Durham Research Online

Deposited in DRO:
17 December 2013

Version of attached file:
Supplemental Material

Peer-review status of attached file:
Peer-reviewed

Citation for published item:

Further information on publisher’s website:
http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1751-7893.2010.00230.x

Publisher’s copyright statement:
This is the peer reviewed version of the following article: Welsh, P. and Tiffin, P. A. (2010) 'Follow-up of the 'At Risk Mental State' (FARMS) study.', Early intervention in psychiatry., 4 (Supplement 1). p. 116., which has been published in final form at http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1751-7893.2010.00230.x. This article may be used for non-commercial purposes in accordance With Wiley Terms and Conditions for self-archiving.

Additional information:
Special Issue: 7th International Conference on Early Psychosis, Early Psychoses: A Lifetime Perspective, 29 November - 1 December, 2010, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Use policy
The full-text may be used and/or reproduced, and given to third parties in any format or medium, without prior permission or charge, for personal research or study, educational, or not-for-profit purposes provided that:

- a full bibliographic reference is made to the original source
- a link is made to the metadata record in DRO
- the full-text is not changed in any way

The full-text must not be sold in any format or medium without the formal permission of the copyright holders.

Please consult the full DRO policy for further details.
Introduction

Over the last decade there have been orchestrated efforts to detect and intervene during the earliest stages of psychotic illness (Olsen & Rosenbaum, 2006). For adolescents early detection and intervention are key given that those who go on to develop psychosis have worse long term outcomes in comparison to those developing the condition in adulthood (Holli, 2009).

Although several adult-based longitudinal studies already exist, we know very little about the initial presentation, clinical profile and short term outcomes of adolescents with an “At-Risk Mental State”. Research into the personal experiences and potentially stigmatising effects of being labelled as having an “At-Risk Mental State” is also scarce (Parmes, 2005).

Study Aims

1. To identify and profile how adolescents with an “At-Risk Mental State” present to mental health services.
2. To monitor adolescents with an At-Risk Mental State over the short term to establish outcomes (transition rates, significant predictors).
3. To investigate adolescents personal experiences of being labelled “at risk”.

Methodology

The FARMS study commenced in January 2010 and aims to recruit 25 to 50 adolescents (aged between 12-18 years old) with an At-Risk Mental State, as defined by the Melbourne Ultra High Risk criteria. Participants are recruited from Early Intervention in Psychosis and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services within Northern England. All participants undergo an initial assessment upon entry using the Comprehensive Assessment of At-Risk Mental States (CAARMS; Yung et al., 2005), the Development and Well-Being Assessment (DAWBA; Goodman et al., 2008) and the Children’s Global Assessment Scale (C-GAS; Shaffer et al., 1983). Other assessment tools are also utilised for clinical assessment and research purposes. All baseline data will be analysed using a variety of appropriate statistical techniques.

Following study entry, assessments are repeated at 6, 12 and 24 months to review condition and whether they benefit from identification over the short/medium term.

Over the last decade there have been orchestrated efforts to detect and intervene during the earliest stages of psychotic illness (Olsen & Rosenbaum, 2006). For adolescents early detection and intervention are key given that those who go on to develop psychosis have worse long term outcomes in comparison to those developing the condition in adulthood (Holli, 2009).

Although several adult-based longitudinal studies already exist, we know very little about the initial presentation, clinical profile and short term outcomes of adolescents with an “At-Risk Mental State”. Research into the personal experiences and potentially stigmatising effects of being labelled as having an “At-Risk Mental State” is also scarce (Parmes, 2005).

Study Aims

1. To identify and profile how adolescents with an “At-Risk Mental State” present to mental health services.
2. To monitor adolescents with an At-Risk Mental State over the short term to establish outcomes (transition rates, significant predictors).
3. To investigate adolescents personal experiences of being labelled “at risk”.

Methodology

The FARMS study commenced in January 2010 and aims to recruit 25 to 50 adolescents (aged between 12-18 years old) with an At-Risk Mental State, as defined by the Melbourne Ultra High Risk criteria. Participants are recruited from Early Intervention in Psychosis and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services within Northern England. All participants undergo an initial assessment upon entry using the Comprehensive Assessment of At-Risk Mental States (CAARMS; Yung et al., 2005), the Development and Well-Being Assessment (DAWBA; Goodman et al., 2008) and the Children’s Global Assessment Scale (C-GAS; Shaffer et al., 1983). Other assessment tools are also utilised for clinical assessment and research purposes. All baseline data will be analysed using a variety of appropriate statistical techniques.

Following study entry, assessments are repeated at 6, 12 and 24 months to review functionning, symptoms and transition rates. Selected participants who have not become psychotic at the six month follow up stage are approached to take part in a qualitative interview aimed at investigating the personal experiences of being labelled “at risk”. All qualitative data at this stage will be analysed using an Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis (IPA; Smith et al., 2009) framework (Figure 1).