Associations Among Vascular Risk Factors, Carotid Atherosclerosis, and Cortical Volume and Thickness in Older Adults

Valerie A. Cardenas, PhD; Bruce Reed, PhD; Linda L. Chao, PhD; Helena Chui, MD; Nerses Sanossian, MD; Charles C. DeCarli, MD; Wendy Mack, PhD; Joel Kramer, PsyD; Howard N. Hodis, MD; Mingzhu Yan, MD, PhD; Michael H. Buonocore, MD, PhD; Owen Carmichael, PhD; William J. Jagust, MD; Michael W. Weiner, MD

Background and Purpose—The purpose of this study was to investigate whether the Framingham Cardiovascular Risk Profile and carotid artery intima-media thickness are associated with cortical volume and thickness.

Methods—Consecutive subjects participating in a prospective cohort study of aging and mild cognitive impairment enriched for vascular risk factors for atherosclerosis underwent structural MRI scans at 3-T and 4-T MRI at 3 sites. Freesurfer (Version 5.1) was used to obtain regional measures of neocortical volumes (mm^3) and thickness (mm). Multiple linear regression was used to determine the association of Framingham Cardiovascular Risk Profile and carotid artery intima-media thickness with cortical volume and thickness.

Results—One hundred fifty-two subjects (82 men) were aged 78 (±7) years, 94 had a clinical dementia rating of 0, 58 had a clinical dementia rating of 0.5, and the mean Mini-Mental State Examination was 28 ±2. Framingham Cardiovascular Risk Profile score was inversely associated with total gray matter volume and parietal and temporal gray matter volume (adjusted P<0.04). Framingham Cardiovascular Risk Profile was inversely associated with parietal and total cerebral gray matter thickness (adjusted P<0.03). Carotid artery intima-media thickness was inversely associated with thickness of parietal gray matter only (adjusted P=0.04). Including history of myocardial infarction or stroke and radiological evidence of brain infarction, or apolipoprotein E genotype did not alter relationships with Framingham Cardiovascular Risk Profile or carotid artery intima-media thickness.

Conclusions—Increased cardiovascular risk was associated with reduced gray matter volume and thickness in regions also affected by Alzheimer disease independent of infarcts and apolipoprotein E genotype. These results suggest a “double hit” toward developing dementia when someone with incipient Alzheimer disease also has high cardiovascular risk. (Stroke. 2012;43:00-00.)

Key Words: atrophy ■ carotid intima media thickness ■ cortical volume ■ cortical thickness ■ Framingham Cardiovascular Risk Profile ■ gray matter

We have previously reported in an autopsy sample that cerebral atherosclerosis contributes to brain atrophy independent of Alzheimer pathology and cerebral infarcts. Atrophy is a nonspecific finding associated with normal aging, Alzheimer disease (AD), stroke, myocardial infarction (MI), and other neurodegenerative disorders. Regional patterns of atrophy may differ by etiology such as in AD, in which atrophy is most prominent in the medial, inferior, and lateral temporal lobes followed by multimodal association areas. Epidemiological studies have shown that risk factors for atherosclerosis (eg, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and hyperlipidemia) increase the risk for cognitive impairment associated with both stroke and AD. Brain atrophy is associated with cognitive impairment. The ε4 allele of the apolipoprotein E (apoE) gene, a genetic risk factor for cognitive decline in the elderly, has demonstrated a particular phenotype of atrophy of medial temporal lobe structures. Global brain atrophy is also seen in survivors of MI and in the presence of cerebrovascular disease. Previous work focusing on the relationships between Framing-
ham Cardiovascular Risk Profile (FCRP) or carotid artery intima-media thickness (CIMT) and brain volumes in healthy older adults or patients with cardiovascular disease did not account for cognitive status, cerebrovascular disease, or cardiovascular disease. Moreover, the regional pattern of atrophy associated with atherosclerosis is relatively unknown.

The primary objective of the present study was to determine whether FCRP and subclinical atherosclerosis measured as CIMT are associated with brain atrophy independent of vascular injury and apoE. A secondary goal was to determine whether FCRP and CIMT are associated with regional patterns of brain atrophy.

In this study, FCRP was used to assess vascular risk and CIMT was used as a measure of subclinical atherosclerosis. If cardiovascular risk factors contribute to atherosclerosis then brain atrophy, we hypothesize that both FCRP and CIMT will be inversely associated with brain volume and cortical thickness, globally and regionally.

### Methods

#### Subjects
Consecutive subjects were identified from an ongoing, longitudinal, multi-institutional aging brain program project that recruits subjects with normal cognition to mild cognitive impairment, representing a spectrum of low to high vascular risk. Most participants were acquired through community-based recruitment using a protocol designed to obtain a demographically diverse cohort or through sources such as stroke clinics and support groups attended by people with high vascular risk factors. All participants gave written informed consent in accordance with the policies of each Institutional Review Board. Inclusion criteria include age ≥60 years with cognitive function in the normal to mild cognitive impairment range (clinical dementia rating [CDR] score of 0 or 0.5). Persons with a history of multiple vascular risk factors, coronary or cardiac disease, MI, or ischemic stroke were targeted for inclusion, although patients with very large strokes that interfered with estimation of cortical volume and thickness were excluded. Exclusion criteria included evidence of alcohol or substance abuse, head trauma with loss of consciousness lasting >15 minutes, factors contraindicating MRI, and severe medical illness, neurological or psychiatric disorders unrelated to AD, or vascular dementia that could significantly affect brain structure (eg, schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders, bipolar disorder, current major depression, posttraumatic stress disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, liver disease, multiple sclerosis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis). Participant demographics by CDR are shown in Table 1.

#### Measures of Cardiovascular Risk and Carotid Atherosclerosis

The FCRP uses empirically derived age- and sex-adjusted weighting of categorical variables to predict the 10-year risk of coronary heart disease and is a weighted sum of: age, sex, active smoking, diabetes, systolic blood pressure (and/or use of hypertensive medications), and total cholesterol and high-density lipoprotein cholesterol levels. Higher scores indicate greater coronary risk.

CIMT was used as a measure of subclinical atherosclerosis. CITM is a measure of the thickness of the inner 2 layers of the carotid artery; higher CIMT indicates greater atherosclerosis burden. Higher scores indicate atherosclerosis. CIMT is measured in each individual whenever possible. For individuals with CIMT measurements from both sides, the maximum of these 2 quantities was used in subsequent statistical analyses.

#### Measure of AD Risk

Blood was drawn with the subject’s consent for apoE genotyping. Genotyping was completed for 102 participants. Subjects with 3/4 or 4/4 combined alleles were classified as apoE 4-positive and those with 3/3 alleles as apoE 4-negative. Because the 2/4 combined allele is associated with a lower risk of AD, these subjects were not included in the APOE 4-positive group.

#### MRI Acquisition

Structural T1-weighted MRI scans for participants were collected on 3-T and 4-T MRI systems. Forty-three participants were scanned at the University of Southern California using a 3-T General Electric Signa HDx system with an 8-channel head coil. Acquired images included a T1-weighted volumetric spoiled gradient echo recalled (TR=7 ms, TE=2.9 ms, TI=650 ms, 1-mm isotropic resolution). Fifty-four participants were scanned at the University of California, Davis research center. Nine participants were scanned using a 3-T Siemens Magnetom Trio Syngo System with an 8-channel head coil. Forty-five were scanned using a 3-T Siemens Magnetom TrioTim system with an 8-channel head coil. Acquired images for all 54 participants included a T1-weighted volumetric magnetization prepared rapid gradient echo (TR=2500, TE=2.98, TI=1100, 1-mm isotropic resolution). Thirty-three participants were scanned at the San Francisco Veterans Administration Medical Center using a 4-T Siemens MedSpec Syngo System with an 8-channel head coil. A Not Applicable T1-weighted volumetric magnetization prepared rapid gradient echo scan (TR=2300, TE=2.84, TI=950, 1-mm isotropic resolution) was acquired. Twenty-two participants were scanned at the University of California, San Francisco Neuroscience Imaging Center using a 3-T Siemens Magnetom TrioTim system with a 12-channel head coil. Acquired images included a T1-weighted volumetric magnetization prepared rapid gradient echo (TR=2500, TE=2.98, TI=1100, 1-mm isotropic resolution).

![Downloaded from http://stroke.ahajournals.org/ by guest on April 29, 2017](Image 1)

### Table 1. Participant Demographics by Cognitive Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CDR=0 (N=94)</th>
<th>CDR=0.5 (N=58)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age, y</td>
<td>77.7±7</td>
<td>79.7±7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education, y</td>
<td>16±3</td>
<td>16±3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMSE</td>
<td>29.0±1.3</td>
<td>27.6±2.3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent men</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent stroke history</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent radiologically identified brain infarcts</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent myocardial infarction</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent coronary artery bypass or angioplasty</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent carotid endarterectomy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent coronary, carotid or other artery stent</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent taking medication to reduce blood pressure</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent taking medication to reduce cholesterol</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apoE4 allele (positive, negative)</td>
<td>17, 55</td>
<td>6, 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent apoE4 allele</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCRP, % risk</td>
<td>12.7±2</td>
<td>14.8±2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIMT, mm</td>
<td>0.92±0.14</td>
<td>0.95±0.14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continuous variables are summarized as mean±SD. Continuous variables compared with t test and proportions compared with Fisher’s exact test. CDR indicates clinical dementia rating; MMSE, Mini-Mental State Examination; apoE4, apolipoprotein E e4; FCRP, Framingham Cardiovascular Risk Profile; CIMT, common carotid artery intima-media thickness. *P<0.05.
MRI Processing
The publicly available Freesurfer Version 5.1 (http://surfer.nmr.mgh.harvard.edu/) volumetric segmentation and cortical surface reconstruction methods were used to obtain regional measures of neocortical volumes (mm$^3$) and thickness (mm). The constructed cortical surface models for each participant were manually inspected to ensure segmentation accuracy; regions with poor segmentation accuracy due to poor image quality or misregistration were excluded to ensure segmentation accuracy; regions with poor segmentation accuracy were excluded from further statistical analyses. Cortical surfaces were automatically parcellated$^{20}$ and combined to create average cortical thickness and volume for total gray matter (GM) and for frontal, temporal, parietal, and occipital lobes. The publicly available Freesurfer Version 5.1 (http://surfer.nmr.mgh.harvard.edu/) volumetric segmentation and cortical surface reconstruction methods were used to obtain regional measures of neocortical volumes (mm$^3$) and thickness (mm). The constructed cortical surface models for each participant were manually inspected to ensure segmentation accuracy; regions with poor segmentation accuracy due to poor image quality or misregistration were excluded to ensure segmentation accuracy; regions with poor segmentation accuracy were excluded from further statistical analyses. Cortical surfaces were automatically parcellated$^{20}$ and combined to create average cortical thickness and volume for total gray matter (GM) and for frontal, temporal, parietal, and occipital lobes. Region of interest volumes and thicknesses by cognitive status are shown in online-only Data Supplement Figures I and II.

Vascular Injury
History of Vascular Injury
Data regarding clinical history of stroke or MI were obtained from the medical history.

Radiological Evidence of Vascular Brain Injury
Infarcts were identified by an experienced neurologist (N.S.) blind to any other participant data using the T1-weighted and fluid-attenuated inversion recovery MR images. Infarcts were categorized according to structures involved, size (small: 3–10 mm, large: >10 mm), and severity (cystic, not cystic). For the current analysis, infarcts were then labeled: cortical GM (affecting any cortical region), white matter (affecting any subcortical white matter region, internal capsule, corpus callosum), subcortical GM (affecting basal ganglia, thalamus, amygdala, or hippocampus), and other (affecting midbrain, pons, medulla, or cerebellum). The number of infarcts for each participant (range, 0–4) was used in subsequent statistical models.

Statistical Analysis
Multiple linear regressions were used to test the association of cardiovascular risk or atherosclerosis with measures of brain volume and cortical thickness. Analyses were adjusted for age, sex, magnet strength (3 T versus 4 T), CDR, and intracranial volume (volume analyses only). For volume and thickness models, probability values for FCRP or CIMT were adjusted for multiple comparisons according to the number of regions of interest (5 regions of interest: total GM, frontal, temporal, parietal, and occipital GM) and the average intercorrelations among the regions of interest.$^{21}$ Average intercorrelations were $r=0.813$ for volumes and $r=0.713$ for thickness. A 2-sided adjusted $P<0.05$ was considered statistically significant.

Results
There were 152 consecutive subjects with a mean age of 78 years (range, 62–92 years), 45% women, mean years of education 15.7 years (range, 9–24 years), and mean Mini-Mental State Examination 28.3 (range, 20–30). The cognitive status groups were very similar, with CDR=0.5 having significantly lower Mini-Mental State Examination score and thinner cortex in all regions. All other measures were equivalent, as shown in online-only Data Supplement Table I.

Thirty-four participants had radiologically identified brain infarcts. Of these participants, 3 had cortical, 15 had subcortical gray, 14 had white matter, and 9 had an infarct in another location. These numbers do not sum to 34 because 8 individuals had more than one infarct and many infarcts affected multiple regions. Cortical infarcts were located in the frontal and occipital lobes. Of the 34 people with MRI-identified infarct, 18 (53%) had a clinical history of stroke. Of the 118 with no MRI-identified infarct, 18 (15%) had a clinical history of stroke. Fifty-one participants had a clinical history of stroke or MI.

Table 2 shows the relationships between FCRP and measures of cortical volume and thickness. All fits were significant (all model $P<0.0001$, $0.19< R^2<0.42$). Significant inverse relationships were observed between FCRP and total GM volume and volume of the parietal and temporal lobes. FCRP was significantly inversely associated with total and temporal GM thickness with a trend for parietal and occipital thickness.

Table 3 shows the relationships between CIMT and measures of cortical volume and thickness. All fits were significant (all model $P<0.0002$, $0.19< R^2<0.50$). There were no significant associations between CIMT and brain volume. CIMT was inversely associated with thickness of the parietal lobe. GM volume and thickness relationships are illustrated in online-only Data Supplement Figures I and II.

Models were rerun with 2 additional independent variables adjusting for history and evidence of vascular injury. The number of brain infarcts had a negative effect on frontal and parietal volumes (adjusted $P<0.05$) and history of vascular injury had a negative effect on frontal, parietal, and occipital volume (adjusted $P<0.04$). The number of brain infarcts did not affect cortical thickness, and history of vascular injury...
had a negative effect on occipital thickness only (adjusted \( P = 0.02 \)). The inverse relationships of FCRP or CIMT with volume and thickness were preserved in models accounting for history and evidence of vascular injury, and the regression coefficients were essentially unchanged. There was no evidence for a mediating effect of vascular injury on either volume or thickness. Moreover, because FCRP and infarcts were uncorrelated (\( r = 0.05, P = 0.57 \)), there was no evidence that the presence of infarcts was obscuring a relationship between FCRP and frontal volume or thickness. The Figure illustrates these results, demonstrating that the FCRP/volume relationships were preserved even when history and/or evidence of vascular injury significantly affected GM volume.

Models with significant relationships between FCRP or CIMT and brain measures were also rerun adjusting for the presence of the apoE4 genotype to determine whether the associations were independent of the genetic risk for AD. In these models our sample size was substantially reduced,

### Table 3. Relationships of Common Carotid Artery Intima-Media Thickness (CIMT) to Measures of Cortical Volume and Thickness Reported as B (SE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Intercept</th>
<th>CIMT</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Male Sex</th>
<th>3-T Field Strength</th>
<th>CDR = 0</th>
<th>ICV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volume, mm(^3)</td>
<td>Total gray matter</td>
<td>361 903 (38 012)</td>
<td>-14 216 (20 095)</td>
<td>-1488 (435)</td>
<td>-8245 (6947)</td>
<td>8675 (6421)</td>
<td>5988 (5545)</td>
<td>0.100 (0.016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frontal</td>
<td>136 575 (15 246)</td>
<td>-12 561 (7885)</td>
<td>-306* (166)</td>
<td>633 (2779)</td>
<td>2690 (2604)</td>
<td>2394 (2238)</td>
<td>0.040 (0.007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parietal</td>
<td>104 097 (11 285)</td>
<td>-10 782* (5840)</td>
<td>-305 (121)</td>
<td>136 (2032)</td>
<td>492 (1906)</td>
<td>1935 (1655)</td>
<td>0.023 (0.005)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Temporal</td>
<td>111 427 (11 220)</td>
<td>-1296 (5930)</td>
<td>-672 (127)</td>
<td>-3146 (2027)</td>
<td>6163 (1893)</td>
<td>3162* (1613)</td>
<td>0.029 (0.005)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Occipital</td>
<td>29 937 (4345)</td>
<td>-1578 (2234)</td>
<td>-126 (46)</td>
<td>-307 (786)</td>
<td>552 (738)</td>
<td>1178* (628)</td>
<td>0.007 (0.002)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average thickness, mm</td>
<td>Total gray matter</td>
<td>2.584 (0.099)</td>
<td>-0.041 (0.059)</td>
<td>-0.003 (0.001)</td>
<td>-0.084 (0.016)</td>
<td>0.145 (0.016)</td>
<td>0.039 (0.019)</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frontal</td>
<td>2.345 (0.106)</td>
<td>-0.049 (0.061)</td>
<td>0.003 (0.001)</td>
<td>-0.061 (0.017)</td>
<td>0.149 (0.017)</td>
<td>0.037 (0.020)</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parietal</td>
<td>2.534 (0.108)</td>
<td>-0.144 (0.063)</td>
<td>-0.003 (0.001)</td>
<td>-0.075 (0.018)</td>
<td>0.093 (0.018)</td>
<td>0.051 (0.021)</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Temporal</td>
<td>3.110 (0.136)</td>
<td>-0.002 (0.082)</td>
<td>-0.008 (0.002)</td>
<td>-0.099 (0.023)</td>
<td>0.190 (0.022)</td>
<td>0.067 (0.026)</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Occipital</td>
<td>2.034 (0.117)</td>
<td>-0.077 (0.069)</td>
<td>-0.002 (0.001)</td>
<td>-0.065 (0.019)</td>
<td>0.050* (0.019)</td>
<td>0.037* (0.023)</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bold: adjusted \( P < 0.05 \); *0.05 < adjusted \( P < 0.10 \).

B indicates unstandardized regression coefficient; CDR, clinical dementia rating; ICV, intracranial volume; NA, Not Applicable.

**Figure.** Scatterplots showing the relationships between Freesurfer regional volumes and FCRP. FCRP and volumes were regressed on age, sex, magnet strength, intracranial volume, and cognitive status and the residuals were plotted against each other. The slope of the line of best fit is the same as the regression coefficient for FCRP in the linear models that included history and evidence of vascular injury. When there are significant differences due to evidence and/or history of vascular injury, regression lines offset by the estimated difference are plotted. A, FCRP and parietal gray matter volume, illustrating effect of history of vascular injury, evidence of vascular injury, and combined effect of history and evidence of vascular injury. B, FCRP and total gray matter volume, illustrating effect of history of vascular injury. FCRP indicates Framingham Cardiovascular Risk Profile.
because apoE genotyping was only available in 68% of the participants. No volume or thickness measure was associated with the apoE4 genotype. All FCRS and CIMT regression coefficients were of similar magnitude and direction as in the model without apoE.

Tables 2 and 3 also show the association of the other covariates on brain volume and cortical thickness. Higher age was significantly associated with decreased brain volume and thickness in all regions, even in the very restricted age range studied. Men had significantly thinner cortex in all regions. Therefore, although infarct was consistently associated with both FCRP and CIMT, was associated with reduced parietal cortical thickness. Increased carotid atherosclerosis, indexed by CIMT, was associated with reduced parietal cortical thickness. Increased FCRP scores were also significantly associated with reduced volumes of total, parietal, and temporal GM. Increased FCRP scores were also significantly associated with lower frontal and parietal GM volume. 

Conclusions

Increased cardiovascular risk as measured by the FCRP was associated with reduced volumes of total, parietal, and temporal GM. Increased FCRP scores were also significantly associated with reduced thickness for temporal and total GM. Notably, FCRP was not associated with frontal GM volume or thickness. Increased carotid atherosclerosis, indexed by CIMT, was associated with reduced parietal cortical thicke
ness. These results suggest that FCRP and CIMT are measuring different aspects of vascular brain injury. The brain regions associated with increased cardiovascular risk are also affected by AD, and this may partially explain why hypertension and diabetes were found to be risk factors for clinically diagnosed AD in epidemiological studies.7,8 GM atrophy of the temporal lobe, especially the hippocampus and entorhinal cortex, is a structural hallmark of AD and its clinical correlate, mild cognitive impairment.10,29 With AD progression, atrophy in the parietal regions, particularly the posterior cingulate and precuneus regions, is also observed.30,31 These results suggest a “double hit” toward developing dementia when someone with incipient AD also has high cardiovascular risk.

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Disclosures

None.

References

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SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

Associations between vascular risk factors, carotid atherosclerosis and cortical volume and thickness in older adults

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Cover title: Vascular risk, atherosclerosis, and brain structure

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Table S1: Coronary risk and cortical measures by cognitive status.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CDR=0</th>
<th>CDR=0.5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N=94</td>
<td>N=58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCRP (% risk)</td>
<td>12 ± 7</td>
<td>14 ± 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIMT (mm)</td>
<td>0.92 ± 0.14</td>
<td>0.95 ± 0.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray Matter Volume</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(mm³)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>388547 ± 32621</td>
<td>387418 ± 33555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frontal lobe</td>
<td>163397 ± 13598</td>
<td>164576 ± 14805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporal lobe</td>
<td>108831 ± 10081</td>
<td>106959 ± 11051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parietal lobe</td>
<td>106198 ± 10116</td>
<td>105175 ± 8828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occipital lobe</td>
<td>30420 ± 3947</td>
<td>29782 ± 3370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thickness (mm)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2.43 ± 0.11</td>
<td>2.37 ± 0.10*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frontal lobe</td>
<td>2.45 ± 0.12</td>
<td>2.40 ± 0.10*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporal lobe</td>
<td>2.69 ± 0.15</td>
<td>2.61 ± 0.16*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parietal lobe</td>
<td>2.24 ± 0.12</td>
<td>2.17 ± 0.09*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occipital lobe</td>
<td>1.84 ± 0.12</td>
<td>1.78 ± 0.10*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* p<0.05

Continuous variables are summarized as mean ± SD.

Continuous variables compared with t-test.
Figure S1: Scatterplots showing the relationships between Freesurfer regional volumes and FCRP. FCRP and volumes were regressed on age, gender, magnet strength, intracranial volume, and cognitive status, and the residuals were plotted against each other. The slope of the line of best fit is the same as the regression coefficient for FCRP in the linear models shown in Table 2.
Figure S2: Scatterplots showing the relationships between Freesurfer regional cortical thickness and FCRP or CIMT. FCRP or CIMT and thicknesses were regressed on age, gender, magnet strength, intracranial volume, and cognitive status, and the residuals were plotted against each other. The slope of the line of best fit is the same as the regression coefficient for FCRP or CIMT in the linear models shown in Tables 2 and 3.