Professor Stan Zammit
BmBch, MRCPsych, PhD

Professor of Psychiatry

Area of research

Epidemiology of psychiatric disorders

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Summary

My main research interest is studying the epidemiology of psychiatric disorders, and especially schizophrenia. I am particularly interested in studying:

Risk factors influencing the development of psychotic experiences during adolescence and their transition to clinical disorder over time

The relationship between cannabis use and risk of developing mental health disorders

The role of traumatic events on the aetiology of psychosis

The genetic epidemiology of psychosis, including the study of how co-exposure to genetic and environmental risk factors impact upon psychosis risk

Most of my work has been based upon data from ALSPAC, a birth cohort study based here in Bristol, and on record-linkage data from Sweden.

Activities / Findings

We are working with the Bristol ALSPAC birth cohort, investigating the role of sporadic psychotic symptoms in early teens as a predictor of later psychiatric morbidity.

We have conducted systematic reviews of:

(a) the relationship between cannabis use and incidence of psychotic and affective outcomes and

(b) the relationship between cannabis use and subsequent outcome of psychotic disorders funded by the Department of Health.

Keywords

- mental health
- epidemiology
- psychosis

Skills

- depression
- schizophrenia

Expertise

My main research interest is studying the epidemiology of psychiatric disorders and especially schizophrenia. I am particularly interested in two main fields: 1) The relationship between cannabis use and risk of developing psychotic disorders. 2) The genetic epidemiology of schizophrenia, including the study of gene-development interplay. I am currently studying these areas in relation to psychotic symptoms within ALSPAC, a birth cohort study based here in Bristol.

- psychiatric disorders
- epidemiology
- schizophrenia
- cannabis use
- psychotic disorders
- gene-development
- psychotic symptoms

Memberships

Organisations

[Bristol Medical School (PHS)](#)

Other sites

- [Neuroscience](#)
- [Populationhealth](#)

Centres, collaborations and units

- [Centre for Academic Mental Health](#)

Links

- [home page](#)

Recent publications

- Solmi, F, Mascarell, M, Zammit, S, Kirkbride, JB & Lewis, G, 2019, [‘Polygenic risk for schizophrenia disordered eating behaviours, and body mass index in a general population sample of adolescents’](#). *BJPsych Bulletin*.

- Richards, A, Horwood, J, Boden, J, Kennedy, M, Sellers, R, Riglin, L, Mistry, S, Jones, H, Smith, DJ, Zammit, S, Owen, MJ, O'Donovan, MC & Harold, GT, 2019, [‘Associations between schizophrenia genetic risk, anxiety disorders and manic/hypomanic episode in a longitudinal population cohort study’](#). *British Journal of Psychiatry*, vol 214., pp. 96-102

- Chu, AL, Stochl, J, Lewis, G, Zammit, S, Jones, PB & Khandaker, GM, 2019, [‘Longitudinal association between inflammatory markers and specific symptoms of depression in a prospective birth cohort’](#). *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*, vol 76., pp. 74-81

- Wallin, AS, Koupil, I, Gustafsson, J-E, Zammit, S, Allebeck, P & Falkstedt, D, 2019, [‘Academic performance, externalizing disorders and depression: 26 000 adolescents followed into adulthood’](#). *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*.

- Zammit, S, 2019, [‘The role of rare copy number variants in depression’](#). *JAMA Psychiatry*.

- Madrid-Gambin, F, Föcking, M, Sabherwal, S, Heurich, M, English, J, O'Gorman, A, Suvitaival, T, Ahonen, L, Cannon, M, Lewis, G, Mattila, I, Scaife, C, Madden, S, Hyotylainen, T, Oresic, M, Zammit, S, Cagney, G, Cotter, DR & Brennan, L, 2019, [‘Integrated lipidomics and proteomics point to early blood-based changes in childhood preceding later development of psychotic experiences: evidence from the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children’](#). *Biological Psychiatry*.

- Reed, Z, Jones, H, Hemani, G, Zammit, S & Davis, OS, 2019, [‘Schizophrenia liability shares common molecular genetic risk factors with sleep duration and nightmares in childhood’](#). *Wellcome Open Research*, vol 4.

- Roberts, S, Suderman, M, Zammit, S, Watkins, SH, Hannon, E, Mill, J, Relton, C, Arseneault, L, Wong, CC & Fisher, HL, 2019, [‘Longitudinal investigation of DNA methylation changes preceding adolescent psychotic experiences’](#). *Translational Psychiatry*, vol 9.

- Mistry, S, Escott-Price, V, Florio, AD, Smith, DJ & Zammit, S, 2019, [‘Genetic risk for bipolar disorder and psychopathology from childhood to early adulthood’](#). *Journal of Affective Disorders*, vol 246., pp. 633-639

- Perry, BI, Khandaker, G, Thompson, A, Marwaha, S, Zammit, S, Singh, SP & Upthegrove, R, 2019, [‘Insulin Resistance and Obesity and their Association with Depression in Relatively Young People: Findings from a Large U.K. Birth Cohort’](#). *Psychological Medicine*.

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