アブストラクト (英文)

Association of cognitive frailty with functional disability and medical expense in older adults: An 8-year prospective cohort study in Japan

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Purpose

This study aimed to investigate the associations of cognitive frailty with risk of incident functional disability, long-term nursing care expense, and medical expense in Japanese older adults.

Methods

A total of 1,633 older adults who were living in the Sasaguri Town and aged ≥65 years, free of dementia and Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE) score >18 points, and free of functional disability at baseline were prospectively followed-up for 8 years. Cognitive frailty was defined as the presence of both physical frailty and cognitive impairment (MMSE score of <26 points).

Results

During the 8-year follow-up, 401 participants were identified as being functionally disabled. Compared with being robust both physically and cognitively, the risk of functional disability was significantly increased for pre-frailty only, physical frailty only, cognitive impairment only, pre-frailty with cognitive impairment, cognitively frailty. The multivariable-adjusted hazard ratio (95% confidence interval) of functional disability for participants with cognitive frailty was 3.48 (2.14–5.65). Compared with being robust both physically and cognitively (age- and sexadjusted), cumulative long-term care expense, and medical costs were significantly higher in participants with cognitive frailty.

Conclusion

Cognitive frailty was associated with an increased risk of functional disability and higher longterm nursing care expense and medical expense in community-dwelling older adults.