Check for updates

OPEN ACCESS

EDITED BY Carmelo Romeo, University of Messina, Italy

REVIEWED BY Jing-Cai Liu, Nanjing Agricultural University, China Renke He, Zhejiang University, China

*CORRESPONDENCE Rong Li Im roseli001@sina.com

[†]These authors have contributed equally to this work and share first authorship

RECEIVED 16 May 2024 ACCEPTED 16 September 2024 PUBLISHED 30 September 2024

CITATION

Mao D, Lin M and Li R (2024) Common mental disorders and risk of female infertility: a two-sample Mendelian randomization study. *Front. Endocrinol.* 15:1433624. doi: 10.3389/fendo.2024.1433624

COPYRIGHT

© 2024 Mao, Lin and Li. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (CC BY). The use, distribution or reproduction in other forums is permitted, provided the original author(s) and the copyright owner(s) are credited and that the original publication in this journal is cited, in accordance with accepted academic practice. No use, distribution or reproduction is permitted which does not comply with these terms.

Common mental disorders and risk of female infertility: a two-sample Mendelian randomization study

Di Mao^{1,2,3,4,5†}, Mingmei Lin^{1,2,3,4†} and Rong Li^{1,2,3,4}*

¹Center for Reproductive Medicine, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Peking University Third Hospital, Beijing, China, ²National Clinical Research Center for Obstetrics and Gynecology, Peking University Third Hospital, Beijing, China, ³Key Laboratory of Assisted Reproduction Ministry of Education, Peking University, Beijing, China, ⁴Beijing Key Laboratory of Reproductive Endocrinology and Assisted Reproductive Technology, Peking University Third Hospital, Beijing, China, ⁵Third Clinical Medical College, Peking University Health Science Center, Beijing, China

Introduction: Female infertility is a global issue that impacts on public health seriously and many mental disorders are observed in infertility groups.

Methods: To investigate the casual relationship between those, genome-wide association studies summary data of anxiety disorder (n=9,897), broad depression (n=322,580), major depressive disorder (n=480,359 and n=500,199), bipolar disorder (n=51,710), insomnia (n= 462,341), and female infertility (n=126,342) were extracted from the existing datasets and was analyzed through the two-sample mendelian randomization study. The following heterogeneity and sensitivity test were applied to ensure the robustness of results.

Results: Based on inverse variance weighted results, major depressive disorder was associated with female infertility (P = 0.0001, odds ratio 1.396, 95 % confidence interval 1.175–1.658). No causal relationship was identified between the other four mental disorders and infertility. was found. Additionally, reverse mendelian randomization did not indicate a causal relationship among these disorders.

Discussion: The early identification and management of anxiety symptoms in women of reproductive age, in conjunction with the effective treatment of major depressive disorder, may be crucial for preserving female fertility.

KEYWORDS

mental disorders, major depressive disorder, female infertility, Mendelian randomization, genome-wide association study

1 Introduction

Infertility is defined by the failure to achieve pregnancy after 12 months or more of regular, unprotected sexual intercourse (1). The global incidence of infertility is on the rise due to the increasing trend of delayed marriage, childbearing, and age of childbearing, leading to a growing seriousness of the issue. According to a recent report by the World Health Organization (WHO), approximately 17.5% of adults (about 1/6 of the population) are affected by infertility, with a rising trajectory, making it a significant public health concern (2). In addition to age-related infertility, various factors such as environmental exposures, chromosomal abnormalities, lifestyle habits, and unexplained factors may also influence infertility (1). The causal relationship between mental disorders and infertility remains uncertain.

Current research indicates a higher prevalence of mental disorders among women experiencing infertility. A review of 44 studies involving 53,300 infertile female patients found rates of major depressive disorder (MDD) at 22.9%, generalized anxiety at 13.3%, stress at 78.8%, and depression at 31.6% (3). Notably, mental health complications appear to be more common among infertile women in Asia. Another study focusing on global literature from the past decade highlighted the impact of infertility on depression, anxiety, stress, and quality of life. It was observed that anxiety, depression, and decreased quality of life are common experiences for both men and women dealing with infertility (4). These findings suggest that infertility not only affects individuals physically and economically, but also significantly impacts their mental well-being, potentially leading to a range of disorders.

Many studies have identified an association between the increasing incidence of mental disorders and infertility. However, few have investigated the causal relationship and the actual impact of mental disorders on infertility as well as the reverse. Research indicates that infertile couples or women often experience higher levels of stress, leading to symptoms of depression and anxiety compared to fertile individuals (5). However, these studies were mainly observational and involved a limited sample size. Infertility can be influenced by various factors and is prone to confounding variables when examining causality. Currently, there is no definitive evidence to support the claim that mental disorders directly lead to infertility.

Based on genome-wide association studies (GWAS), mendelian randomization (MR) effectively eliminates confounding factors and distractions within the population, providing evidence to support causal associations between exposure and outcomes (6). This approach enhances the reliability of evidence for causality by using genetic variables that are independent of disease progression and reverse causality (7). The study aims to explore potential causal relationships between common mental disorders (such as anxiety disorder, broad depression, MDD, bipolar disorder, and insomnia) and female infertility through the MR method.

2 Materials and methods

2.1 Study design

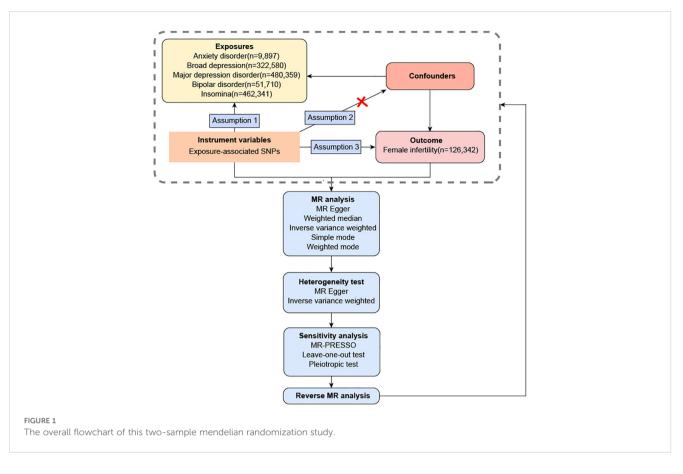
Evaluation of the causal relationship between exposure (anxiety disorder, broad depression, MDD, bipolar disorder and insomnia) and outcome (female infertility) was done using the MR of two independent samples. Assumption 1 is the existence of a robust linkage between the IVs and exposure factors. Assumption 2 is that the IVs lack any association with confounding factors that might influence the relationship between exposure and outcome. Assumption 3 assumes that IVs only exert direct influence on the outcome through its association with the exposure factors. Single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) were extracted from existing datasets in previous GWAS meta-analysis studies and open GWAS projects to form IVs. The population of the datasets are all from Europe, and the control group is the general population. The overview of this flowchart is shown in Figure 1.

2.2 GWAS data from mental disorders

The GWAS data on anxiety disorder (https://figshare.com/ articles/dataset/panic2019/16602218), broad depression (https:// datashare.ed.ac.uk/handle/10283/3036), MDD from Psychiatric Genomics Consortium [MDD (PGC), https://datashare.ed.ac.uk/ handle/10283/3203], MDD from Integrative Epidemiology Unit [MDD (ieu-b-102), https://gwas.mrcieu.ac.uk/datasets/ieu-b-102/], bipolar disorder (https://figshare.com/articles/dataset/bip2019/ 14671998), and insomnia (https://gwas.mrcieu.ac.uk/datasets/ ukb-b-3957/) included 9,897, 322,580, 480,359, 500,199, 51,710, and 462,341 participants, respectively (Table 1) (8-12). The study extracted summary data on broad depression from participants according to the self-reported responses to the question, "Have you ever seen a general practitioner/psychiatrist for nerves, anxiety, or depression?" (11) Insomnia was assessed based on the responses to the question, "Do you have trouble falling asleep at night or do you wake up in the middle of the night?" in the UK Biobank (data field: 1200) (8). All six datasets analyzed in this study were sourced from the European population. The summarized details and access to the datasets are presented in Table 1. It is important to note that this study solely utilized publicly available data and ethical approval was obtained from the corresponding studies.

2.3 GWAS data from female infertility

The GWAS data on female infertility (gs://finngen-public-datar10/summary_stats/finngen_R10_N14_FEMALEINFERT.gz) involved 126,342 participants (Table 1) (13). Female infertility refers to the inability to achieve pregnancy (ICD-10 N97).



2.4 Genetic variant selection

equations were shown below:

The selection criteria for IVs chosen from SNPs were as follows (1): A statistically significant threshold of $P < 5 \times 10^{-8}$ was employed for genome-wide significance to meet assumption 1. If there was no IVs left finally, the threshold of the *P*-value would extend to 5×10^{-6} (2). In the clump algorithm within a 10,000 kb clump window, SNPs with linkage disequilibrium (LD) ($r^2 > 0.001$) were excluded (3). We calculated the value of R² and F-statistic for each IV (14). The

$$R^{2} = \frac{beta^{2}}{beta^{2} + se^{2} * N}$$
$$F = \frac{R^{2} \times (N - K - 1)}{1 - R^{2}}$$

N was the number of samples from the exposure GWAS. K represented the number of SNPs in IV and the value of K was 1 here

TABLE 1 The list of Genome wide association study (GWAS) included in the mendelian randomization (MR) study.

Disease or trait	Cases	Controls	Sample size	Population	PMID or Web link
Anxiety disorder	2,137	7,760	9,897		https://figshare.com/articles/dataset/panic2019/16602218
Broad depression	113,769	208,811	322,580		PMID: 29662059 (https://datashare.ed.ac.uk/handle/10283/3036)
MDD (PGC)	135,458	344,901	480,359	European	PMID: 29700475 (https://datashare.ed.ac.uk/handle/10283/3203)
MDD (ieu- b-102)	170,756	329,443	500,199		PMID: 30718901 (https://gwas.mrcieu.ac.uk/datasets/ieu-b-102/)
Bipolar disorder	20,352	31,358	51,710		PMID: 31043756 (https://figshare.com/articles/dataset/bip2019/14671998)
Insomnia	462,341				OpenGWAS project: ukb-b-3957 (https://gwas.mrcieu.ac.uk/datasets/ukb-b-3957/)
Female infertility	14,759	111,583	126,342		gs://finngen-public-data-r10/summary_stats/finngen_R10_N14_FEMALEINFERT.gz

MDD, major depressive disorder; PGC, Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; IEU, Integrative Epidemiology Unit.

because we were calculating individual SNP. R² denoted the proportion of variability in iron status that can be attributed to each individual SNP. SNPs with a Cragg-Donald F-statistic<10 were excluded cause there was a weak IV bias (4, 15). Palindromic SNPs were also excluded (5). SNPs related to con-founding factors and female infertility outcomes (16) were excluded based on the LDtrait database (LDlink | An Interactive Web Tool for Exploring Linkage Disequilibrium in Population Groups (nih.gov)). Con-founding factors for female infertility included body mass index and endometriosis (17, 18).

2.5 MR analysis

Inverse variance weighted (IVW) analysis served as the primary method for statistical assessment of IVs and was considered the most powerful statistical analysis (19). To further validate the consistency and robustness of MR results, additional analytical techniques were employed. MR-Egger was used to detect causal relationships based on weak assumptions (Instrument Strength Independent of Direct Effect, InSIDE) (20). MR-Egger and the weighted median approach were utilized to test the MR error hypothesis arising from directional pleiotropy. Weighted median method requires genetic variables to contribute at least 50% of the total weight, effectively combining data from multiple genetic variables into a unified causal estimation. This method ensures consistency in estimation, even when up to 50% of the information comes from invalid IVs, and demonstrates a superior finite-sample type-I error rate than IVW (21). The simple mode and weighted mode method can only evaluate the causal validity according to the cluster with the largest number of SNPs, but cannot estimate the bandwidth parameter (20). If the number of SNPs is only one, the Wald ratio method is used. To address the challenge of multiple testing, a Bonferroni correction was applied, yielding a corrected Pvalue threshold of 0.01 (0.05/5). Visual representations of MR results and their stability were achieved through scatter, forest, and funnel plots.

2.6 Heterogeneity and sensitivity analysis

Heterogeneity was assessed through the Cochran Q-statistic by MR Egger and IVW to determine the consistency of each IV. A *P*value<0.05 was defined as a statistically significant level in the heterogeneity test. When heterogeneity existed in the IVs, corresponding measures (such as stratified analysis) should be used to correct it and avoid the bias caused by population stratification. In addition, a multiplicative random effects model of IVW was applied when heterogeneity was present (22).

Sensitive analysis included the "leave-one-out" method, pleiotropy test and horizontal pleiotropy test. The "leave-one-out" method was used to assess the effect of individual SNP on the outcome by removing that SNP and calculating the combined effect of the remaining SNPs separately. Pleiotropy which refers to one locus exerting influence on multiple phenotypes can compromise the reliability of MR results. The MR Egger intercept was used to estimates the pleiotropic effect of a genetic variable (23). Horizontal pleiotropy was assessed by the Mendelian Randomization Pleiotropy RESidual Sum and Outlier (MR-PRESSO) global test. MR-PRESSO outlier test would specifically identify outliers for each IV and outlier IVs would be excluded if the horizontal pleiotropy was detected. Then, the MR analysis would be conducted again. This approach ensured that MR-PRESSO provided corrected causal results, free from the confounding effects of pleiotropy and outliers.

2.7 Reverse MR analysis

The reverse MR analysis was conducted following the above process. The female infertility was identified as exposure and the mental disorders were outcomes to further explore the causal effect of female infertility on mental disorders.

All statistical analyses were performed using the TwoSampleMR (version 0.5.11), and ggpubr packages implemented in R (version 4.3.3).

3 Results

3.1 Selection of IVs

11, 15, 33, 24, 6 and 30 SNPs associated with anxiety disorder, broad depression, MDD (PGC), MDD (ieu-b-102), bipolar disorder, and insomnia respectively were selected as IVs according to the criteria mentioned above. The detailed information of each IV is shown in Supplementary Tables 4-8.

3.2 Two-sample MR analysis

MDD (PGC) was significantly associated with an increased risk of female infertility (P = 0.0001, odds ratio [OR] 1.396, 95% confidence interval [CI] 1.175-1.658) based on the IVW analysis method. Additionally, MDD (ieu-b-102) produced consistent findings (P = 0.0019, OR 1.412, 95% CI 1.136 - 1.756). However, no causal relationship was observed between the other four mental disorders including anxiety disorder, broad depression, bipolar disorder, and insomnia, and female infertility (P > 0.01). The MR results for mental disorders and female infertility were shown in Figure 2 and Supplementary Table 2. Scatter plots visualized the effect sizes for each MR method (Supplementary Figure 1), forest plots estimated the effect sizes for each SNP (Supplementary Figure 2), and funnel plots showed the distributions of individual SNP effects (Supplementary Figure 3). Results of heterogeneity test showed no statistically significant differences in the IVs both in MR Egger and IVW (Supplementary Table 3).

3.3 Sensitivity analysis

The 'Leave-one-out' method demonstrated that no individual SNP had a significant impact on the final results, highlighting the stability of our MR findings (Supplementary Figure 4).

Outcome: Female infertility	nSNPs	OR(95%CI)		Р
Exposure: Anxiety disorder	11			
MR Egger		0.992(0.898 - 1.095)	HART	0.872
Weighted median		0.998(0.951 - 1.047)	÷	0.9402
Inverse variance weighted		1.016(0.981 - 1.054)		0.3724
Simple mode		0.985(0.921 - 1.054)	+	0.668
Weighted mode		0.992(0.931 - 1.057)	÷	0.8099
Exposure: Broad depression	15			
MR Egger		0.392(0.010 - 14.842))	→0.6219
Weighted median		1.449(0.362 - 5.795)		→0.6002
Inverse variance weighted		1.837(0.646 - 5.227)		→0.2543
Simple mode		1.511(0.150 - 15.224)		→0.7312
Weighted mode		1.873(0.205 - 17.117)		→0.5871
Exposure: MDD (PGC)	33			
MR Egger		1.128(0.418 - 3.043)		0.8132
Weighted median		1.310(1.035 - 1.657)		0.0248
Inverse variance weighted		1.396(1.175 - 1.658)	H=-1	0.0001
Simple mode		1.180(0.691 - 2.015)		0.5483
Weighted mode		1.206(0.746 - 1.949)	F	0.4498
Exposure: MDD (ieu-b-102)	24			
MR Egger		0.696(0.134 - 3.612)	+	0.6702
Weighted median		1.439(1.068 - 1.939)		0.0167
Inverse variance weighted		1.412(1.136 - 1.756)		0.0019
Simple mode		1.362(0.693 - 2.675)		0.3793
Weighted mode		1.084(0.569 - 2.065)		0.8087
Exposure: Bipolar disorder	6			
MR Egger		0.509(0.200 - 1.293)	H	0.2285
Weighted median		0.955(0.785 - 1.163)	H	0.6487
Inverse variance weighted		0.896(0.763 - 1.051)	Head	0.1758
Simple mode		1.008(0.745 - 1.364)	H + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +	0.9589
Weighted mode		0.999(0.747 - 1.336)		0.9954
Exposure: Insomnia	30			
MR Egger		0.736(0.222 - 2.432)		0.6187
Weighted median		0.817(0.417 - 1.600)		0.556
Inverse variance weighted		1.114(0.720 - 1.724)		0.6273
Simple mode		0.774(0.243 - 2.469)		0.6684
Weighted mode		0.814(0.319 - 2.080)		0.6708
-			0.5 1 2 3	
		-	0.01 2 0	

FIGURE 2

The forest plots of five mental disorders (exposures) and female infertility (outcomes). * *P*-values are ≤0.01. MDD, major depressive disorder, PGC, Psychiatric Genomics Consortium, IEU, Integrative Epidemiology Unit.

Additionally, the MR Egger pleiotropy test revealed no pleiotropic effects of instrumental variables from different exposures. Our study did not detect any horizontal pleiotropy, as indicated by the results of the MR-PRESSO global test, and outlier analysis did not identify any outlier instrumental variables (Table 2).

3.4 Reverse MR analysis

To further explore and ascertain the causal relationship between mental disorders and infertility, we reversed the exposure and outcome variables, treating infertility as the exposure and mental disorders as the outcome. Our analysis did not identify any causal effect of infertility on five mental disorders (Figure 3). Additionally, a sensitivity analysis was conducted to validate the robustness of our findings (Table 3; Supplementary Table 9-11).

4 Discussion

Infertility is a widespread issue affecting millions of individuals of reproductive age globally, with an estimated 48 million couples facing challenges worldwide (24). The causes of infertility are multifaceted, with a growing focus on the impact of mental health factors. Previous observational studies have indicated a potential link between mental disorders and female infertility (2, 25). Research has shown that women experiencing conception difficulties are twice as likely to suffer from emotional disorders compared to fertile women (26). However, the reliability of these findings is limited by small sample sizes and potential biases in the observational studies. Therefore, caution is advised when interpreting these results, and further research is needed to confirm and build upon these initial observations. Our study found a significant association between MDD and the risk of

TABLE 2 The pleiotropic test of five mental disorders genetic variants in female infertility Genome-wide summary association study (GWAS) datasets.

Exposures	MR-Egger pleiotro	py test	MR-PRESSO results (P)		
	Egger intercept	se	Р	Global Test	Outlier Test
Anxiety disorder	0.013949	0.026715	0.614173	0.651	NA
Broad depression	0.012217	0.014044	0.400126	0.965	NA
MDD (PGC)	0.00649	0.015183	0.67201	0.2735	NA
MDD (ieu-b-102)	0.020484	0.024103	0.404575	0.2135	NA
Bipolar disorder	0.046255	0.038382	0.294584	0.4105	NA
Insomnia	0.005111	0.006995	0.471017	0.6275	NA

MDD, major depressive disorder; PGC, Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; IEU, Integrative Epidemiology Unit.

ger 0.737(0.418 - 1.298) 0.303 ed median 0.961(0.666 - 1.386) 0.8323 variance weighted 1.138(0.880 - 1.472) 0.3252 mode 0.919(0.427 - 1.978) 0.831 ed mode 0.886(0.416 - 1.886) 0.7565 Broad depression 1 0.2192 MDD (PGC) 2 0.4798 Variance weighted 1.034(0.942 - 1.135) 0.4798 MDD (ieu-b-102) 19 0.919 ger 1.002(0.940 - 1.067) 0.9604 ed median 1.040(0.997 - 1.085) 0.0692 variance weighted 1.040(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.991(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Exposure: Female infertility	nSNPs	OR(95%Cl)		Р
ed median 0.961(0.666 - 1.386) 0.8323 variance weighted 1.138(0.880 - 1.472) 0.3252 mode 0.919(0.427 - 1.978) 0.8311 ed mode 0.886(0.416 - 1.886) 0.7565 Broad depression 1 0.2192 MDD (PGC) 2 0.2192 variance weighted 1.034(0.942 - 1.135) 0.4798 MDD (ieu-b-102) 19 0.4798 ger 1.002(0.940 - 1.067) 0.9604 ed median 1.040(0.997 - 1.085) 0.0692 variance weighted 1.016(0.983 - 1.049) 0.3489 mode 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.991(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Outcome: Anxiety disorder	23		1	
variance weighted 1.138(0.880 - 1.472) 0.3252 mode 0.919(0.427 - 1.978) 0.831 ed mode 0.886(0.416 - 1.886) 0.7565 Broad depression 1 0.2192 MDD (PGC) 2 0.2192 variance weighted 1.034(0.942 - 1.135) 0.4798 MDD (ieu-b-102) 19 0.9604 ed mode 1.002(0.940 - 1.067) 0.9604 ed moda 1.040(0.997 - 1.085) 0.6992 variance weighted 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 0.9941(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Bipolar disorder 1 0.941(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	MR Egger		0.737(0.418 - 1.298)		0.303
mode 0.919(0.427 - 1.978) 0.831 ed mode 0.886(0.416 - 1.886) 0.7565 Broad depression 1 0.2192 MDD (PGC) 2 0.2192 variance weighted 1.034(0.942 - 1.135) 0.4798 MDD (ieu-b-102) 19 0.9604 ed median 1.040(0.997 - 1.067) 0.9604 ed median 1.040(0.997 - 1.085) 0.0692 variance weighted 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.991(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Weighted median		0.961(0.666 - 1.386)		0.8323
ed mode 0.886(0.416 - 1.886) 0.7565 Broad depression 1 ttio 1.022(0.987 - 1.060) 0.2192 MDD (PGC) 2 0.4798 variance weighted 1.034(0.942 - 1.135) 0.4798 MDD (ieu-b-102) 19 0.9604 ed median 1.002(0.940 - 1.067) 0.9604 ed median 1.040(0.997 - 1.085) 0.0692 variance weighted 1.016(0.983 - 1.049) 0.3489 mode 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.9941(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 0.097(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876	Inverse variance weighted		1.138(0.880 - 1.472)	H 	0.3252
Broad depression 1 0.2192 Attio 1.022(0.987 - 1.060) 0.2192 MDD (PGC) 2 0.4798 Variance weighted 1.034(0.942 - 1.135) 0.4798 MDD (ieu-b-102) 19 0.9604 ed median 1.040(0.997 - 1.085) 0.9604 ed median 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.3489 mode 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.991(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.026) 0.4876	Simple mode		0.919(0.427 - 1.978)		0.831
tio 1.022(0.987 - 1.060) 0.2192 MDD (PGC) 2 0.4798 MDD (ieu-b-102) 19 0.4798 ger 1.034(0.942 - 1.135) 0.9604 ed median 1.002(0.940 - 1.067) 0.9604 ed median 1.040(0.997 - 1.085) 0.0692 variance weighted 1.016(0.983 - 1.049) 0.3489 mode 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.991(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Weighted mode		0.886(0.416 - 1.886)		0.7565
MDD (PGC) 2 variance weighted 1.034(0.942 - 1.135) 0.4798 MDD (ieu-b-102) 19 0.9604 ed median 1.002(0.940 - 1.067) 0.9604 ed median 1.040(0.997 - 1.085) 0.0692 variance weighted 1.016(0.983 - 1.049) 0.3489 mode 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.991(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876	Outcome: Broad depression	1			
variance weighted 1.034(0.942 - 1.135) 0.4798 MDD (ieu-b-102) 19 ger 1.002(0.940 - 1.067) 0.9604 ed median 1.040(0.997 - 1.085) 0.0692 variance weighted 1.016(0.983 - 1.049) 0.3489 mode 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.991(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Wald ratio		1.022(0.987 - 1.060)		0.2192
MDD (ieu-b-102) 19 ger 1.002(0.940 - 1.067) 0.9604 ed median 1.040(0.997 - 1.085) 0.0692 variance weighted 1.016(0.983 - 1.049) 0.3489 mode 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.9941(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Outcome: MDD (PGC)	2			
ger 1.002(0.940 - 1.067) 0.9604 ed median 1.040(0.997 - 1.085) 0.0692 variance weighted 1.016(0.983 - 1.049) 0.3489 mode 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.941(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Inverse variance weighted		1.034(0.942 - 1.135)	-	0.4798
ed median 1.040(0.997 - 1.085) 0.0692 variance weighted 1.016(0.983 - 1.049) 0.3489 mode 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.941(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Outcome: MDD (ieu-b-102)	19			
variance weighted 1.016(0.983 - 1.049) 0.3489 mode 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.941(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	MR Egger		1.002(0.940 - 1.067)		0.9604
mode 1.046(0.972 - 1.125) 0.2451 ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.941(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Weighted median		1.040(0.997 - 1.085)		0.0692
ed mode 1.045(0.978 - 1.116) 0.2073 Bipolar disorder 1 0.941(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Inverse variance weighted		1.016(0.983 - 1.049)	÷	0.3489
Bipolar disorder 1 0.941(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ger 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Simple mode		1.046(0.972 - 1.125)	-	0.2451
Atio 0.941(0.622 - 1.424) 0.7735 Insomnia 22 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ger 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Weighted mode		1.045(0.978 - 1.116)	+	0.2073
Insomnia 22 ger 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Outcome: Bipolar disorder	1			
ger 0.998(0.983 - 1.013) 0.7802 ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Wald ratio		0.941(0.622 - 1.424)	H-	0.7735
ed median 1.001(0.988 - 1.014) 0.8684 variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Outcome: Insomnia	22			
variance weighted 0.997(0.987 - 1.006) 0.4876 mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	MR Egger		0.998(0.983 - 1.013)		0.7802
mode 1.000(0.979 - 1.023) 0.9756	Weighted median		1.001(0.988 - 1.014)	+	0.8684
	Inverse variance weighted		0.997(0.987 - 1.006)	÷	0.4876
	Simple mode		1.000(0.979 - 1.023)		0.9756
ed mode $1.004(0.982 - 1.026)$ + 0.745	Weighted mode		1.004(0.982 - 1.026)	+	0.745
0.5 1 2 3				0.5 1 2	3

FIGURE 3

The forest plots of female infertility (outcomes) and five mental disorders (exposures). MDD, major depressive disorder, PGC, Psychiatric Genomics Consortium, IEU, Integrative Epidemiology Unit.

TABLE 3 The pleiotropic test of female infertility genetic variants in five mental disorders Genome-wi	ide summary association study (GWAS) datasets.
--	--

Outoomoo	MF	R-Egger pleiotropy t	MR-PRESSO results (P)		
Outcomes	Egger intercept	se	Р	Global Test	Outlier Test
Anxiety disorder	0.040008	0.023713	0.106365	0.465	NA
MDD (ieu-b-102)	0.001399	0.002812	0.625137	0.233	NA
Insomnia	-0.00016	0.000798	0.841847	0.2145	NA

MDD, major depressive disorder; PGC, Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; IEU, Integrative Epidemiology Unit.

infertility in the main analysis (OR = 1.396, P = 0.0001 and OR = 1.412, P = 0.0019) from various data sources to further validate the robustness of our findings. However, no relationship between anxiety disorder, broad depression, bipolar disorder, insomnia, and female infertility was observed in our analysis. The reverse MR analysis did not indicated the causal effect of infertility on these mental disorders. These findings provide valuable insights into the intricate relationship between specific psychiatric conditions and female infertility, potentially leading to better education for women and well-informed recommendations.

The MR model was developed utilizing aggregated data from the GWAS, leveraging its strengths in terms of the extensive sample size thus ensuring a high statistical power for our estimations. To mitigate the risk of population stratification, we imposed strict inclusion criteria, limiting our analysis to individuals of European descent. Furthermore, we focused exclusively on data from the exposed and normal populations, meticulously excluding the potential biases arising from other diseases. To enhance the scope of our analysis, we broadened the P-value threshold, enabling the inclusion of a wider array of IVs related to anxiety disorder, broad depression and bipolar disorder. Various data sources of MDD were recruited for validation. Sensitivity tests and heterogeneity assessments further corroborated the robustness of our MR findings. Notably, traditional observational studies often encounter confounding factors, such as embryological defects, immunological issues, and environmental factors, which can complicate the relationship between mental disorders and female infertility. Our study, however, offered a novel approach, exploring the risk of infertility based on the levels of mental exposure factors determined by genetic variables. Furthermore, the study excluded reverse causality, crucial in exploring infertility among women predisposed to these mental disorders. The reverse MR was also utilized to further examine the causal effect of infertility on mental disorders. MDD often necessitates medication, while broad depression is more common among infertile women. Investigating the impact of varying depression levels on infertility risk is vital. Our findings suggest MDD can lead to female infertility, while broad depression showed no significant association. Our dataset lacked MDD treatment data, reducing the likelihood of infertility due to antidepressants.

MDD is a severe mental illness characterized by symptoms such as depression, loss of interest, decreased energy, and potential suicidal thoughts or behaviors. This emotional state not only impacts daily life and work but can also have negative effects on reproductive health. A meta-analysis found that the prevalence of depression symptoms in infertile women ranged from 21% to 52.2% (27). Research indicates that individuals with severe depressive states have a higher infertility rate compared to the general population (28). Depression can disrupt the hypothalamicpituitary-ovarian axis, affecting follicular development and ovulation (29). Additionally, individuals with severe depression may lack a positive attitude and motivation towards life, leading to a decline in sexual quality and impacting conception success rates. A cross-sectional study has revealed an association between MDD and risky sexual behaviors, including having more than ten lifetime partners (30). A MR study identified MDD as a risk factor that lowers the age of first sexual intercourse and increases the

number of sexual partners over a lifetime (31). Research has found that reported condom use is lower among individuals with depression (32). These results suggest that MDD may not contribute to female infertility by reducing the frequency of unprotected sexual intercourse. Furthermore, MDD often necessitates long-term medication treatment, which distinguishes it from general depression commonly observed in infertile women. Thus, the potential mechanisms through which MDD leads to female infertility and the role of antidepressants in this causal relationship warrant further investigation. It is crucial to explore the varying impacts of different levels of depression on female infertility. Our study revealed a direct causal relationship between MDD and infertility, while no causal link was found between general depression and infertility.

Anxiety disorder is a prevalent mental health condition characterized by emotional symptoms such as excessive worry, nervousness, and fear. Numerous studies have indicated a correlation between anxiety and female infertility (33, 34). Individuals with anxiety disorders may experience endocrine disruptions as a result of prolonged and intense mental stress, ultimately impacting the normal functioning of the reproductive system. Research suggests that individuals dealing with infertility often face reduced quality of life and heightened levels of anxiety (35, 36). Particularly, studies have shown higher levels of anxiety among women struggling with infertility (37–39), with a substantial 67% of infertile patients reportedly experiencing anxiety (40). However, our study did not establish a causal relationship between anxiety disorders and female infertility.

Bipolar disorder is a mental illness characterized by both manic and hypomanic, as well as depressive episodes. These emotional fluctuations can have a significant impact on mental health and may also affect reproductive health. Recent research has shown that 24.7% of couples where one partner has bipolar disorder were childless after four years of marriage, which is approximately 13 times higher prevalence of infertility compared to national data (41). However, there is no consensus on the association between bipolar disorder and female infertility. Studies have shown conflicting results between hospitalized individuals and the general population (42). Some studies have found that patients with bipolar disorder have lower fertility rates compared to those with MDD (43, 44). Our study found no significant association between bidirectional emotional states in bipolar disorder and female infertility.

Insomnia, a common sleep disorder, can have negative effects on female reproductive health and pregnancy outcomes by impacting sleep quality, duration, and hormonal circadian rhythms (45, 46). Research has shown a significant connection between sleep disorders and female infertility, even after considering various factors like age, race, education, BMI, and lifestyle habits. Individuals with sleep disorders had a 2.14-fold higher risk of infertility compared to those without (47). Disrupted circadian rhythms in females may affect oocyte quality and quantity, while dysregulation of steroid hormones during embryo implantation could also contribute to infertility (48, 49). Insomnia may alter the expression of circadian genes, leading to cell activity timing issues and potentially increasing the risk of infertility. However, a meta-analysis of observational studies did not find a direct link between sleep disorders and infertility risk, which aligns with our study's conclusion that insomnia is not a causal factor for infertility.

The debate regarding the potential link between infertility and the risk of mental disorders remains ongoing. Numerous studies have reported elevated incidences of anxiety, depression, sleep disorders, and other mental health issues among individuals experiencing infertility (3, 47, 50). However, our research findings suggest that the infertility phenotype does not increase the risk of developing mental disorders. This may imply that mental disorders in infertile patients could originate earlier, possibly even before the diagnosis or onset of infertility, or that they are primarily influenced by various external factors, such as social stress. Previous MR studies have produced conflicting results concerning whether female infertility heightens the risk of bipolar disorder (51, 52). In contrast to earlier MR analyses, our study employs updated GWAS data for bipolar disorder phenotypes, reinforcing the conclusion that infertility does not elevate the risk of bipolar disorder. Nevertheless, these findings necessitate further validation through multi-center randomized controlled trials.

This study aimed to investigate the causal relationship between mental disorders and female infertility. The findings did not support a causal link between anxiety disorder, broad depression, bipolar disorder, and insomnia with infertility and the causal effect of female infertility on mental disorders. Consequently, it is crucial to address the psychological well-being and mental stress of women of reproductive age. Early identification of those at risk for anxiety is vital to prevent the progression to MDD, which can negatively impact female fertility. Additionally, for women of reproductive age diagnosed with MDD, proactive management and treatment are essential to safeguard and preserve their fertility. However, a causal relationship was observed between MDD and infertility. Limitations of the study include (1): focusing only on the European population, which may impact the generalizability of the results due to genetic variations among ethnic groups; (2) lack of analysis on the duration of mental disorders due to unavailable information; and (3) challenges in fully detecting genetic pleiotropy. Future research should consider expanding the sample size, enhancing research methodologies, delving into the underlying mechanisms, and proposing more effective intervention strategies. Collaboration across disciplines such as psychology, reproductive medicine, and neuroscience is crucial for making significant advancements in understanding the relationship between mental illness and infertility.

Data availability statement

The original contributions presented in the study are included in the article/Supplementary Material, further inquiries can be directed to the corresponding author/s.

Ethics statement

Ethical approval was not required for the study involving humans in accordance with the local legislation and institutional requirements. Written informed consent to participate in this study was not required from the participants or the participants' legal guardians/next of kin in accordance with the national legislation and the institutional requirements.

Author contributions

DM: Data curation, Formal analysis, Writing – review & editing. ML: Funding acquisition, Writing – original draft. RL: Conceptualization, Funding acquisition, Supervision, Writing – review & editing.

Funding

The author(s) declare financial support was received for the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article. Our study was supported by the National Key Research, Development Program of China (no. 2022YFC2702500), Clinical Key Incubation Project A of Peking University Third Hospital (no. BYSYZD2023022) and the special fund of the National Clinical Key Specialty Construction Program, P. R. China.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

Publisher's note

All claims expressed in this article are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of their affiliated organizations, or those of the publisher, the editors and the reviewers. Any product that may be evaluated in this article, or claim that may be made by its manufacturer, is not guaranteed or endorsed by the publisher.

Supplementary material

The Supplementary Material for this article can be found online at: https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fendo.2024. 1433624/full#supplementary-material

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE 1

The scatter plots of mendelian randomization when exposure are mental disorders and outcome is female infertility. (A)-(F) refers the scatter plot of each mental disorders including anxiety disorder, broad depression, MDD (PCG), MDD (ieu-b-102), bipolar disorder and insomnia. MDD, major depressive disorder; PGC, Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; IEU, Integrative Epidemiology Unit.

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE 2

The forest plots for each SNP of mendelian randomization when exposure are mental disorders and outcome is female infertility. (A)-(F) refers the scatter plot of each mental disorders including anxiety disorder, broad depression,

MDD (PCG), MDD (ieu-b-102), bipolar disorder and insomnia. MDD, major depressive disorder; PGC, Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; IEU, Integrative Epidemiology Unit.

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE 3

The funnel plots for of mendelian randomization when exposure are mental disorders and outcome is female infertility. (A)-(F) refers the scatter plot of each mental disorders including anxiety disorder, broad depression, MDD (PCG), MDD (ieu-b-102), bipolar disorder and insomnia. MDD, major depressive disorder; PGC, Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; IEU, Integrative Epidemiology Unit.

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE 4

The results of 'leave-one-out' of mendelian randomization when exposure are mental disorders and outcome is female infertility. (A)-(F) refers the scatter plot of each mental disorders including anxiety disorder, broad depression, MDD (PCG), MDD (ieu-b-102), bipolar disorder and insomnia. MDD, major depressive disorder; PGC, Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; IEU, Integrative Epidemiology Unit.

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE 5

The scatter plots of mendelian randomization when exposure is female infertility and outcome are mental disorders. (A)-(D) refers the scatter plot of each mental disorders including anxiety disorder, MDD (PCG), MDD (ieu-b-

References

1. Qiao J, Wang Y, Li X, Jiang F, Zhang Y, Ma J, et al. A Lancet Commission on 70 years of women's reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health in China. *Lancet.* (2021) 397:2497–536. doi: 10.1016/s0140-6736(20)32708-2

2. Bornstein M, Cox CJ, Johnson C, Tchangalova N, Thoma ME, Adageba RK, et al. Infertility prevalence estimates, 1990–2021. Geneva: WHO (2023).

3. Salari N, Babajani F, Hosseinian-Far A, Hasheminezhad R, Abdoli N, Haydarisharaf P, et al. Global prevalence of major depressive disorder, generalized anxiety, stress, and depression among infertile women: a systematic review and metaanalysis. *Arch Gynecol Obstet*. (2024) 309:1833–46. doi: 10.1007/s00404-024-07444-y

 Braverman AM, Davoudian T, Levin IK, Bocage A, Wodoslawsky S. Depression, anxiety, quality of life, and infertility: a global lens on the last decade of research. *Fertil* Steril. (2024) 121:379–83. doi: 10.1016/j.fertnstert.2024.01.013

5. Thanscheidt CL, Wischmann T. Systematic review: risk factors of anxiety, depressiveness, and (Lack of) social support in women and men prior to assisted reproduction. *Geburtshilfe Frauenheilkd*. (2023) 83:1350–60. doi: 10.1055/a-2166-4374

6. Davies NM, Holmes MV, Davey Smith G. Reading Mendelian randomisation studies: a guide, glossary, and checklist for clinicians. *Bmj.* (2018) 362:k601. doi: 10.1136/bmj.k601

7. Emdin CA, Khera AV, Kathiresan S. Mendelian randomization. JAMA. (2017) 318:1925-6. doi: 10.1001/jama.2017.17219

8. Hemani G, Zheng J, Elsworth B, Wade KH, Haberland V, Baird D, et al. The MR-Base platform supports systematic causal inference across the human phenome. *Elife*. (2018) 7. doi: 10.7554/eLife.34408

 Wray NR, Ripke S, Mattheisen M, Trzaskowski M, Byrne EM, Abdellaoui A, et al. Genome-wide association analyses identify 44 risk variants and refine the genetic architecture of major depression. *Nat Genet.* (2018) 50:668–81. doi: 10.1038/s41588-018-0090-3

10. Stahl EA, Breen G, Forstner AJ, McQuillin A, Ripke S, Trubetskoy V, et al. Genome-wide association study identifies 30 loci associated with bipolar disorder. *Nat Genet.* (2019) 51:793–803. doi: 10.1038/s41588-019-0397-8

11. Howard DM, Adams MJ, Shirali M, Clarke TK, Marioni RE, Davies G, et al. Genome-wide association study of depression phenotypes in UK Biobank identifies variants in excitatory synaptic pathways. *Nat Commun.* (2018) 9:1470. doi: 10.1038/ s41467-018-03819-3

12. Sullivan P. panic2019. figshare. Dataset. (2021). doi: 10.6084/m9.figshare16602218.v1

13. Kurki MI, Karjalainen J, Palta P, Sipilä TP, Kristiansson K, Donner KM, et al. FinnGen provides genetic insights from a well-phenotyped isolated population. *Nature.* (2023) 613:508–18. doi: 10.1038/s41586-022-05473-8

14. Bowden J, Del Greco MF, Minelli C, Davey Smith G, Sheehan NA, Thompson JR. Assessing the suitability of summary data for two-sample Mendelian randomization analyses using MR-Egger regression: the role of the I2 statistic. *Int J Epidemiol.* (2016) 45:1961–74. doi: 10.1093/ije/dyw220

15. Burgess S, Thompson SG. Avoiding bias from weak instruments in Mendelian randomization studies. Int J Epidemiol. (2011) 40:755-64. doi: 10.1093/ije/dyr036

16. Machiela MJ, Chanock SJ. LDlink: a web-based application for exploring population-specific haplotype structure and linking correlated alleles of possible

102), and insomnia. MDD, major depressive disorder; PGC, Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; IEU, Integrative Epidemiology Unit.

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE 6

The forest plots for each SNP of mendelian randomization when exposure is female infertility and outcome are mental disorders. (A)-(D) refers the scatter plot of each mental disorders including anxiety disorder, MDD (PCG), MDD (ieu-b-102), and insomnia. MDD, major depressive disorder; PGC, Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; IEU, Integrative Epidemiology Unit.

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE 7

The funnel plots for of mendelian randomization when exposure is female infertility and outcome are mental disorders. (A)-(D) refers the scatter plot of each mental disorders including anxiety disorder, MDD (PCG), MDD (ieu-b-102), and insomnia. MDD, major depressive disorder; PGC, Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; IEU, Integrative Epidemiology Unit.

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE 8

The results of 'leave-one-out' of mendelian randomization when exposure is female infertility and outcome are mental disorders. (A)-(C) refers the scatter plot of each mental disorders including anxiety disorder, MDD (ieu-b-102), and insomnia. MDD, major depressive disorder; IEU, Integrative Epidemiology Unit.

functional variants. Bioinformatics. (2015) 31:3555-7. doi: 10.1093/bioinformatics/ btv402

17. Belan M, Harnois-Leblanc S, Laferrère B, Baillargeon JP. Optimizing reproductive health in women with obesity and infertility. *Cmaj.* (2018) 190:E742-e745. doi: 10.1503/cmaj.171233

18. Peiris AN, Chaljub E, Medlock D. Endometriosis. JAMA. (2018) 320:2608. doi: 10.1001/jama.2018.17953

19. Burgess S, Butterworth A, Thompson SG. Mendelian randomization analysis with multiple genetic variants using summarized data. *Genet Epidemiol.* (2013) 37:658–65. doi: 10.1002/gepi.21758

20. Slob EAW, Burgess S. A comparison of robust Mendelian randomization methods using summary data. *Genet Epidemiol.* (2020) 44:313–29. doi: 10.1002/gepi.22295

21. Bowden J, Davey Smith G, Haycock PC, Burgess S. Consistent estimation in mendelian randomization with some invalid instruments using a weighted median estimator. *Genet Epidemiol.* (2016) 40:304–14. doi: 10.1002/gepi.21965

22. He Y, Wang L, Tang R, Jin H, Liu B, Chen S, et al. Common mental disorders and risk of spontaneous abortion or recurrent spontaneous abortion: A two-sample Mendelian randomization study. *J Affect Disord.* (2024) 354:258–66. doi: 10.1016/j.jad.2024.03.026

23. Bowden J, Davey Smith G, Burgess S. Mendelian randomization with invalid instruments: effect estimation and bias detection through Egger regression. *Int J Epidemiol.* (2015) 44:512–25. doi: 10.1093/ije/dyv080

24. Wu P, Sharma GV, Mehta LS, Chew-Graham CA, Lundberg GP, Nerenberg KA, et al. In-hospital complications in pregnancies conceived by assisted reproductive technology. *J Am Heart Assoc.* (2022) 11:e022658. doi: 10.1161/jaha.121.022658

25. Adane TB, Berhanu KZ, Sewagegn AA. Infertile women of Ethiopia: Psychological challenges and coping strategies. *Med (Baltimore).* (2024) 103:e37725. doi: 10.1097/md.00000000037725

26. Wdowiak A, Makara-Studzińska M. Problemy psychologiczne w niepłodności.. (2009), 135–57.

27. Kiani Z, Simbar M, Hajian S, Zayeri F. The prevalence of depression symptoms among infertile women: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Fertil Res Pract.* (2021) 7:6. doi: 10.1186/s40738-021-00098-3

28. Wdowiak A, Makara-Studzińska M, Raczkiewicz D, Cyranka K. Reproductive problems and intensity of anxiety and depression in women treated for infertility. *Psychiatr Pol.* (2022) 56:153–70. doi: 10.12740/pp/125885

29. Sominsky L, Hodgson DM, McLaughlin EA, Smith R, Wall HM, Spencer SJ. Linking stress and infertility: A novel role for ghrelin. *Endocr Rev.* (2017) 38:432–67. doi: 10.1210/er.2016-1133

30. Pratt LA, Xu F, McQuillan GM, Robitz R. The association of depression, risky sexual behaviours and herpes simplex virus type 2 in adults in NHANES, 2005-2008. *Sex Transm Infect*. (2012) 88:40-4. doi: 10.1136/sextrans-2011-050138

31. Lu Z, Sun Y, Liao Y, Kang Z, Feng X, Zhao G, et al. Identifying causal associations between early sexual intercourse or number of sexual partners and major depressive disorders: A bidirectional two-sample Mendelian randomization analysis. J Affect Disord. (2023) 333:121–9. doi: 10.1016/j.jad.2023.04.079

32. Islam N, Laugen C. Gender differences in depression and condom use among sexually active Canadians. J Affect Disord. (2015) 174: 511-5. doi: 10.1016/ j.jad.2014.12.013

33. Zurlo MC, Cattaneo Della Volta MF, Vallone F. Infertility-related stress and psychological health outcomes in infertile couples undergoing medical treatments: testing a multi-dimensional model. *J Clin Psychol Med Settings*. (2020) 27:662–76. doi: 10.1007/s10880-019-09653-z

34. Maroufizadeh S, Almasi-Hashiani A, Mohammadi M, Navid B, Ezabadi Z, Samani RO. The prevalence of anxiety and depression among people with infertility referring to Royan Institute in Tehran, Iran: A cross-sectional questionnaire study. *Middle East Fertil Soc J.* (2018) 23:103-6. doi: 10.1016/j.mefs.2017.09.003

35. Chachamovich JR, Chachamovich E, Ezer H, Fleck MP, Knauth D, Passos EP. Investigating quality of life and health-related quality of life in infertility: a systematic review. *J Psychosom Obstet Gynaecol.* (2010) 31:101–10. doi: 10.3109/ 0167482x.2010.481337

36. Schaller MA, Griesinger G, Banz-Jansen C. Women show a higher level of anxiety during IVF treatment than men and hold different concerns: a cohort study. *Arch Gynecol Obstet.* (2016) 293:1137–45. doi: 10.1007/s00404-016-4033-x

37. Lawson AK, Klock SC, Pavone ME, Hirshfeld-Cytron J, Smith KN, Kazer RR. Prospective study of depression and anxiety in female fertility preservation and infertility patients. *Fertil Steril.* (2014) 102:1377-84. doi: 10.1016/j.fertnstert.2014.07.765

38. Allan HT. The anxiety of infertility: the role of the nurses in the fertility clinic. *Hum Fertil (Camb).* (2013) 16:17–21. doi: 10.3109/14647273.2013.778423

39. Kraaij V, Garnefski N, Schroevers MJ, Weijmer J, Helmerhorst F. Cognitive coping, goal adjustment, and depressive and anxiety symptoms in people undergoing infertility treatment: a prospective study. *J Health Psychol.* (2010) 15:876–86. doi: 10.1177/1359105309357251

40. Guerra D, Llobera A, Veiga A, Barri PN. Psychiatric morbidity in couples attending a fertility service. *Hum Reprod.* (1998) 13:1733-6. doi: 10.1093/humrep/ 13.6.1733

41. Grover S, Sahoo S, Chaudhary S, Chakrabarti S, Nehra R, Avasthi A. Gender differences, family size and fertility rate among patients with bipolar disorder: A study from India. *Psychiatry Res.* (2019) 272:562–8. doi: 10.1016/j.psychres.2018.12.156

42. Jönsson SA. Marriage rate and fertility in cycloid psychosis: comparison with affective disorder, schizophrenia and the general population. *Eur Arch Psychiatry Clin Neurosci.* (1991) 241:119–25. doi: 10.1007/bf02191155

43. Mansour H, Kandil K, Wood J, Fathi W, Elassy M, Ibrahim I, et al. Reduced fertility and fecundity among patients with bipolar I disorder and schizophrenia in Egypt. *Psychiatry Investig.* (2011) 8:214–20. doi: 10.4306/pi.2011.8.3.214

44. Tondo L, Lepri B, Baldessarini RJ. Reproduction among 1975 Sardinian women and men diagnosed with major mood disorders. *Acta Psychiatr Scand.* (2011) 123:283–9. doi: 10.1111/j.1600-0447.2010.01660.x

45. Willis SK, Hatch EE, Wise LA. Sleep and female reproduction. Curr Opin Obstet Gynecol. (2019) 31:222-7. doi: 10.1097/gco.00000000000554

46. Stocker LJ, Cagampang FR, Lu S, Ladyman T, Cheong YC. Is sleep deficit associated with infertility and recurrent pregnancy losses? Results from a prospective cohort study. *Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand.* (2021) 100:302–13. doi: 10.1111/aogs.14008

47. Zhao J, Chen Q, Xue X. Relationship between sleep disorders and female infertility among US reproductive-aged women. *Sleep Breath.* (2023) 27:1875–82. doi: 10.1007/s11325-023-02802-7

48. Chen M, Xu Y, Miao B, Zhao H, Gao J, Zhou C. Temporal effects of human chorionic gonadotropin on expression of the circadian genes and steroidogenesis-related genes in human luteinized granulosa cells. *Gynecol Endocrinol.* (2017) 33:570–3. doi: 10.1080/09513590.2017.1296423

49. Caetano G, Bozinovic I, Dupont C, Léger D, Lévy R, Sermondade N. Impact of sleep on female and male reproductive functions: a systematic review. *Fertil Steril.* (2021) 115:715–31. doi: 10.1016/j.fertnstert.2020.08.1429

50. Nik Hazlina NH, Norhayati MN, Shaiful Bahari I, Nik Muhammad Arif NA. Worldwide prevalence, risk factors and psychological impact of infertility among women: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *BMJ Open.* (2022) 12. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2021-057132

51. Zeng P, Zhang H, Lu L, Li Y, Yu T, Zhang J, et al. The causal relationship of female infertility and psychiatric disorders in the European population: a bidirectional two-sample Mendelian randomization study. *BMC Womens Health.* (2024) 24:54. doi: 10.1186/s12905-024-02888-5

52. Chen X, Hao X, Xie L, Liu X. A bidirectional causal relationship study between mental disorders and male and female infertility. *Front Psychiatry*. (2024) 15:1378224. doi: 10.3389/fpsyt.2024.1378224