

## **PSYCHOSIS SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE (PSQ)**

### **Reference:**

Bebbington, P.E., & Nayani, T. (1995). The Psychosis Screening Questionnaire. *International Journal of Methods in Psychiatric Research*, 5, 11-19.

**Administration time:** 5-10 minutes

**Rating instructions:** Self-report

**Population groups:** General and psychiatric populations

### **DESCRIPTION:**

The scale was developed to screen for the presence of psychotic symptoms in the past year. It has five probe questions asking about hypomania, thought insertion, paranoia, strange experience, and hallucinations. If the respondent's response is affirmative, a follow-up question is asked in each section. Questions are as follows:

*Hypomania probe:* Over the past year, have there been times when you felt very happy indeed without a break for days on end? If yes, (a) Was there an obvious reason for this? (b) Did your relatives or friends think it was strange or complain about it?

*Thought insertion:* Over the past year, have you ever felt that your thoughts were directly interfered with or controlled by some outside force or person? If yes, did this come about in a way that many people would find hard to believe, for instance, through telepathy?

*Paranoia Probe:* Over the past year, have there been times when you felt that people were against you? If yes, have there been times when you felt that people were deliberately acting to harm you or your interests? Have there been times when you felt that a group of people were plotting to cause you serious harm or injury?

*Strange experiences:* Over the past year, have there been times when you felt that something strange was going on? If yes, did you feel it was so strange that other people would find it very hard to believe?

*Hallucinations:* Over the past year, have there been times when you heard or saw things that other people couldn't? If yes, did you at any time hear voices saying quite a few words or sentences when there was no one around that might account for it?

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

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