

Stay connected

Citation for published version (APA):

Domen, P. A. E. (2017). *Stay connected: a family-based diffusion imaging study in psychotic disorder*. [Doctoral Thesis, Maastricht University]. Maastricht University. <https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20170412pd>

Document status and date:

Published: 01/01/2017

DOI:

[10.26481/dis.20170412pd](https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20170412pd)

Document Version:

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Please check the document version of this publication:

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Stay connected:

A family-based diffusion imaging study in psychotic disorder

Patrick Domen, 12 april 2017

1. Widespread cerebral microstructural white matter alterations in patients with psychotic disorder reflect disease-related dysconnectivity or disease-related differential sensitivity to environmental risk factors. (*this thesis*)
2. The evolution of whole-brain white matter alterations in patients with psychotic disorder is relatively stable after the critical phase of the illness. (*this thesis*)
3. Earlier than age-based expected decline in whole-brain white matter in individuals at increased familial risk for psychotic disorder may indicate liability for psychotic disorder. (*this thesis*)
4. Microstructural white matter change over time in patients with psychotic disorder is conditional on the level of cannabis use and the degree of childhood trauma exposure. (*this thesis*)
5. Cumulative exposure to antipsychotic medication contributes to microstructural white matter alterations over time in patients with psychotic disorder. (*this thesis*)
6. Prevention campaigns should warn society on adolescent cannabis use and childhood trauma as risk factors for psychotic disorder and on the potential adverse effects of these risk factors on (long-term) brain development. (*valorisation*)
7. Despite the intensive search for biomarkers in psychiatric disorders, clinical meaningful biological tests supporting diagnostic or treatment evaluation, as yet need to be discovered.
8. Psychiatric symptoms are best regarded from a continuum model since they vary in intensity, frequency and impact on daily life functioning, depending on internal and external influences.
9. The broad definition of 'emotionally disturbed person' nowadays used by the Dutch police unknowingly isolates, stigmatizes and discriminates a person with a mental illness.
10. "Without music, life would be a mistake." (*Friedrich Nietzsche*)
11. "Make things as simple as possible, but not simpler." (*Albert Einstein*)