

Additional File 4

Supplementary Table S2 Variables associated with the intensity or course of the 10 most frequently studied PSD categories

ASSOCIATED VARIABLES**	PSYCHOSOCIAL DIFFICULTY									
	Psychopathological symptoms	Disability/ Functioning*	Emotional functions	Relationships with others	Quality of life/ Wellbeing*	Cognitive functions	Employment	Energy and drive	Looking after ones' health	Health status*
Accessibility				+ (1)						
Adherence to treatment	+ (3)	+ (2)		+ (1)	+ (5)	+ (1)				
Attitude towards treatment (positive)	+ (1)	+ (1)			+ (1)	+ (1)			+ (1)	
Body weight	- (1)				- (1)					
Cognitive functions										
in general		+ (1) +0 (1)			- (1)	+/- (1) -0 (1)	+ (1)			
executive functions		+0 (1)					+ (1)			
insight	+ (1)	+ (1)		+ (1)						
language		+0 (1)								
memory		+ (1) +0 (1)		+ (1)			+ (2)			
Communication difficulties				- (1)						
Comorbidities										
physical comorbidity	-0 (1)	+ (1) - (1)			- (1)	+ (1)				+0 (1)
substance abuse	- (1)	- (1)			- (1)	+ (1)				
Demographics										
age		- (2)		+0 (1) - (2)	- (1)					
gender (male)	- (2)	- (4) -0 (1)	- (1)	- (1) -0 (3)	- (1)	- (1)	- (2)	- (1)		- (1)
marital status (married)		+ (2)		+/- (1)	+0 (1)		+ (1)			

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	Psychopathological symptoms	Disability/ Functioning*	Emotional functions	Relationships with others	Quality of life/ Wellbeing*	Cognitive functions	Employment	Energy and drive	Looking after ones' health	Health status*
educational level		+ (1) + / 0 (1)		+ / - (1)		+ / 0 (1)	+ / 0 (1)			+ / 0 (1)
employment status (employed)	+ (2)	+ (6)		+ / 0 (1)	+ (4) + / 0 (1)		+ (4)			+ (1)
disability benefits							- (1)			
social economic status		+ (1)		+ (1)						+ (1)
urban residence		- (1)		- / 0 (1)						
independent living	+ (1)	+ (3)			+ (1)					
residential placement	+ / - (1)	- / 0 (1)		- / 0 (1)	- / 0 (1)					- / 0 (1)
living alone				- / 0 (2)						- / 0 (1)
country of residence (Germany vs. UK and France)		+ / 0 (1)		+ / 0 (2)						+ / 0 (1)
Dependent behaviour				- (1)						
Disability/ Functioning										
lesser disability/better global functioning	+ (3)	+ (2)	+ (1)	+ (1) + / 0 (1)	+ (3)	+ (1)	+ / 0 (1)		+ (1)	+ (1)
social functioning		+ (2) - (1)		+ / 0 (1)	+ (2)					+ (1)
Emotional problems										
anxiety				- (1)	- (1)		- (1)			- / 0 (1)
depression		- (3)		- (3)	- (2)		- (3) - / 0 (1)			- (1) - / 0 (2)
feelings of stress					- (1)					
flat affect		- (1)								
hostility				- (1)						
Endocrine disturbances									- (1)	

ASSOCIATED VARIABLES**	PSYCHOSOCIAL DIFFICULTY									
	Psychopathological symptoms	Disability/ Functioning*	Emotional functions	Relationships with others	Quality of life/ Wellbeing*	Cognitive functions	Employment	Energy and drive	Looking after ones' health	Health status*
Energy and drive										
motivation				+ (1)						
vitality					+ (1)					
Family history of mental illness			-/0 (1)							
Health services use										
duration of treatment					- (1)					
duration of hospitalizations		+/- (1)					- (1)			
number of hospitalizations		- (1)								
Hope				+ (1)						
Illness-related variables										
duration of illness	- (1)	- (2)			- (2)					
age at illness onset		+ (1)								
age at first treatment		- (1)			- (1)					
age at first hospitalization		+ (1)								
age at discharge from hospital		- (1)								
duration of untreated psychosis		- (1)		- (1)	+/0 (1)		- (1)			-/0 (1)
stage of illness (earlier)	+ (1)	+ (1)								
disorganized or residual subtype of schizophrenia		- (2)								
Location (outside the home)				+ (1)						
Obsessive symptoms		- (1)								
Participating in social activities		+ (1)			+ (1)					

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	Psychopathological symptoms	Disability/ Functioning*	Emotional functions	Relationships with others	Quality of life/ Wellbeing*	Cognitive functions	Employment	Energy and drive	Looking after ones' health	Health status*
Patient treatment										
medication	+ (18) + / 0 (4)	+ (7) - (2)	+ (5) + / 0 (4) + / - (2)	+ (3) + / - (2)	+ (9) + / 0 (2) + / - (2)	+ (6) + / 0 (2)	+ (3)	+ (3) - (2)	+ / - (2)	+ (2) + / 0 (2) - / 0 (1)
psychosocial treatment	+ (3)	+ (3)		+ (3)	+ (1)	+ (1) + / - (1)	+ (4)		+ / 0 (1)	
psychological therapy: cognitive therapy	+ / 0 (1)	+ (1)				+ (1) + / 0 (3)				
psychological therapy: cognitive behavioural therapy	+ / 0 (2)	+ (2)	+ (1)			+ / 0 (3)	+ / 0 (1)			
day care				+ (1)						
community-based care	+ (1)	+ (1)								
alternative treatment	+ (1) + / 0 (2)	+ (2)	+ (1) + / 0 (1)	+ / - (1)		+ / 0 (1)				
Psychomotor disturbances		- (1) - / 0 (1)		- (1)			- (2)			
Psychopathological symptoms										
global intensity of symptoms	- (3)	- (5)			- (3)	- (1)			- (1)	
negative symptoms	- (1)	- (1)		- (1) - / 0 (1)	- (3)	- (1) - / 0 (1)	+ / 0 (1) - (1)			- (1)
positive symptoms	- (1) - / 0 (1)	- (2) - / 0 (1)	- (1)	- (3) - / 0 (1)	+ (1) - (3)		- (1) - / 0 (1)		- (1)	- / 0 (1)
general psychopathology		- / 0 (1)		+ / 0 (1)						
Psychopathy traits				- (1)						
Quality of life/ Wellbeing										
quality of life	+ (1)	+ (1)							+ (1)	
wellbeing	+ (2)	- (1)			+ (3)				+ (1)	

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	Psychopathological symptoms	Disability/ Functioning*	Emotional functions	Relationships with others	Quality of life/ Wellbeing*	Cognitive functions	Employment	Energy and drive	Looking after ones' health	Health status*
Relationships with others (positive)										
no history of aggressive behaviour in general				+ (1)						
family relationships		+ (2)		+/0 (1)	+ (1)					
relationships with health professionals				+/0 (1)						
Self-esteem					+ (1)					
Sense of meaning				+ (1)						
Side effects of medications	- (1)	- (3)			- (2)	+ (1) - (1)				- (1)
Skills							+ (1)			
Social cognition				+ (1)						
Social support										
in general				+ (2)	+ (1) +/0 (1)					+/0 (1)
family support										+ (1)
friend support					+ (1)					
Support for caregivers										
in general	+ (1)	+ (1)		+ (1)			+ (1)			+ (1)
education	+ (2)	+ (5)		+/0 (1)						
mutual support		+ (1)								
Task-oriented coping					+ (1)					
Transportation							+ (1)			
Trust in others				+ (1)						
Year of discharge (1980s vs. 1990s)						- (1)	+ (1)			

* Global scores or global concepts closely related to PSDs.

** It can be noticed that on several occasions PSD categories and their related factors are the same. This occurred when: 1) PSDs and factors associated with them, although not identical, in the process of data extraction and analysis were classified under the same general categories; 2) PSDs at some point in time were predicted by their previous (e.g. baseline or premorbid) levels.

Type of association with PSDs:

- + denotes association with positive outcomes, i.e. with lesser intensity of PSDs or with PSDs improvement over time;
- denotes association with negative outcomes, i.e. with greater intensity of PSDs or with PSDs deterioration over time;
- +/0 denotes partial association with positive outcomes;
- /0 denotes partial association with negative outcomes;
- +/- denotes association with both positive and negative outcomes within the same psychosocial area.

An association was regarded as partial if: 1). was found only in a subgroup of participants; or 2). a variable was found to be associated with some, but not all aspects of a given PSD category (e.g. with “cognitive functions: attention”, but not with “cognition functions: memory”); or 3). a variable was associated with some, but not all measures of the same PSD; or 4). some, but not all associated variables, which in a single study were classified under the same category (e.g. various neuroleptics falling under one common category: “patient treatment: medication”) were found to be significantly related to a given PSD category.

Numbers in brackets denote numbers of studies in which a given type of association was found.