

Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune condition affecting over 1.8 million Americans and is steadily growing. Individuals with Type 1 diabetes appear to have an increased risk of certain neurodegenerative diseases compared to non-diabetic populations. *BMJ Diabetic Research & Care* performed a clinical study of a large Finnish cohort comprising of diabetics and non-diabetics. They observed significantly elevated standardized incidence ratios (SIRs) for Alzheimer's disease and vascular dementia, and a modest increase in Parkinson's disease. The *International Journal of Molecular Sciences* examined short-term Type 1 diabetes in female rats. The researchers found increased neuroinflammatory markers and reduced synaptic proteins in the hippocampus, suggesting early synaptic dysfunction. These findings provide biological plausibility for the increased incidence of neurodegenerative disease observed in human populations. The results from both studies support an association between type 1 diabetes and neurodegenerative diseases.