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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

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#### **Abstract**

This study assesses the gender gap in cognitive health among older adults in India and examines the extent to which individual, household and state level characteristics contribute to the malefemale difference in cognitive health. The study is based on 6,548 women and men who participated in the WHO Study on Global AGEing and Adult Health conducted in six states in India during 2007–08. Multilevel ordinary least square regression was used to examine the gender difference in cognitive health, adjusting for individual, household, health behavior and state-level variables. A composite cognitive score (CCS) was calculated by combining *z*-scores

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