

Synopsis for EU-GEI WP5 Publication

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Preliminary title: Shared and non-shared genetic and environmental risks of non-affective and affective psychotic disorders
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Work Packages involved: WP2
EU-GEI Partners involved from whom candidate co-authors (<i>additional to working and writing group</i>) should be nominated: IoP, Faculté de Médecine, Université Paris-Est, Créteil, University College London,
Objectives (scientific background, hypothesis, methods, and expected results): <i>Scientific background</i> In recent years, the Kraepelinian dichotomy has been challenged in light of evidence on shared genetic and environmental factors for schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. ¹⁻⁸ There have also been calls for research cutting across diagnostic boundaries to strengthen the dimensional approach to classification in psychiatry. ⁹⁻¹¹ However, empirical efforts to identify a more fundamental phenotype of psychosis at the clinical symptom level remain remarkably limited. Recent evidence for a bifactor model suggests that there is one general psychosis dimension underlying affective and non-affective psychotic symptoms as well as five specific psychosis dimensions of positive symptoms, negative symptoms, disorganization, mania, and depression in schizophrenia spectrum disorder. ¹² In a more recent analysis, there was further evidence that the general psychosis dimension cuts across boundaries of the Kraepelinian dichotomy, suggesting that schizophrenia and bipolar disorder lie on a psychosis spectrum with overlapping non-affective and affective symptoms. ¹³ However,... General and specific psychosis dimensions, if replicated, provide a directly measurable clinical phenotype for cross-disorder investigations into the role of shared genetic and environmental factors of psychosis. <i>Hypotheses</i> The aim of this publication is to investigate: 1) a) whether the previously identified general psychosis dimension and the five specific psychosis dimensions (positive symptoms, negative symptoms, disorganization, mania, depression) replicate (and provide the best model fit compared with alternative models ¹²) in a new sample of cases with a first episode of (non-affective and affective) psychotic disorder; b) the diagnostic utility of general and specific psychosis dimensions for classifying patients correctly into categorical diagnoses of psychotic disorders (Lead: Quattrone/Reininghaus). 2) whether cannabis use is associated with general and specific psychosis dimensions (Lead: Quattrone/Murray/di Forti) 3) social factors associated with general and specific psychosis dimensions (Lead:

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Reininghaus/Morgan)

- 4) genetic factors associated with general and specific psychosis dimensions (Richards/O'Donovan).

Method and expected results

Symptom ratings of the OPERational CRITERia (OPCRIT) system in cases with a first episode of (non-affective and affective) psychotic disorder will be used and combined with data on genetic risk and environmental exposures. Data on genetic risk and environmental exposures will only be analysed in relation to OPCRIT data. Multidimensional item response modelling will be conducted on OPCRIT ratings to examine whether there is a general psychosis dimension and, in addition, whether there are 5 specific symptom dimensions of positive symptoms, negative symptoms, disorganization, mania, and depression, compared with alternative item response models¹². In order to examine the extent to which factor scores of general and specific psychosis dimensions (as predictor variable) allow for accurate classification of patients into diagnostic categories (as outcome variable), multinomial Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) analysis¹⁴ will be conducted in Stata version 13.¹⁵ Linear regression will be used to examine genetic and environmental factors associated with, and (more complex) gene-environment interaction effects on general and specific psychosis dimensions. These analyses will generate evidence on shared and non-shared genetic and environmental risks of non-affective and affective psychotic disorders.

Data needed for the study: (please list the EU-GEI WP5 instruments)

- OPERational CRITERia (OPCRIT) items and diagnosis
- MRC Sociodemographic Schedule
- Schedules for the assessment of social contexts and experiences (i.e., Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse (CECA) interview, Social Environment Assessment Tool (SEAT))
- Childhood Trauma Questionnaire (CTQ)
- Cannabis Questionnaire (+alcohol and drugs)
- Polygenic scores (i.e., a) 'shared' score of genes associated with both affective and non-affective psychosis (based on previous research); b) 'non-shared' scores of genes associated either affective or non-affective psychosis (based on previous research))

Plan for statistical analysis (overall strategy):

1) Multidimensional item response modelling will be conducted on OPCRIT ratings to examine whether there is a general psychosis dimension and, in addition, whether there are 5 specific symptom dimensions of positive symptoms, negative symptoms, disorganization, mania, and depression, compared with alternative item response models¹². In order to examine the extent to which factor scores of general and specific psychosis dimensions (as predictor variable) allow for accurate classification of patients into diagnostic categories (as outcome variable), multinomial Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) analysis¹⁴ will be conducted in Stata version 13.¹⁵

2) ...

3) Linear regression will be used to examine social factors associated with general and specific psychosis dimensions.

4) ...

We will further conduct more complex modeling of gene-environment interactions and investigate their effects on general and specific psychosis dimensions. We will also explore whether the sample recruited as part of WP6 may be used as a replication sample for findings from these analyses.

Other analyses/methods: N/A

Involvement of external Parties (non EU-GEI):

IPR check (Intellectual property rights): N/A

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Timeframe: Start date: Date of completion of OPCRIT data collection/entry Month 2: Literature search; initial analyses (Milestone 1) Month 4: Completion of statistical analysis and first draft of manuscript (Milestone 2) Month 6: Manuscript submission (Milestone 3)
Additional comments: N/A

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