

Synopsis no.: S2.3

Preliminary title: Incidence of psychotic disorders among migrants in EU countries

Contact info for the person(s) proposing the synopsis

Name: Jean-Paul Selten & Iliaria Tarricone

Partner no: P8/AMC and P26/UNIBO

e-mail address: j.selten@ggzleiden.nl; iliana.tarricone@unibo.it

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Working and writing group: JP Selten, I Tarricone, E van der Ven, L de Haan, E Velthorst, A Tortelli, D Berardi, A Mule, A Lasalvia, A Szoke, J Bobes, D Mesa, J Kirkbride, R Murray, C Morgan, J van Os, B Rutten

Work Packages involved: WP 2

Partners involved from whom candidate co-authors (*additional to working and writing group*) should be nominated: Amsterdam, Clermont-Ferrand, Sao Paolo, Barcelona, Madrid, Valencia, Santiago, Cuenca.

Objectives (scientific background, hypothesis, methods, and expected results):

Background: There have been many studies on the incidence of psychotic disorders among immigrants to Europe, but, to our knowledge, no large collaborative studies in various countries of the EU, using the same inclusion and exclusion criteria. The EU-GEI study is such a large collaborative study and offers an opportunity to estimate risks in Europe for (1) migrants in general, and for (2) relatively homogeneous groups of migrants (e.g., African-Caribbeans, North-Africans). Thus, it may be possible to examine whether risks for migrants, regardless of their country of origin, differ by EU country of residence, and to examine whether the risk for particular groups of migrants differ according to their EU country of residence. Furthermore, it will be of interest to compare the risk for migrants of the first and the second generation.

Aims: 1. To estimate age- and sex-adjusted incidence rates for affective and non-affective psychotic disorders among migrants in Europe, regardless of country of origin.

2. To estimate age- and sex-adjusted incidence rates for relatively homogeneous migrant groups in Europe (to be determined; for example North-Africans, African-Caribbeans; migrants from EU countries).

3. To examine whether incidence rates differ by country of residence.

If feasible,

4. To examine whether incidence differs by generation (first versus second).

5. To examine the incidence for internal migrants.

N.B. We need to know which information is available in each country on immigrant groups, which immigrant groups are most important in each research site and try to identify ethnic groups which are important for all or almost all countries (e.g., North-Africans in Spain, Italy, France and the Netherlands; Afro-Caribbeans in the UK, France and the Netherlands; Eastern Europeans in all of the five countries etc.). We also need to know how ethnicity is defined: on self-ascribed ethnicity or (proxy) on the basis

of country of birth. It seems that there is no information on the size and the nature (parental country of birth) of the second-generation in Spain and France. I do not know whether the census collects any information on the second generation in the UK. For that reason we sent a short questionnaire to site leaders in each country. Finally, using this information, we will need to identify groups of migrants, based on meaningful context. There are several possibilities, e.g., 1. Level of income of sending country 2. Geography (e.g., North-Africa). 3. Skin colour.

Data needed for the study: All incident cases in each centre, their diagnosis, age, sex, ethnicity (or country of birth and parental country of birth). Corresponding data for denominators. To assess ethnic density it is important to dispose of information on the size of each important ethnic group by area.

Plan for statistical analysis (overall strategy): Incidence rates for each site will be standardized. Poisson regression analysis to compare risks for groups.

Other analyses/methods:

Involvement of external Parties (non EU-GEI):

IPR check:

Timeframe: Data to be provided to the analysis team by end 2014. Analyses to begin late 2014 or early 2015. Circulation of manuscript to authors spring 2015, publication by summer 2015.

Additional comments: