -0.003                   | 0.943 | -0.031                 | 0.376 |  |

<sup>\*</sup> Displayed are the standardized regression coefficients (β) for the *HFE* C282Y mutation (0=wildtype, 1=C282Y homozygous/heterozygous) in hierarchical linear regression analyses and the parameter estimates for the longitudinal effect of the *HFE* C282Y mutation in linear mixed models. Cross-sectional and longitudinal associations were adjusted for the covariates age, sex, level of education, alcohol consumption, smoking, body mass index, physical activity, *APOE* E4 carrier status, serum C-reactive protein, and hemoglobin concentration.