

# Feeling is Believing:

## Subjective-Objective symptom discrepancy in mood disorder and other illnesses

10<sup>th</sup> February 2017

**Dr Lucy Robinson**

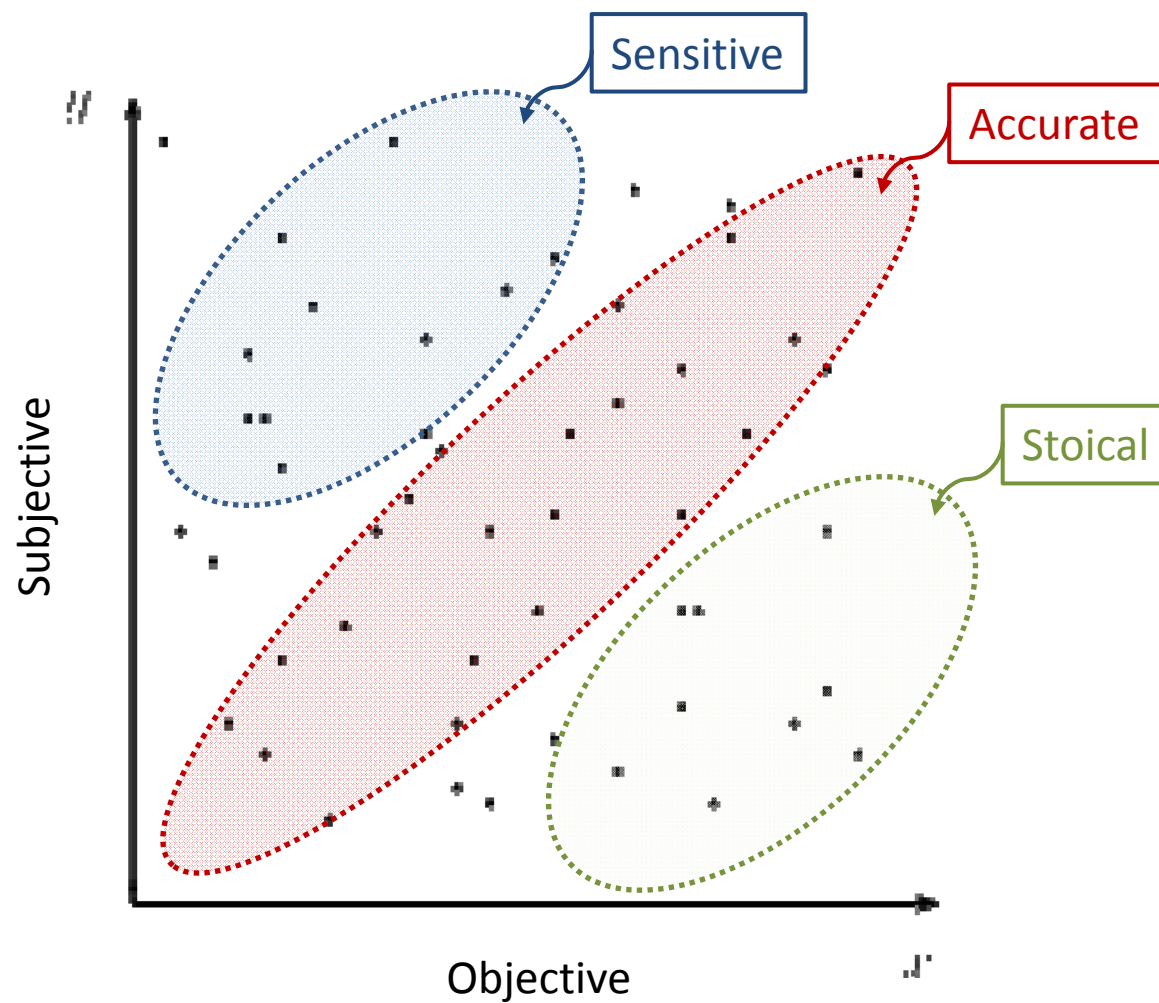
Clinical Psychologist

 [Lucy.Robinson2@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:Lucy.Robinson2@ncl.ac.uk)

 @drlucyjrobinson



## How do we capture it?



---

# Symptom mismatch in Rheumatology

## – the case of Primary Sjögren's Syndrome

- Differences between subjective and objective dryness
- 688 PSS patients
  - UK Primary Sjögren's Syndrome Registry (37 males, 651 females)
- AECG criteria
- Informed Consent and NHS ethical approval

---

# Subjective Symptoms

How severe has your **ocular** (eye) **dryness** been during the last 2 weeks?

No dryness             Maximal imaginable dryness

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

How severe has your **oral** (mouth) **dryness** been during the last 2 weeks?

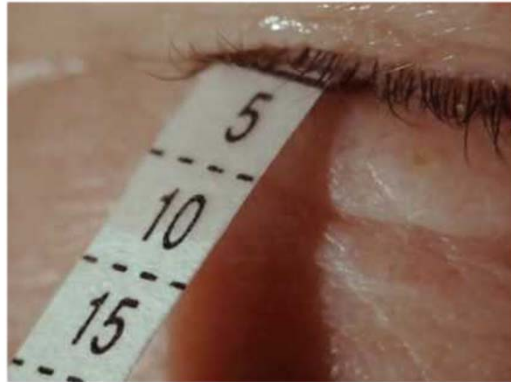
No dryness             Maximal imaginable dryness

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

---

# Objective tests of Ocular & Oral Dryness

Schirmer I test



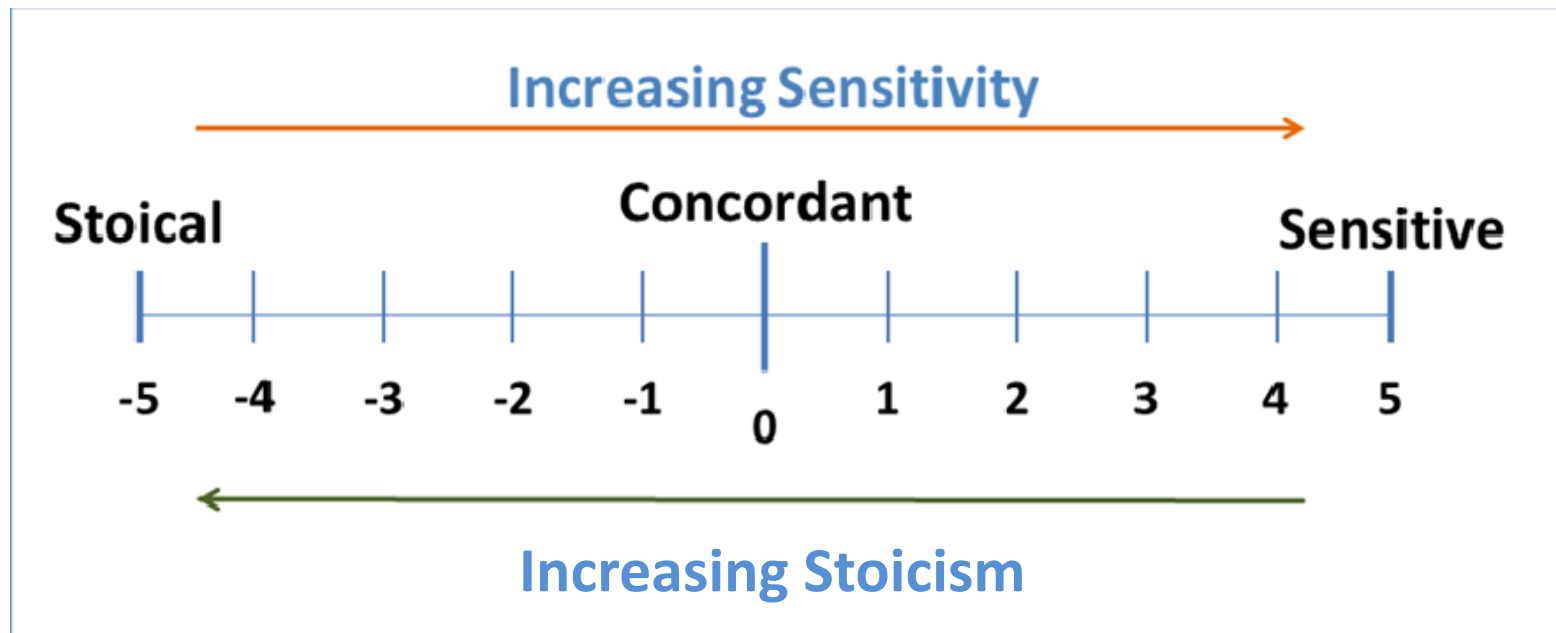
Unstimulated  
Salivary Flow



# Sensitivity/Stoicism Grid

Objective Test Results		Normal	Mild		Moderate		Severe
<u>Schirmer I</u> Test (mm/5min)		>14.5 (n=109; 16%)	11.5-14.5 (n=40; 6%)	8.5-11.5 (n=37; 5%)	5.5-8.5 (n=67; 10%)	2.5-5.5 (n=120; 17%)	<2.5 (n=315; 46%)
Unstimulated Salivary Flow (ml/15min)		>5 (n=26; 4%)	4-5 (n=8; 1%)	3-4 (n=9; 1%)	2-3 (n=42; 6%)	1-2 (n=74; 11%)	<1 (n=529; 77%)
<b>Subjective Ocular/Oral Dryness Rating</b>	0: Asymptomatic	0	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5
	1-2: Mild	1	0	-1	-2	-3	-4
	3-4	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3
	5-6: Moderate	3	2	1	0	-1	-2
	7-8	4	3	2	1	0	-1
	9-10: Severe	5	4	3	2	1	0

# Defining the disparity

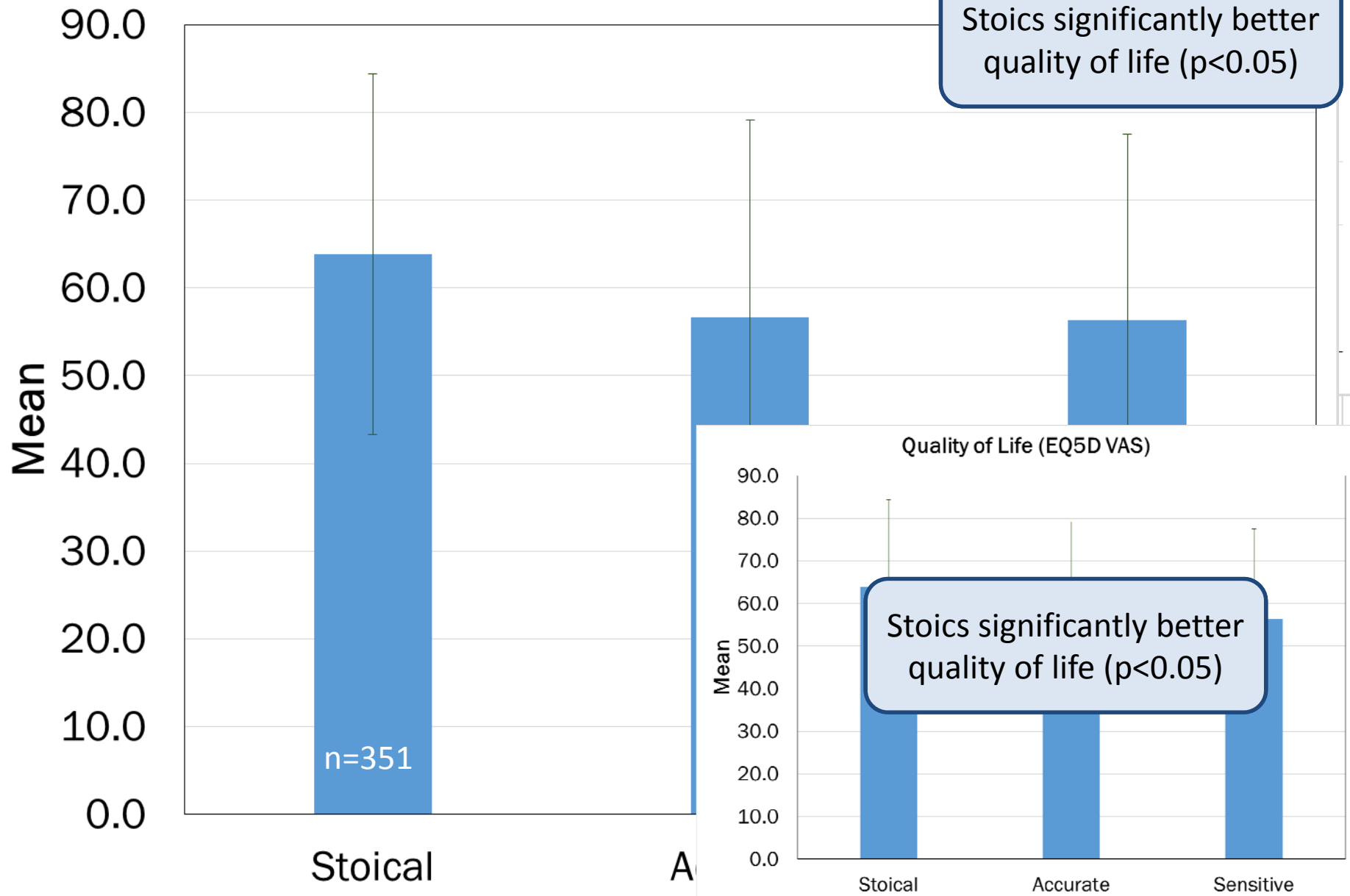


---

# Results

- 81% showed some discordance for ocular dryness; 74% for oral dryness
  - On average patients are stoical
  - Ocular sensitivity mean = -0.42
  - Oral sensitivity mean = -1.24
- 27% of patients were ‘Sensitive’ for ocular dryness, compared to only 9% for oral dryness

# Quality of Life (EQ5D VAS)



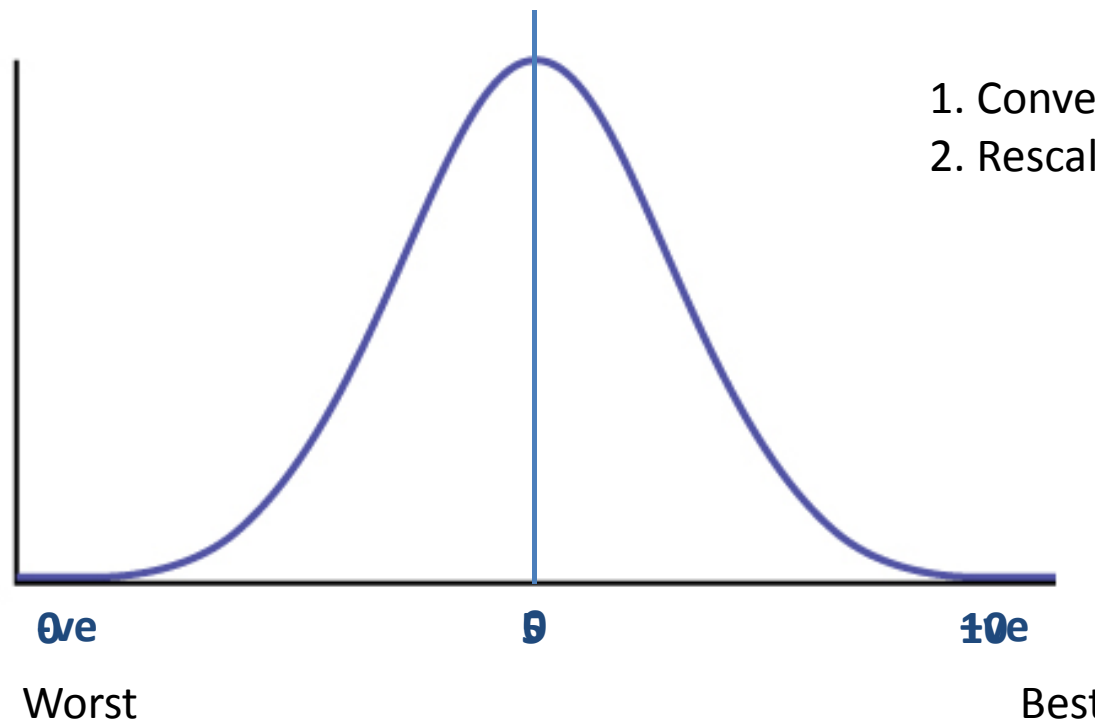
# Results

	Stoical (n=351)	Accurate (n=130)	Sensitive (n=200)
Fibromyalgia (%)	6.3 *	8.5 **	14.0 ***
IBS (%)	5.4 *	7.7 **	12.0 ***
Mental Illness (%)	3.1	6.2	4.0
Xerogenic Medications (%)	37.3 *	46.2 **	50.0 ***
Symptomatic tx for dryness (%)	97.7	96.9	97.5
Lachrymal Substitute (%)	82.6 *	83.1 *	71.5 **
Plugging or Cauterisation (%)	18.8 *	33.8 **	22.0

---

# Bipolar Disorder & Cognitive Function

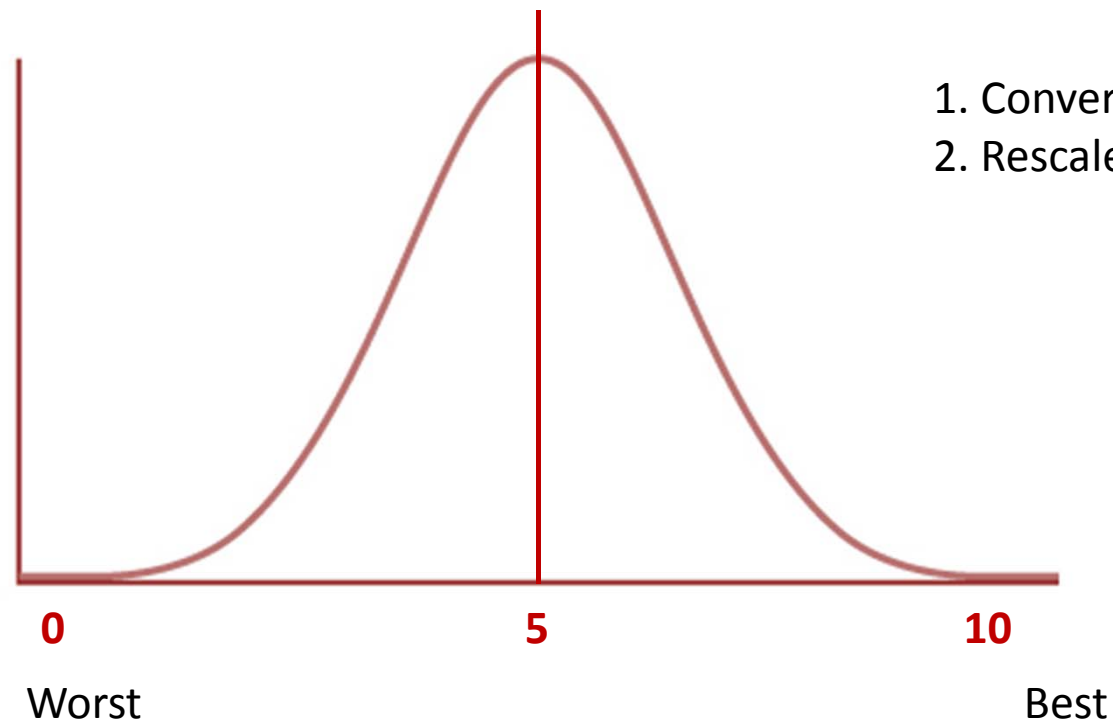
## Objective Data – Neuropsychological Test Performance



---

# Bipolar Disorder & Cognitive Function

## Subjective Data – Cognitive Failures Questionnaire



# Bipolar Disorder & Cognitive Function

Objective Data --  
Neuropsychological Test  
Performance

Subjective Data -- Cognitive  
Failures Questionnaire

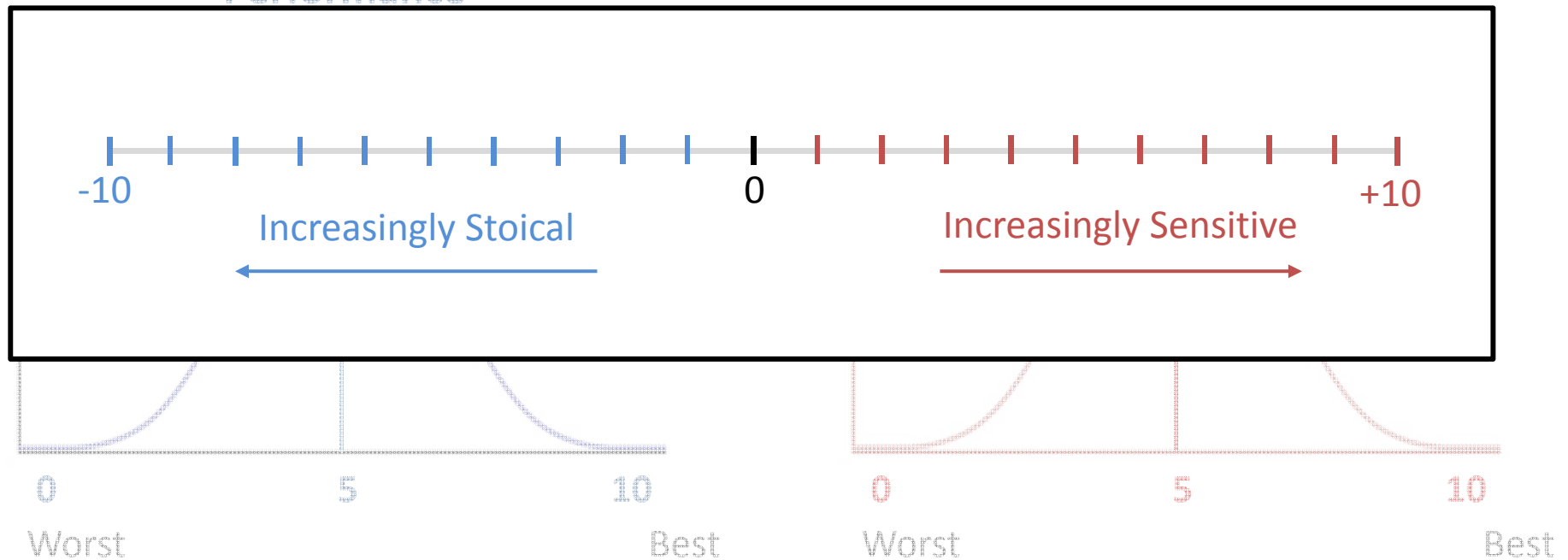


Table 1. Grouping of *objective* neuropsychological tests and corresponding *self-reported* cognition items on the COBRA into cognitive domains

Cognitive domain	Neuropsychological tests	COBRA items
Attention and processing speed	SCIP Processing Speed Test Trail Making Test Part A	5: Do you find it hard to concentrate when reading a book or a newspaper? 12: Are you easily distracted? 14: Do you get the impression that you cannot follow a conversation? 16: Do you struggle to keep focused on a particular task for a long time?
Verbal learning and memory	RAVLT (four subtests: total recall across five learning trials (I–V), recall following interference (trial VI), and recall following 30-min delay and recognition) SCIP Immediate & Delayed Verbal Learning Test	1: Do you have difficulties to remember peoples' names? 2: Do you have difficulties to find objects of daily use (keys, glasses, wrist watch. . .)? 3: Do you find it difficult to remember situations that were important to you? 4: Is it hard for you to place important events in time? 6: Do you have problems recalling what you have read or have been told recently? 10: When people remind you of a conversation or a comment you heard, do you get the impression that it is the first time you hear it? 15: Have you noticed that you find it difficult to learn new information?
Working memory and executive functions	RBANS: Digit Span (Forward) SCIP Verbal Fluency Test SCIP Working Memory Test Verbal Fluency Test with letters S & D WAIS-III Letter-Number Sequencing	7: Do you have the feeling that you do not finish what you begin? 9: Have you ever felt disoriented in the street? 11: Is it sometimes difficult for you to find the words to express your ideas? 13: Do you find it hard to do simple mental calculations?

RAVLT, Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test; RBANS, Repeatable Battery for the Assessment of Neuropsychological Status; WAIS-III, Wechsler's Adult Intelligence Scale 3rd edition; SCIP, Screening for Cognitive Impairment in Psychiatry.

---

## Results

- N=109 BD, N=110 HC

↑ **Depressive symptoms (HDRS-17)** ( $\beta=0.25$ ,  $p<0.01$ )

↑ **Manic symptoms (YMRS)** ( $\beta=0.21$ ,  $p=0.01$ )

↑ **Sensitivity** is associated  
with

↑ **Hospitalisations** ( $\beta=0.24$ ,  $p=0.01$ )

**Having BDII** ( $\beta=0.18$ ,  $p=0.04$ )

† **Being Male** ( $\beta=0.22$ ,  $p=0.01$ )

---

## Results

- N=109 BD, N=110 HC

### Sensitivity

no association  
with

Age

Years of Education

Number of medications

Illness duration

---

## Results

- N=109 BD, N=110 HC

**↑Sensitivity**

Negative  
association  
with

**↓Premorbid IQ** (Danish Adult Reading Test) ( $\beta=0.28$ ,  $p<0.01$ )

---

## Results

- N=109 BD, N=110 HC

**↑Sensitivity**

is associated  
with

↑**Depressive symptoms (HDRS-17)** ( $\beta=0.25$ ,  $p<0.01$ )

↑**Manic symptoms (YMRS)** ( $\beta=0.21$ ,  $p=0.01$ )

↑**Hospitalisations** ( $\beta=0.24$ ,  $p=0.01$ )

**Having BDII** ( $\beta=0.18$ ,  $p=0.04$ )

† **Being Male** ( $\beta=0.22$ ,  $p=0.01$ )

↓**Premorbid IQ** (Danish Adult Reading Test) ( $\beta=0.28$ ,  $p<0.01$ )


---

## Implications

- Why?
  - Metacognition
  - Communication/interpersonal function
- Relevance?
  - Impact on communication with patients
  - Self-report measures are inadequate alone
- Future research
  - Other conditions or symptoms
  - Is it stable?
  - Other predictors (personality, attachment, alexithymia...)

ANY  
QUESTIONS  
?

- Jeff Peterson
- Caroline Ott



Can you repeat the part of the stuff  
where you said all about the things?