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Introduction

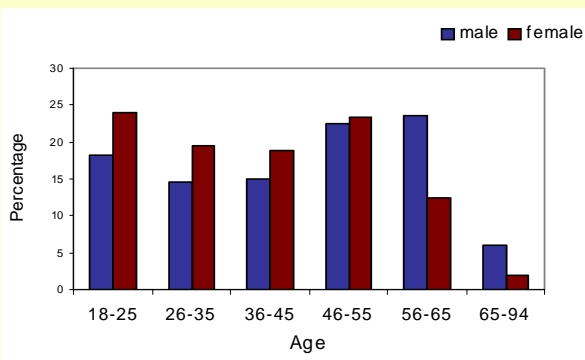
In January 2009, all subjects of 18 years and older registered with the Netherlands Twin Registry (NTR) were invited to complete an online survey. Subjects were informed that they would receive a paper questionnaire if they did not respond to the online survey. This is the 8th survey of the longitudinal Family Study on Health, Personality and Lifestyle. The aim of the present study was to determine if early respondents differed on a number of lifestyle and personality factors from subjects that had not yet responded.

Survey 8

- demographics, SES, education, occupation
- health, medication use, self-perceived health
- life events (ever, 1-5 years ago, recent)
- smoking and nicotine addiction
- personality: NEO, Sensation Seeking Scales
- psychopathology: depression, ADHD, Tourette
- alcohol use/abuse
- other drug use
- exercise behaviour
- stress

Results: early response

During the first five weeks, 4579 surveys were completed online. The figure below shows the distribution of early responders across different age categories. The early response group contained significantly more women ($p=.004$) than the other group.



Conclusion

Interestingly, young women and older men were more likely to complete the online survey within the first five weeks. Furthermore, early responders to the online survey did not differ greatly on several phenotypic characteristics from late responders, who participated in the previous survey. When data on the paper questionnaire are collected, it will be interesting to compare the responders to internet and paper version.

Methods

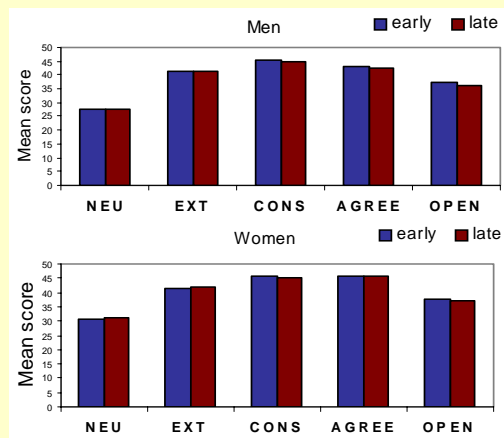
Data collection is ongoing, therefore early responders and late responders (not yet completed) were compared on data from survey 7 (2004/5). Comparison took place for exercising regularly, having ever smoked, having used alcohol in previous year and NEO-FFI personality factors (Neuroticism, Extraversion, Conscientiousness, Agreeableness and Openness). Analyses were done using chi2-tests and MANOVA.

Results: Comparison on previous questionnaire data

These comparisons were made on 1481 (64.2% female) early responders and 2915 (59.1% female) subjects who had not yet responded.

Personality

For men, early respondents scored significantly higher on openness to experience ($p<.001$) than subjects who had not yet responded.



Lifestyle

For women, the early responders exercised significantly more ($p=.001$) than those who had not yet responded.

