

Association Between Schizophrenia-Related Polygenic Liability and the Occurrence and Level of Mood-Incongruent Psychotic Symptoms in Bipolar Disorder

Judith Allardyce, MRCPsych, PhD; Ganna Leonenko, PhD; Marian Hamshere, PhD; Antonio F. Pardiñas, PhD; Liz Forty, PhD; Sarah Knott, PhD; Katherine Gordon-Smith, PhD; David J. Porteous, PhD; Caroline Haywood, PhD; Arianna Di Florio, MD, PhD; Lisa Jones, PhD; Andrew M. McIntosh, FRCPsych, MD; Michael J. Owen, FRCPsych, PhD; Peter Holmans, PhD; James T. R. Walters, MRCPsych, PhD; Nicholas Craddock, FRCPsych, PhD; Ian Jones, FRCPsych, PhD; Michael C. O'Donovan, FRCPsych, PhD; Valentina Escott-Price, PhD

← Editorial

+ Supplemental content

IMPORTANCE Bipolar disorder (BD) overlaps schizophrenia in its clinical presentation and genetic liability. Alternative approaches to patient stratification beyond current diagnostic categories are needed to understand the underlying disease processes and mechanisms.

OBJECTIVE To investigate the association between common-variant liability for schizophrenia, indexed by polygenic risk scores (PRSs), and psychotic presentations of BD.

DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS This case-control study in the United Kingdom used multinomial logistic regression to estimate differential PRS associations across categories of cases and controls. Participants included in the final analyses were 4436 cases of BD from the Bipolar Disorder Research Network. These cases were compared with the genotypic data for 4976 cases of schizophrenia and 9012 controls from the Type 1 Diabetes Genetics Consortium study and the Generation Scotland study. Data were collected between January 1, 2000, and December 31, 2013. Data analysis was conducted from March 1, 2016, to February 28, 2017.

EXPOSURES Standardized PRSs, calculated using alleles with an association threshold of $P < .05$ in the second Psychiatric Genomics Consortium genome-wide association study of schizophrenia, were adjusted for the first 10 population principal components and genotyping platforms.

MAIN OUTCOMES AND MEASURES Multinomial logit models estimated PRS associations with BD stratified by Research Diagnostic Criteria subtypes of BD, by lifetime occurrence of psychosis, and by lifetime mood-incongruent psychotic features. Ordinal logistic regression examined PRS associations across levels of mood incongruence. Ratings were derived from the Schedules for Clinical Assessment in Neuropsychiatry interview and the Bipolar Affective Disorder Dimension Scale.

RESULTS Of the 4436 cases of BD, 2966 (67%) were female patients, and the mean (SD) age at interview was 46 [12] years. Across clinical phenotypes, there was an exposure-response gradient, with the strongest PRS association for schizophrenia (risk ratio [RR] = 1.94; 95% CI, 1.86-2.01), followed by schizoaffective BD (RR = 1.37; 95% CI, 1.22-1.54), bipolar I disorder subtype (RR = 1.30; 95% CI, 1.24-1.36), and bipolar II disorder subtype (RR = 1.04; 95% CI, 0.97-1.11). Within BD cases, there was an effect gradient, indexed by the nature of psychosis. Prominent mood-incongruent psychotic features had the strongest association (RR = 1.46; 95% CI, 1.36-1.57), followed by mood-congruent psychosis (RR = 1.24; 95% CI, 1.17-1.33) and BD with no history of psychosis (RR = 1.09; 95% CI, 1.04-1.15).

CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE For the first time to date, a study shows a polygenic-risk gradient across schizophrenia and BD, indexed by the occurrence and level of mood-incongruent psychotic symptoms.

JAMA Psychiatry. doi:10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2017.3485
Published online November 22, 2017.

Author Affiliations: Author affiliations are listed at the end of this article.

Corresponding Author: Judith Allardyce, MRCPsych, PhD, Medical Research Council Centre for Neuropsychiatric Genetics and Genomics, Cardiff University, Hadyn Ellis Building, Maindy Road, Cathays, Cardiff, CF24 4HQ Wales (allardycej2@cardiff.ac.uk).

Although classified as a discrete diagnostic category,¹⁻³ bipolar disorder (BD) overlaps considerably with schizophrenia (SCZ) in both its clinical presentation⁴⁻¹³ and genetic liability.¹⁴⁻²² Bipolar disorder is a phenomenologically heterogeneous construct, and within the diagnostic category, individuals with BD may have quite different symptom profiles. It has been proposed that this clinical heterogeneity indicates underlying etiological heterogeneity and that the degree of clinical similarity between BD and SCZ reflects overlapping alleles, which selectively influence specific, shared clinical characteristics rather than the global risk for the disorder.²³⁻²⁵

Delusions and hallucinations are common in BD,^{26,27} with approximately one-third of all psychotic features judged to be mood incongruent.^{28,29} Mood-incongruent psychotic features are associated with poor prognosis and poor lithium response and are qualitatively similar to the prototypic symptoms of SCZ,³⁰⁻³² suggesting that BD with psychosis and particularly mood-incongruent psychotic features may specify a subgroup or stratum with stronger etiological links to SCZ. Stratified linkage and candidate-gene studies of BD associations with chromosomal regions and genes implicated in SCZ show stronger effects in psychosis and mood-incongruent subsamples,³³⁻³⁶ providing some support for this causal heterogeneity hypothesis; however, lack of consistency in earlier linkage and candidate-gene studies renders the overall support weak.

Genome-wide association studies (GWAS) have found a substantial polygenic component to both BD and SCZ risks, with a large proportion of the disorders' genetic variance explained by common alleles partially shared by the 2 disorders.²⁰ This polygenic risk can be calculated for individuals with a single summary measure: the polygenic risk score (PRS; with higher scores indicating a higher burden of risk alleles), which allows us to examine the genetic basis of symptom domains within and across the 2 disorders³⁷⁻³⁹ with greater power than do the historical linkage and candidate-gene approaches. The PRS-SCZ differentiates BD cases from controls,^{16,20} and there are differential PRS associations across subtypes with schizoaffective bipolar disorder (SABD) (an intermediate subtype characterized by admixture of SCZ and BD symptoms) having a relatively larger burden of SCZ risk, compared with other BD subtypes.^{15,40} To date, lack of power in well-phenotyped samples has hindered fine-scale examination of the association of SCZ polygenic-risk with psychotic symptoms in BD.

This study aimed to examine the association between polygenic liability for SCZ and psychotic presentations of BD using the PRSs generated from the most powerful SCZ-GWAS discovery set currently available.²¹ Measures relevant to the occurrence and nature of psychotic symptoms were considered. We hypothesized that BD with psychosis would be associated with higher polygenic risk for SCZ and that this association would be stronger when mood-incongruent psychotic features were present, given their phenotypic similarity to the psychotic symptoms of prototypic SCZ.

Key Points

Question What is the association between schizophrenia-related polygenic liability and the occurrence and level of mood-incongruence of psychotic symptoms in bipolar disorder?

Findings In this case-control study involving 4436 cases of bipolar disorder, 4976 cases of schizophrenia, and 9012 controls, there was an exposure-response gradient of polygenic risk. Schizophrenia had the strongest association, followed by bipolar disorder with prominent mood-incongruent psychotic features, bipolar disorder with mood-congruent psychotic features, and bipolar disorder with no psychosis; all differential associations were statistically significant.

Meaning This study shows a gradient of genetic liability across schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, indexed by the occurrence of psychosis and level of mood incongruence.

Methods

Sample Ascertainment

Bipolar Disorder Sample

In total, data from 4436 cases of BD with deep phenotypic information, European ancestry, and domicile in the United Kingdom were collected between January 1, 2000, and December 31, 2013, via the UK Bipolar Disorder Research Network using recruitment methods reported previously.^{15,41,42} The sample contained 1399 cases not included in previous publications of the Bipolar Disorder Research Network.^{15,40} All participants were assessed using a consistent protocol, which included the Schedules for Clinical Assessment in Neuropsychiatry (SCAN) interview⁴³ administered by trained research psychologists and psychiatrists, with very good to excellent interrater reliability for all domains of psychopathology.⁴⁴ Using information from the SCAN interview and case note review, we completed the Operational Criteria Checklist.⁴⁵ Research Diagnostic Criteria (RDC)³ diagnoses, which differentiate individuals on the basis of their pattern of mood and psychotic symptoms better⁴⁰ than either the *DSM-5*² or the *International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Health-Related Disorders, Tenth Revision* Classification of Mental and Behavioural Disorders,¹ were made with consensus lifetime best-estimate method informed by all available information.⁴⁶ The Bipolar Disorder Research Network study was given a favorable ethical opinion by the West Midlands Multi-Centre Research Ethics Committee. Local research and development approval was obtained in all participating National Health Service Trusts and Health Boards. All participants gave written informed consent. Data analysis was conducted from March 1, 2016, to February 28, 2017.

Schizophrenia Sample

To allow the comparison of BD to SCZ, we included a subset ($n = 4976$) of the CLOZUK (treatment-resistant schizophrenia, treated with clozapine) study sample collected via the Zaponex Treatment Access System, which was detailed in a previous report.⁴⁷ All patients in the sample were prescribed clozapine for treatment-resistant SCZ and are independent of and unrelated ($\pi\text{-hat} < 0.2$) with individuals in the discovery

GWAS.²¹ In principle, treatment-resistant SCZ may carry higher polygenic risk burden; however, the PRSs in the CLOZUK sample are similar to the PRSs in other SCZ samples used by the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium.²¹ The CLOZUK procedures and methods were approved by the National Research Ethics and were in line with the UK Human Tissue Act regulations in partnership with the Leyden Delta.

Control Samples

The controls came from 2 UK sources: (1) the Type 1 Diabetes Genetics Consortium study, which comprised unscreened controls (n = 2532) recruited through the 1958 Birth Cohort,⁴⁸ and (2) a subsample (n = 6480) of the Generation Scotland study screened for psychiatric disorders.⁴⁹ Controls were not associated (π -hat < 0.2) with individuals in the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium-SCZ discovery set and were matched ancestrally to our case data sets.⁴⁷ The Generation Scotland Access Committee approved this application to use Generation Scotland as controls.

Genotyping, Quality Control, Phasing, and Imputation

Bipolar Cases

Genotypic data for the BD cases were processed in 3 batches, each on a different platform. To mitigate against potential bias from batch effects,⁵⁰ stringent quality control (QC) was performed on each platform separately prior to merging. Single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) were excluded if the call rate was less than 98%, the minor allele frequency (MAF) was less than 0.01, or the SNPs deviated from the Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (HWE) at $P < 1 \times 10^{-6}$. Individuals were excluded if they had minimal or excessive autosomal homozygosity ($F_1 > 0.1$), high pairwise relatedness (π -hat > 0.2), or mismatch between recorded and genotypic sex. Following QC, the data for each platform were phased using SHAPEIT,⁵¹ version 3.4.0.1023 (Olivier Delaneau), and imputed with IMPUTE2,⁵² version 2.3.0 (University of Oxford), using the 1000 Genomes Project reference panel (phase 3). Imputed data were converted into the most probable genotypes (probability > 0.9) and merged on shared SNPs. After QC, 4399 BD cases remained.

CLOZUK Cases and Controls

The CLOZUK and control samples went through strict QC separately before being phased and imputed simultaneously as part of a larger SCZ study.⁴⁷

Merging Imputed Genotypic Data Sets

After SNPs with stand ambiguity were excluded, BD, CLOZUK, and control samples were merged and the imputed markers underwent a second QC filter.⁵⁰ This second QC excluded SNPs with a missingness rate of more than 5% of individuals, an information content score lower than 0.8, an MAF of less than 0.01, or deviation from HWE at $P < 1 \times 10^{-6}$.

Principal Component Analysis

To adjust for potential confounding from population structure, we performed principal components analysis. We used PLINK, version 1.9 (Christopher Chang), after pruning the linkage disequilibrium and frequency filtering the SNPs from the merged

sample, keeping the eigenvectors for the first 10 principal components to use as covariates in the association analysis.

Polygenic Risk Scores

We generated the PRSs²⁰ using the 2014 Psychiatric Genomics Consortium-SCZ meta-analysis as our discovery set²¹ calculated for each individual on the basis of a set of alleles with association $P < .05$. This decision was informed by the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium leave-one-cohort-out PRS analyses for all SNP selection P value thresholds, which found the median and the mode was $P = .05$, which represents the association that best optimizes the balance of false and true risk alleles at the current discovery sample size.²¹ The most informative and independent markers were selected to minimize statistical noise where possible, by using P value-informed clumping at $r^2 < 0.2$ with 1-MB windows and by excluding the extended major histocompatibility complex (chromosome 6: position 25-35 MB) because of its complex linkage disequilibrium structure.

Outcome Measure of Lifetime Psychosis and Mood Incongruence

Subtypes of BD

The RDC subtypes were used as categorical outcomes in case-control analyses. The RDC³ and the DSM-5,² although not the *International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Health-Related Disorders, Tenth Revision, Classification of Mental and Behavioural Disorders*,¹ subdivides BD into bipolar I disorder (BD I) and bipolar II disorder (BD II) depending on the nature of the mood states, mania in BD I, and hypomania in BD II. All classification systems recognize SABD. Psychotic symptoms are most prominent in SABD and then BD I and are least prominent in BD II.^{53,54}

Bipolar Affective Disorder Dimension Scale

Outcome measures were generated from the Bipolar Affective Disorder Dimension Scale (BADDs) subscales of psychosis and mood incongruence, which provide an ordered, but not necessarily linear, measure of lifetime symptom domain severity.⁵⁵ An interrater reliability exercise for this sample demonstrates excellent interclass correlation: (psychosis) 0.91 and (mood incongruence) 0.89.

1. A binary categorical outcome measure for lifetime occurrence of psychosis, defined as an unambiguous episode of positive and/or disorganized psychotic symptoms, generated by dichotomizing the psychosis domain scale at a score higher than 9.⁵⁵
2. A binary categorical outcome measure for lifetime occurrence of predominant mood-incongruent psychotic features, defined as high or low prominence of mood incongruence, generated by dichotomizing the mood incongruence domain scale at a score higher than 19.
3. An ordinal measure of mood-incongruent psychotic features that assesses the overall balance between mood-congruent and mood-incongruent psychosis across the lifetime, rated using all available information according to the Bipolar Disorder Research Network protocol (see eNote 1 in the eAppendix in the Supplement).

Table 1. Differential Association of Polygenic Risk Scores Across Various Defined Bipolar Disease Strata (Controls as Comparator Category)

Case	No. of Cases (Subsample)	Relative Risk Ratio ^a	Bootstrapped P Value	Bonferroni-Corrected P Value	Bootstrapped 95% CI
CLOZUK	4976	1.94	<.001	<.001	1.86-2.01
Bipolar Disorder Cases Stratified by RDC-Defined Subtypes					
SABD	356	1.37	<.001	<.001	1.22-1.54
BD I	2775	1.30	<.001	<.001	1.24-1.36
BD II	1268	1.04	.26	.26	0.97-1.11
Bipolar Disorder Cases Stratified by LEP					
No LEP	2079	1.09	.001	.004	1.04-1.15
LEP	2296	1.36	<.001	<.001	1.29-1.43
Psychotic Bipolar Disorder Cases Stratified by Level of Mood Incongruence					
Low LMI	1126	1.24	<.001	<.001	1.17-1.33
High LMI	981	1.46	<.001	<.001	1.36-1.57
Sensitivity Analysis: Psychotic Bipolar Disorder Cases Stratified by Level of Mood Incongruence (Excluding SABD Cases)					
Low LMI	1068	1.25	<.001	<.001	1.16-1.33
High LMI	699	1.49	<.001	<.001	1.37-1.62

Abbreviations: BD I, bipolar I disorder subtype; BD II, bipolar II disorder subtype; CLOZUK, treatment-resistant schizophrenia treated with clozapine study; LEP, lifetime ever occurrence of psychotic symptoms; LMI, lifetime pattern of low or high mood incongruent psychotic features; RDC, Research Diagnostic Criteria; SABD, schizoaffective bipolar disorder.

^a Adjusted for polygenic risk score for the first 10 principal components and genotyping platforms.

Table 2. Polygenic Risk Scores for Schizophrenia Associations Among Cases

Case	Relative Risk Ratio ^a	Bootstrapped P Value	Bonferroni-Corrected P Value	Bootstrapped 95% CI
SABD compared with TRS	0.71	<.001	<.001	0.63-0.80
BD I compared with TRS	0.67	<.001	<.001	0.64-0.71
BD II compared with TRS	0.54	<.001	<.001	0.50-0.57
SABD compared with BD II	1.32	<.001	<.001	1.16-1.50
BP I compared with BD II	1.25	<.001	<.001	1.16-1.35
SABD compared with BD I	1.05	.41	.41	0.93-1.18

Abbreviations: BD I, bipolar I disorder subtype; BD II, bipolar II disorder subtype; SABD, schizoaffective bipolar disorder; TRS, treatment-resistant schizophrenia.

^a Adjusted for polygenic risk score for the first 10 principal components and genotyping platforms.

Statistical Analysis

A multinomial logit model was used to estimate differential associations of standardized PRSs, adjusted for the first 10 principal components and genotyping platforms across the categories of cases and controls. We report the estimated coefficient transformed to relative risk ratio (RR), defined as the exponentiated regression coefficient. In addition, PRS associations across levels of mood-incongruent psychotic features using ordinal logistic regression were estimated. To examine whether SABD subtypes were driving observed PRS associations with mood-incongruent psychotic features, we did a sensitivity analysis that excluded SABD cases. Postestimation predicted probabilities were plotted to aid the interpretation of PRS associations across RDC subtypes of BD.⁵⁶ To correct for multiple comparisons of PRS associations across different phenotypic strata within each model, we generated bootstrapped SEs and 95% CIs as an approximation to exact permutation methods⁵⁷ (see eNote 2 in the eAppendix in the Supplement). Possible familywise, type I error proliferation was controlled using the Bonferroni method, calculated by multiplying the bootstrapped P values by 4.⁵⁸

Post hoc analyses used a multinomial logit model case-control design to examine differential associations across composite phenotypic categories defined by BD I and BD II subtypes and stratified by psychosis status. Complementary logistic regression analyses were conducted to compare the PRS association with lifetime occurrence of psychosis across BD I and BD II subtypes. To examine the distribution of RDC-defined cases across PRS levels, we converted the PRSs to deciles and generated a

stacked bar chart (SCZ [CLOZUK], SABD, BD I, BD II), by decile. Analyses were performed using PLINK, version 1.9⁵⁹ (Christopher Chang), or Stata, version 14 (StataCorp, LLC).

Results

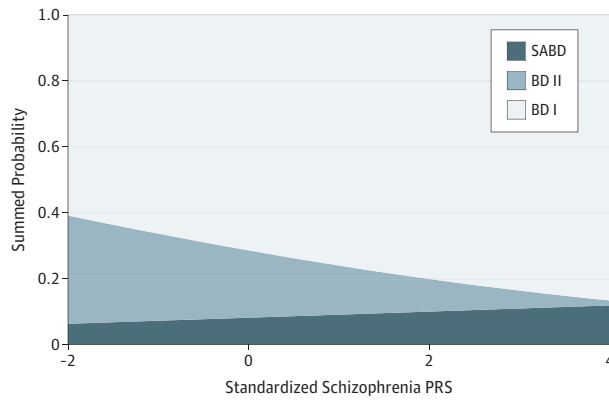
Sample Description, Genotyping, and Quality Control

Of the 4436 cases of BD, 2966 (67%) were female patients, and the mean (SD) age at the SCAN interview was 46 [12] years. After BD, CLOZUK, and control imputed-genotyped samples were merged and further QC was performed, 18 387 cases and controls (eTable 1 in the Supplement) with 3 451 354 SNPs, with an information content score higher than 0.8 and a MAF greater than 1%, were available for analysis. Within the BD sample, 2296 cases (52%) endorsed lifetime occurrence of definite psychosis, with less than a 1% missingness rate in this variable (n = 25). Of the BD cases with definite psychosis, 981 (43%) were classified as having high lifetime mood-incongruent psychotic features. There was a 9% missingness rate (n = 214) for the mood-incongruence variable within the BD cases with psychosis.

Case-Control PRS Associations

As expected, the PRSs discriminated CLOZUK from control samples (Table 1). The PRSs in those with a diagnosis of SABD or BD I, but not BD II, were significantly higher than the PRSs in controls. Across clinical phenotypes, there was an exposure-response gradient, with the strongest PRS association for

Figure 1. Probability of RDC Bipolar Subtype as a Function of Polygenic Risk Scores (PRSs) Associated With Schizophrenia



BD I indicates bipolar I disorder subtype; BD II, bipolar II disorder subtype; and SABD, schizoaffective bipolar disorder.

schizophrenia (RR = 1.94; 95% CI, 1.86-2.01), followed by schizoaffective BD (RR = 1.37; 95% CI, 1.22-1.54), BD I (RR = 1.30; 95% CI, 1.24-1.36), and BD II (RR = 1.04; 95% CI, 0.97-1.11).

PRS Associations Within Cases

The PRSs discriminated SCZ from all BD subtypes (Table 2). Within BD, the PRSs discriminated BD II from both BD I and SABD (Figure 1). The percentage of CLOZUK cases increased monotonically with increasing decile of PRS, while the percentage of bipolar subtypes decreased (Figure 2).

PRS Associations With Psychotic BD

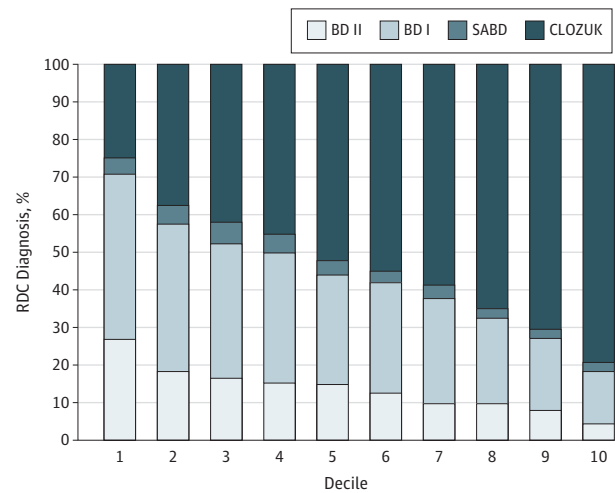
Compared with controls, the PRSs were higher in BD, regardless of whether there was a history of psychosis (Table 1 and Figure 2). However, the PRSs were significantly higher in BD with psychosis, compared with BD without psychosis (Table 1 and Figure 3). Within BD cases, PRSs discriminated those with and without psychosis (RR = 1.25; 95% CI, 1.16-1.33; $P < .001$).

Post hoc analyses showed the association between PRS and psychosis was present in BD I (odds ratio [OR] = 1.21; 95% CI, 1.10-1.32) but was not statistically significant in BD II (OR = 0.98; 95% CI, 0.80-1.18). The composite subgroup, defined as BD I with psychosis, had higher PRSs compared with the PRSs in controls (RR = 1.38; 95% CI, 1.31-1.46). This association was significantly stronger than that of the composite BD I without psychosis (RR = 1.16; 95% CI, 1.08-1.25). Within BD II, there was no differential association across subgroups, defined by presence or absence of psychosis, as compared with the differential association in controls (eTable 2 in the Supplement).

PRS Associations With Mood-Incongruent Psychotic Features

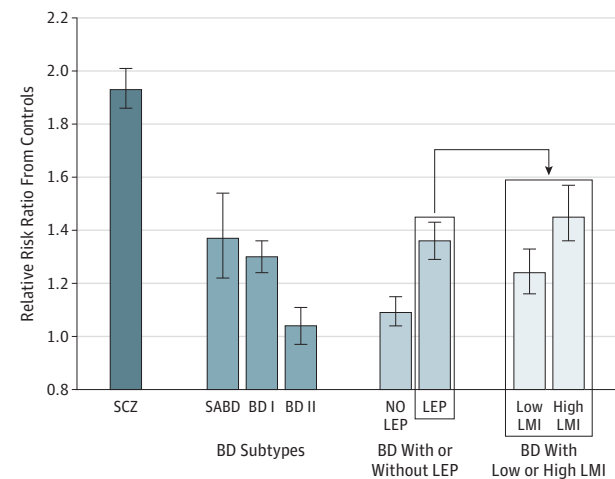
Psychotic BD characterized by high mood incongruence had a higher SCZ polygenic risk burden than that in controls, with a 1-SD increase in PRS increasing the RR of being in the high mood-incongruence category by 46% (RR = 1.46; 95% CI, 1.36-1.57) (Figure 3 and Table 1). Although the association was significantly weaker than for the high mood-incongruent group, SCZ risk alleles were enriched in those

Figure 2. Percentage of Bipolar Subtype as a Function of Polygenic Risk Scores for Schizophrenia, Grouped by Decile



BD I indicates bipolar I disorder subtype; BD II, bipolar II disorder subtype; CLOZUK, treatment-resistant schizophrenia treated with clozapine study; PRS, polygenic risk scores; RDC, Research Diagnostic Criteria; and SABD, schizoaffective bipolar disorder.

Figure 3. Relative Risk Ratios for Schizophrenia and Bipolar Subtypes



The control group is the comparator. BD I indicates bipolar I disorder subtype; BD II, bipolar II disorder subtype; LEP, lifetime ever occurrence of psychotic symptoms; LMI, lifetime pattern of low or high mood incongruent psychotic features; SABD, schizoaffective bipolar disorder; and SCZ, schizophrenia.

with low mood-incongruence, compared with controls (RR = 1.24; 95% CI, 1.17-1.33). Sensitivity analysis excluding the SABD group from analyses found comparable results (Table 1). Finally, a within-BD case analysis, measuring mood incongruence on an ordinal scale, found the odds of having higher levels of mood incongruence increased with increasing PRS (OR = 1.17; 95% CI, 1.08-1.27; $P < .001$). Analyses excluding the SABD sample found comparable results (OR = 1.20; 95% CI, 1.09-1.32; $P < .001$).

Discussion

Higher PRS-SCZ in BD^{20,60} is well established. Here, we replicate and extend this observation, demonstrating a gradient of PRS associations across SCZ and BD subtypes (CLOZUK>SABD>BD I with psychosis>BD I without psychosis>BD II). In addition, we show that BD cases with psychosis carry a higher burden of SCZ risk alleles, compared with BD without a history of psychosis (RR = 1.09; 95% CI, 1.04-1.15). Furthermore, individuals with psychotic BD characterized by prominent mood-incongruent psychotic features carry the highest burden of schizophrenia risk alleles. There is a clear exposure-response gradient, with increasing PRS associated with psychotic BD and increasing mood incongruence (mood incongruent > mood congruent > no psychosis), supporting our hypothesis that mood-incongruence indexes phenotypic features linked to SCZ liability.

Previously published work examining the PRSs for SCZ across BD, stratified by psychosis, did not find significant discrimination,^{22,40} although a trend was observed that is consistent with the findings presented here. The most likely explanations for the enhanced signal in the current analysis are as follows: the PRSs were constructed using alleles derived from a larger SCZ-GWAS discovery set, which reduces the measurement error and improves power from both this sample and the larger BD sample.⁶¹ This group has shown that PRS-SCZ significantly differentiates SABD from non-SABD subtypes, while finding no statistically significant differential between BD stratified by psychosis,⁴⁰ suggesting it is the nature of the psychotic symptoms rather than their presence that better indexes the liability shared with SCZ.⁶² The current analysis supports the proposition that it is the level of mood incongruence rather than the presence of psychosis that better specifies a shared biologically validated dimensional trait, which is captured, although with less precision, by the SABD diagnostic category.

Psychosis and mood-incongruent psychotic features are known to be correlated with poorer prognosis and treatment response.³⁰⁻³² It is possible the transdiagnostic exposure-response gradient for the PRS, with the occurrence and nature of psychotic symptoms presented here, could be the result of a general psychopathological factor that cuts across psychiatric disorders and influences the severity of psychopathology generally as well as, or rather than, a psychosis-specific domain. The PRS derived from SCZ-GWAS may be indexing a general liability for psychopathological severity (at least in part)⁶³ rather than a (SCZ) disease-specific liability.

Implications

Our study supports the hypothesis that, within BD, positive and disorganized psychotic symptoms—particularly, mood-incongruent psychotic features—represent a dimensionally defined stratum with underpinning biological validity. These features are not only phenotypically similar to those observed in prototypal SCZ but also index a greater shared-genetic liability, which suggests BD and SCZ share more pathophysiological features.⁶⁴ Notably, in those diagnosed with BD I with no history of psychosis, the association with SCZ liability was weaker but still higher than in the control group, while there was no over-

lap with SCZ liability in the BD II subsample. We are not suggesting that psychotic features are the best or the only index of shared pathophysiological features, but having established stronger genetic links between the risk for SCZ and BD characterized by the occurrence of psychosis and level of mood incongruence, we now have a basis to refine this signal. These findings represent a step toward the goal of reconceptualizing phenotypic definitions using richer clinical signatures, measured across quantitative or qualitative domains, including symptom loading and biomarker expression, outlined in the rationale for the RDC^{65,66} and the Road Map for Mental Health Research in Europe⁶⁷ projects. However, a multidimensional stratification process will likely harness the observed clinical heterogeneity better and define more precise patient strata or subgroups in closer alignment with the underlying biological mechanisms.⁶⁸⁻⁷⁰

Limitations

Phenotypic misclassification is a potential methodological concern. However, the phenotypic ratings used in the current analyses are based on both the SCAN interview and case-note review by raters with excellent interrater reliability, which is expected to minimize rates of missing data and differential misclassification due to recall bias of psychotic symptoms.⁷⁰ It is possible that differential misclassification of mood incongruence may still be present. The psychosis phenotypes examined in this study are broadly defined and likely to represent imperfect measurements of a phenotype that may be continuously distributed⁷¹; imposing categorical constraints as we have done may reduce power. Multiple testing can produce spurious results; thus, to reduce this likelihood we generated PRSs using a single discovery-set threshold of $P < .05$. Bootstrap resampling approaches were used within each of the 4 independent analyses to deal with multiple comparisons across different phenotypic strata. Bonferroni correction was used to adjust for possible familywise type I error proliferation. The PRSs were generated using the most probable genotypes that can potentially reduce power due to a (nondifferential) loss of information at some markers, making our results conservative. Cases and controls were collected independently, which can result in confounding due to population stratification and potential batch effects across the cases and controls. We mitigated against this by partialling out the first 10 principal components and genotyping platforms from the PRS, but some confounding is still possible. Finally, we have only examined the effect of common variants, as rare variants are not captured by current GWAS.

Conclusions

To our knowledge, this study is the first to show a gradient of polygenic liability across SCZ and BD, indexed by the occurrence and level of mood incongruence of positive and disorganized psychotic symptoms. These results highlight the usefulness of genetic data to dissect clinical heterogeneity within and across disorders and suggest further research could potentially aid in defining patient stratifiers with improved biological precision and validity, moving us tentatively toward precision medicine in psychiatry.

ARTICLE INFORMATION

Accepted for Publication: September 24, 2017.

Published Online: November 22, 2017.
doi:10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2017.3485

Open Access: This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the [CC-BY License](#). © 2017 Allardyce J et al. *JAMA Psychiatry*.

Author Affiliations: Medical Research Council Centre for Neuropsychiatric Genetics and Genomics, Institute of Psychological Medicine and Clinical Neurosciences, School of Medicine, Cardiff University, Cardiff, Wales (Allardyce, Leonenko, Hamshere, Pardiñas, Forty, Di Florio, Owen, Holmans, Walters, Craddock, I. Jones, O'Donovan, Escott-Price); Department of Psychological Medicine, University of Worcester, Worcester, England (Knott, Gordon-Smith, L. Jones); Medical Genetics Section, Centre for Genomic and Experimental Medicine, Institute of Genetics and Molecular Medicine, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland (Porteous, Hayward, McIntosh); Division of Psychiatry, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland (McIntosh).

Author Contributions: Dr Escott-Price had full access to all the data in the study and takes responsibility for the integrity of the data and the accuracy of the data analysis.

Study concept and design: Allardyce, Hamshere, L. Jones, Owen, Walters, Craddock, I. Jones, Escott-Price.

Acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data: All authors.

Drafting of the manuscript: Allardyce, Leonenko, Hamshere, Walters, I. Jones.

Critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content: Allardyce, Pardiñas, Forty, Knott, Gordon-Smith, Porteous, Hayward, Di Florio, L. Jones, McIntosh, Owen, Holmans, Walters, Craddock, I. Jones, O'Donovan, Escott-Price.

Statistical analysis: Allardyce, Leonenko, Hamshere, Hayward, Holmans, O'Donovan, Escott-Price.

Obtained funding: Porteous, L. Jones, McIntosh, Owen, Walters, Craddock, I. Jones.

Administrative, technical, or material support: Pardiñas, Forty, Knott, Gordon-Smith, Porteous, L. Jones, McIntosh.

Study supervision: Allardyce, L. Jones, Owen, Walters, Craddock, I. Jones, Escott-Price.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Dr O'Donovan reported receiving a consultancy fee from Roche. No other disclosures were reported.

Funding/Support: The work at Cardiff University was funded by grant MR/L010305/1 and program grant G0800509 from the Medical Research Council Centre. The CLOZUK sample was genotyped with funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development, and demonstration under grant agreement No. 279227. The Bipolar Disorder Research Network was funded by the Wellcome Trust and Stanley Medical Research Institute. Generation Scotland study received core support CZD/16/6 from the Chief Scientist Office of the Scottish Government Health Directorates and grant HRO3006 from the Scottish Funding Council. Genotyping of the GS:SFHS samples was funded by the Medical Research Council and Wellcome Trust Strategic Award "Stratifying Resilience and Depression Longitudinally" (104036/Z/14/Z).

Venous blood collection for the 1958 Birth Cohort was funded by grant G0000934 from the Medical Research Council. Peripheral blood lymphocyte preparation was funded by Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and Wellcome Trust. Cell-line production, DNA extraction, and processing were funded by grant O6854/Z/02/Z from Wellcome Trust. Genotyping was supported by grant O83270 from Wellcome Trust and the European Union ENGAGE: HEALTH-F4-2007-201413.

Role of the Funder/Sponsor: The funding sources had no role in the design and conduct of the study; collection, management, analysis, and interpretation of the data; preparation, review, or approval of the manuscript; and decision to submit the manuscript for publication.

Additional Contributions: For the CLOZUK sample, Marinka Helthuis, John Jansen, Karel Jollie, and Anouschka Colson from Leyden Delta and Andy Walker from Magna Laboratories supported the sample collection, anonymization, and data preparation. Lesley Bates, Catherine Bresner, and Lucinda Hopkins from Cardiff University helped with laboratory sample management. All members of the Bipolar Disorder Research Network and all study participants gave their time to be involved in this research. Genotyping of the GS:SFHS samples was carried out by the Genetics Core Laboratory at the Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility. The Type 1 Diabetes Genetics Consortium is a collaborative clinical study sponsored by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Human Genome Research Institute, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

REFERENCES

- World Health Organization. *ICD-10 Classification of Mental and Behavioural Disorders: Clinical Descriptions and Diagnostic Guidelines*. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organization; 1992.
- American Psychiatric Association. *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. 5th ed. Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Association; 2013.
- Spitzer RL, Endicott J, Robins E. Research diagnostic criteria: rationale and reliability. *Arch Gen Psychiatry*. 1978;35(6):773-782.
- Allardyce J, McCreddie RG, Morrison G, van Os J. Do symptom dimensions or categorical diagnoses best discriminate between known risk factors for psychosis? *Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol*. 2007;42(6):429-437.
- Derks EM, Allardyce J, Boks MP, Vermunt JK, Hijman R, Ophoff RA; GROUP. Kraepelin was right: a latent class analysis of symptom dimensions in patients and controls. *Schizophr Bull*. 2012;38(3):495-505.
- Dikeos DG, Wickham H, McDonald C, et al. Distribution of symptom dimensions across Kraepelinian divisions. *Br J Psychiatry*. 2006;189(4):346-353.
- Kitamura T, Okazaki Y, Fujinawa A, Yoshino M, Kasahara Y. Symptoms of psychoses. A factor-analytic study. *Br J Psychiatry*. 1995;166(2):236-240.
- Lindenmayer J-P, Brown E, Baker RW, et al. An excitement subscale of the Positive and Negative Syndrome Scale. *Schizophr Res*. 2004;68(2-3):331-337.
- McGorry PD, Bell RC, Dudgeon PL, Jackson HJ. The dimensional structure of first episode psychosis: an exploratory factor analysis. *Psychol Med*. 1998;28(4):935-947.
- McIntosh AM, Forrester A, Lawrie SM, et al. A factor model of the functional psychoses and the relationship of factors to clinical variables and brain morphology. *Psychol Med*. 2001;31(1):159-171.
- Murray V, McKee I, Miller PM, et al. Dimensions and classes of psychosis in a population cohort: a four-class, four-dimension model of schizophrenia and affective psychoses. *Psychol Med*. 2005;35(4):499-510.
- Ratakonda S, Gorman JM, Yale SA, Amador XF. Characterization of psychotic conditions. Use of the domains of psychopathology model. *Arch Gen Psychiatry*. 1998;55(1):75-81.
- Serretti A, Olgiati P. Dimensions of major psychoses: a confirmatory factor analysis of six competing models. *Psychiatry Res*. 2004;127(1-2):101-109.
- Cardno AG, Rijsdijk FV, Sham PC, Murray RM, McGuffin P. A twin study of genetic relationships between psychotic symptoms. *Am J Psychiatry*. 2002;159(4):539-545.
- Charney AW, Ruderfer DM, Stahl EA, et al. Evidence for genetic heterogeneity between clinical subtypes of bipolar disorder. *Transl Psychiatry*. 2017;7(1):e993.
- Lee SH, Ripke S, Neale BM, et al; Cross-Disorder Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; International Inflammatory Bowel Disease Genetics Consortium (IIBDGC). Genetic relationship between five psychiatric disorders estimated from genome-wide SNPs. *Nat Genet*. 2013;45(9):984-994.
- Lichtenstein P, Yip BH, Björk C, et al. Common genetic determinants of schizophrenia and bipolar disorder in Swedish families: a population-based study. *Lancet*. 2009;373(9659):234-239.
- Maier W, Lichtermann D, Franke P, Heun R, Falkai P, Rietschel M. The dichotomy of schizophrenia and affective disorders in extended pedigrees. *Schizophr Res*. 2002;57(2-3):259-266.
- Mortensen PB, Pedersen CB, Melbye M, Mors O, Ewald H. Individual and familial risk factors for bipolar affective disorders in Denmark. *Arch Gen Psychiatry*. 2003;60(12):1209-1215.
- Purcell SM, Wray NR, Stone JL, et al; International Schizophrenia Consortium. Common polygenic variation contributes to risk of schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. *Nature*. 2009;460(7256):748-752.
- Schizophrenia Working Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium. Biological insights from 108 schizophrenia-associated genetic loci. *Nature*. 2014;511(7510):421-427.
- Ruderfer DM, Fanous AH, Ripke S, et al; Schizophrenia Working Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; Bipolar Disorder Working Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; Cross-Disorder Working Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium. Polygenic dissection of diagnosis and clinical dimensions of bipolar disorder and schizophrenia. *Mol Psychiatry*. 2014;19(9):1017-1024.

23. Ford JM, Morris SE, Hoffman RE, et al. Studying hallucinations within the NIMH RDoC framework. *Schizophr Bull*. 2014;40(suppl 4):S295-S304.
24. Manchia M, Cullis J, Turecki G, Rouleau GA, Uher R, Alda M. The impact of phenotypic and genetic heterogeneity on results of genome wide association studies of complex diseases. *PLoS One*. 2013;8(10):e76295.
25. Wray NR, Maier R. Genetic basis of complex genetic disease: the contribution of disease heterogeneity to missing heritability. *Curr Epidemiol Rep*. 2014;1(4):220-227. doi:10.1007/s40471-014-0023-3
26. Diefendorf AR, Kraepelin E. *Clinical Psychiatry: A Textbook for Students and Physicians. Abstracted and Adapted From the 7th German Edition of Kraepelin's Lehrbuch der Psychiatrie*. London, England: MacMillan & Co; 1912.
27. International Pilot Study of Schizophrenia World Health Organization. *Report of the International Pilot Study of Schizophrenia*. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organization; 1973.
28. Azorin JM, Akiskal H, Hantouche E. The mood-instability hypothesis in the origin of mood-congruent versus mood-incongruent psychotic distinction in mania: validation in a French national study of 1090 patients. *J Affect Disord*. 2006;96(3):215-223.
29. Black DW, Nasrallah A. Hallucinations and delusions in 1,715 patients with unipolar and bipolar affective disorders. *Psychopathology*. 1989;22(1):28-34.
30. Goes FS, Zandi PP, Miao K, et al; Bipolar Disorder Phenome Group. Mood-incongruent psychotic features in bipolar disorder: familial aggregation and suggestive linkage to 2p11-q14 and 13q21-33. *Am J Psychiatry*. 2007;164(2):236-247.
31. Tohen M, Tsuang MT, Goodwin DC. Prediction of outcome in mania by mood-congruent or mood-incongruent psychotic features. *Am J Psychiatry*. 1992;149(11):1580-1584.
32. Toni C, Perugi G, Mata B, Madaro D, Maremmani I, Akiskal HS. Is mood-incongruent manic psychosis a distinct subtype? *Eur Arch Psychiatry Clin Neurosci*. 2001;251(1):12-17.
33. Green EK, Raybould R, Macgregor S, et al. Operation of the schizophrenia susceptibility gene, neuregulin 1, across traditional diagnostic boundaries to increase risk for bipolar disorder. *Arch Gen Psychiatry*. 2005;62(6):642-648.
34. Park N, Joo SH, Cheng R, et al. Linkage analysis of psychosis in bipolar pedigrees suggests novel putative loci for bipolar disorder and shared susceptibility with schizophrenia. *Mol Psychiatry*. 2004;9(12):1091-1099.
35. Potash JB, Zandi PP, Willour VL, et al. Suggestive linkage to chromosomal regions 13q31 and 22q12 in families with psychotic bipolar disorder. *Am J Psychiatry*. 2003;160(4):680-686.
36. Raybould R, Green EK, MacGregor S, et al. Bipolar disorder and polymorphisms in the dysbindin gene (*DTNBP1*). *Biol Psychiatry*. 2005;57(7):696-701.
37. Dudbridge F. Polygenic epidemiology. *Genet Epidemiol*. 2016;40(4):268-272.
38. Pasaniciu B, Price AL. Dissecting the genetics of complex traits using summary association statistics. *Nat Rev Genet*. 2017;18(2):117-127.
39. Wray NR, Lee SH, Mehta D, Vinkhuyzen AA, Dudbridge F, Middeldorp CM. Research review: polygenic methods and their application to psychiatric traits. *J Child Psychol Psychiatry*. 2014;55(10):1068-1087.
40. Hamshere ML, O'Donovan MC, Jones IR, et al. Polygenic dissection of the bipolar phenotype. *Br J Psychiatry*. 2011;198(4):284-288.
41. Green EK, Hamshere M, Forty L, et al; WTCCC. Replication of bipolar disorder susceptibility alleles and identification of two novel genome-wide significant associations in a new bipolar disorder case-control sample. *Mol Psychiatry*. 2013;18(12):1302-1307.
42. Green EK, Rees E, Walters JTR, et al. Copy number variation in bipolar disorder. *Mol Psychiatry*. 2016;21(1):89-93.
43. Wing JK, Babor T, Brugha T, et al; Schedules for Clinical Assessment in Neuropsychiatry. SCAN: schedules for clinical assessment in neuropsychiatry. *Arch Gen Psychiatry*. 1990;47(6):589-593.
44. Jones L, Scott J, Haque S, et al. Cognitive style in bipolar disorder. *Br J Psychiatry*. 2005;187(5):431-437.
45. McGuffin P, Farmer A, Harvey I. A polydiagnostic application of operational criteria in studies of psychotic illness. Development and reliability of the OPCRIT system. *Arch Gen Psychiatry*. 1991;48(8):764-770.
46. Leckman JF, Sholomskas D, Thompson WD, Belanger A, Weissman MM. Best estimate of lifetime psychiatric diagnosis: a methodological study. *Arch Gen Psychiatry*. 1982;39(8):879-883.
47. Pardiñas AF, Holmans P, Pocklington AJ, et al. Common schizophrenia alleles are enriched in mutation-intolerant genes and maintained by background selection. *bioRxiv*. doi:10.1101/068593
48. Hilner JE, Perdue LH, Sides EG, et al; TIDGC. Designing and implementing sample and data collection for an international genetics study: the Type 1 Diabetes Genetics Consortium (TIDGC). *Clin Trials*. 2010;7(1)(suppl):S5-S32.
49. Amador C, Huffman J, Trochet H, et al; Generation Scotland. Recent genomic heritage in Scotland. *BMC Genomics*. 2015;16(1):437.
50. Zuvich RL, Armstrong LL, Bielski SJ, et al. Pitfalls of merging GWAS data: lessons learned in the eMERGE network and quality control procedures to maintain high data quality. *Genet Epidemiol*. 2011;35(8):887-898.
51. Delaneau O, Zagury J-F, Marchini J. Improved whole-chromosome phasing for disease and population genetic studies. *Nat Methods*. 2013;10(1):5-6.
52. Howie B, Fuchsberger C, Stephens M, Marchini J, Abecasis GR. Fast and accurate genotype imputation in genome-wide association studies through pre-phasing. *Nat Genet*. 2012;44(8):955-959.
53. McClellan J, McCurry C. Early onset psychotic disorders: diagnostic stability and clinical characteristics. *Eur Child Adolesc Psychiatry*. 1999;8(1)(suppl 1):I13-I19.
54. Vieta E, Gastó C, Otero A, Nieto E, Vallejo J. Differential features between bipolar I and bipolar II disorder. *Compr Psychiatry*. 1997;38(2):98-101.
55. Craddock N, Jones I, Kirov G, Jones L. The Bipolar Affective Disorder Dimension Scale (BADDS)—a dimensional scale for rating lifetime psychopathology in bipolar spectrum disorders. *BMC Psychiatry*. 2004;4(1):19.
56. Scott-Long J, Freese J. Models for nominal outcomes with case-specific data. In: Scott-Long J, Freese J, eds. *Regression Models for Categorical Dependent Variables Using STATA*. 2nd ed. College Station, TX: Stata Press; 2006:252-254.
57. Westfall PH, Young SS. *Resampling-Based Multiple Testing: Examples and Methods for P-Value Adjustment*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons; 1993.
58. Psychiatric GWAS Consortium Bipolar Disorder Working Group. Large-scale genome-wide association analysis of bipolar disorder identifies a new susceptibility locus near *ODZ4* [published correction appears in *Nat Genet*. 2012;44(9):1072]. *Nat Genet*. 2011;43(10):977-983.
59. Chang CC, Chow CC, Tellier LC, Vattikuti S, Purcell SM, Lee JJ. Second-generation PLINK: rising to the challenge of larger and richer datasets. *Gigascience*. 2015;4(1):7.
60. Cross-disorder Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium. Identification of risk loci with shared effects on five major psychiatric disorders: a genome-wide analysis. *Lancet*. 2013;381(9875):1371-1379.
61. Dudbridge F. Power and predictive accuracy of polygenic risk scores. *PLoS Genet*. 2013;9(3):e1003348.
62. Goes FS, Hamshere ML, Seifuddin F, et al; Bipolar Genome Study (BiGS). Genome-wide association of mood-incongruent psychotic bipolar disorder. *Transl Psychiatry*. 2012;2:e180.
63. Caspi A, Houts RM, Belsky DW, et al. The p Factor: one general psychopathology factor in the structure of psychiatric disorders? *Clin Psychol Sci*. 2014;2(2):119-137.
64. Keshavan MS, Morris DW, Sweeney JA, et al. A dimensional approach to the psychosis spectrum between bipolar disorder and schizophrenia: the Schizo-Bipolar Scale. *Schizophr Res*. 2011;133(1-3):250-254.
65. Insel T, Cuthbert B, Garvey M, et al. Research domain criteria (RDoC): toward a new classification framework for research on mental disorders. *Am J Psychiatry*. 2010;167(7):748-751.
66. Insel TR. The NIMH research domain criteria (RDoC) project: precision medicine for psychiatry. *Am J Psychiatry*. 2014;171(4):395-397.
67. Schumann G, Binder EB, Holte A, et al. Stratified medicine for mental disorders. *Eur Neuropsychopharmacol*. 2014;24(1):5-50.
68. Insel TR, Cuthbert BN. Medicine: brain disorders? precisely. *Science*. 2015;348(6234):499-500.
69. Joyce DW, Kehagia AA, Tracy DK, Proctor J, Shergill SS. Realising stratified psychiatry using multidimensional signatures and trajectories. *J Transl Med*. 2017;15(1):15.
70. Allardyce J, Morrison G, Van Os J, Kelly J, Murray RM, McCreadie RG. Schizophrenia is not disappearing in south-west Scotland. *Br J Psychiatry*. 2000;177:38-41.
71. van Os J, Linscott RJ, Myin-Germeys I, Delespaul P, Krabbendam L. A systematic review and meta-analysis of the psychosis continuum: evidence for a psychosis proneness-persistence-impairment model of psychotic disorder. *Psychol Med*. 2009;39(2):179-195.