

# Life course socioeconomic conditions and multimorbidity in old age - A scoping review

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Later Life

Multimorbidity

2+ chronic diseases

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### **BACKGROUND**

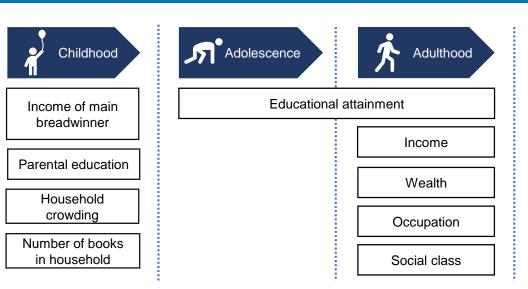
- The global rise in populations suffering from multimorbidity is a major public health concern.
- Multimorbidity disproportionally affects individuals exposed to socioeconomic deprivation.
- The question of how socioeconomic conditions (SEC) at different periods of the life course are linked with chronic conditions remains unanswered.

# RESEARCH QUESTION

How do socioeconomic conditions (SEC) at different moments during the life course influence the risk of multimorbidity in later life?

## 3 METHODS

**Scoping review:** cohort studies with prospective or retrospective data, cross-sectional studies with retrospective data



#### 4 RESULTS

- **9 studies** included (n = 116,445); 20+ countries, published within last 10 years
- **Association** between SEC and multimorbidity in all included studies
- Childhood SEC mediated by adulthood SEC – sensitive period and pathway model

# **KEY MESSAGE**

There is an association between low SEC and higher multimorbidity risk. Adulthood SEC may minimize the effect of childhood SEC - a disadvantaged start in life can be overcome.