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[Encephale](#). 2013 Sep;39 Suppl 2:S93-8. doi: 10.1016/S0013-7006(13)70102-7.

[Brain imaging of first-episode psychosis].

[Article in French]

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Abstract

In the last decades, schizophrenia has intensively been studied using various brain imaging techniques. However, several potential confounding factors limited their interpretation power (e.g. chronicity, the impact of antipsychotic medication). By considering psychosis as a continuum of changes starting from mild cognitive impairments to serious psychotic symptoms, it became possible to provide deeper insight in the neurobiological mechanisms underlying the onset of psychosis by focusing on at-risk individuals and first-episodes. Recent brain imaging meta-analyses of the first episode psychosis (FEP), noteworthy reported conjoint bilateral structural and functional differences at the level of the insula, the superior temporal gyrus and the medial frontal gyrus, encompassing the anterior cingulate cortex. In the present review, we thus provide an update of brain imaging studies of FEP with a particular emphasis on more recent anatomical, functional and molecular explorations. Specifically, we provide 1) a review of the common features observed in individuals with high risk for psychosis and changes characterizing the transition to psychosis, 2) a description of the environmental and drug factors influencing these abnormalities, 3) how these findings in FEP may differ from those observed in chronic individuals with schizophrenia, and 4) a short overview of new classification algorithms able to use MRI findings as valuable biomarkers to guide early detection in the prodromal phase of psychosis.

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KEYWORDS: At-risk mental state; Bio-marker; Bio-marqueurs; Imagerie par résonance magnétique (IRM); Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI); Meta-analysis; Méta-analyse; Prediction; Prédiction; Psychose; Psychosis; Schizophrenia; Schizophrénie; États mentaux à risque

PMID: 24084428 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]



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