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Risks Factors for Psychosis in Migrants: Preliminary Results From the Eugei and Pep-ita Study in Italy

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Research mostly conducted in the UK and Northern Europe has established that there are high rates of first episode psychosis (FEP) in large cities and immigrant populations. These findings could indicate that socio-environmental risk factors, such as individual social class and social capital; early trauma, life events; cannabis use and neighbourhood deprivation could be relevant in explaining the differences in incidence rates observed between migrants and natives, following the socio-developmental model of Morgan et al (2010). Further studies, with population based control groups for comparison, such as the recently started pan-European EUGEI (European Network of National Schizophrenia Networks Studying Gene Environment Interactions) and PEP-Ita study (first episode psychosis in Italy study) will allow a deeper understanding of the nature of FEP incidence rate found among FEP natives and FEP migrants. This presentation aims to compare the incidence rate of FEP and the distribution of several risk factors (e.g. substance abuse, neighbourhood deprivation, urbanicity and trauma) in migrants in different places in across Italy.

Tarricone I, Braca M¹, Allegri F, et al (2014) First-episode psychosis and migration in Italy (PEP-ITA migration): a study in the Italian mental health services. *BMC Psychiatry*. 14:186.