***Supplementary Table 1***. Characteristics of studies that examined a) the proportion of patient who were hospitalised at least during the follow-up period; and b) average length of stay (LOS) in psychiatric wards during the entire follow up period.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Author** | **Country** | **Patients population** | **Assessment type** | **FU Length (years)** | **Sample at BL (n)** | **Sample at FU (n)** | **Female (%)** | **Age onset**  **(mean years)** | **Age first contact**  **(mean years)** | **Hospitalised FU (n)** | **LOS**  **(mean days)** |
| Aadamso *et al*. 2011 | Eustonia | FES | Interview | 2.0 | 153 | 107 | 60.1 |  | 28.4 | 41 |  |
| Abdel-Baki *et al*. 2011 | Canada | FES | Case notes | 13.0 | 142 | 78 | 28.9 |  | 24.4 | 57 |  |
| Abdel-Baki *et al*. 2017 | Canada | FEP | Interview | 2.0 | 212 | 176 | 19.8 |  | 23 |  | 116.7 |
| Agius *et al*. 2008 | UK | FEP | Interview | 3.0 | 62 | 62 | 21.0 |  | 28.5 | 28 |  |
| Ajnakina *et al*. 2017 | UK | FEP | Case notes | 5.0 | 290 | 254 | 34.0 |  | 28.3 | 176 |  |
| Albert *et al*. 2011 | Denmark | FES | Interview | 5.0 | 468 | 255 | 43.9 |  | 26 |  | 283.1 |
| Berg *et al*. 1983 | Sweden | FES | Case notes | 23.0 | 22 | 20 | 0.0 |  | 26 | 18 | 283.1 |
| Birchwood *et al*. 1992 | UK | FEP | Case notes | 1.0 | 137 | 101 | 41.6 |  |  | 39 |  |
| Bland & Orn 1978 | Canada | FES | Interview | 14.0 | 45 | 43 | 48.8 |  | 32.6 | 34 | 744.0 |
| Bühler *et al*. 2002 | Germany | FES | Interview | 5.0 | 58 | 46 |  |  | 20.6 |  | 150.5 |
| Carlson *et al*. 2000 | USA | FEAF | Interview | 2.0 | 53 | 53 | 54.7 | 28.9 |  |  | 37.1 |
| Ceskova *et al*. 2011 | Czeck Republic | FES | Interview | 7.0 | 76 | 44 | 0.0 |  | 22.2 | 23 |  |
| Chang *et al*. 2011 | Hong Kong | FES | Interview | 3.0 | 138 | 93 | 54.8 | 20.4 |  |  | 103.4 |
| Chang *et al*. 2012 | Hong Kong | FEP | Case notes | 3.0 | 700 | 420 | 62.9 | 31.2 |  |  | 73.3 |
| Chang *et al*. 2016 | Hong Kong | FES | Case notes | 3.0 | 515 | 539 |  | 21.2 |  | 198 | 79.4 |
| Clausen *et al*. 2014 | Denmark | FEP | Case notes | 5.0 | 578 | 314 | 40.7 | 24.4 |  |  | 193.4 |
| Cougnard *et al*. 2006 | France | FEP | combination | 2.0 | 86 | 84 | 36.1 | 27.8 | 27.8 | 43 |  |
| Craig *et al*. 2000 | USA | FES | Interview | 2.0 | 349 | 311 | 45.6 |  | 28 | 144 |  |
| DeLisi *et al*. 1992 | USA | FEAF | Interview | 2.0 | 30 | 29 | 36.0 |  | 26.2 |  | 127.8 |
| Di Michele *et al*. 2006 | Italy | FES | interview | 7.0 | 46 |  | 43.5 |  | 27.2 | 30 |  |
| Drake *et al*. 2007 | UK | FEP | Interview | 1.5 | 257 | 273 | 32.0 |  | 27 | 52 |  |
| Drake *et al*. 2013 | USA | FEP | Interview | 2.0 | 385 | 158 | 28.1 |  | 28.7 | 44 |  |
| Fisher *et al*. 2015 | UK | FEP | Case notes | 1.5 | 149 | 149 | 28.9 |  | 24 | 105 |  |
| Fraguas *et al*. 2014 | Spain | FEP | Interview | 2.0 | 110 | 80 | 32.7 | 16 |  |  | 19.6 |
| Geddes *et al*. 1994 | UK | FES | Interview | 7.0 | 51 | 43 | 48.8 |  | 27.3 | 35 |  |
| Gråwe *et al*. 1991 | Norway | FES | Case notes | 1.0 | 49 | 49 | 44.9 | 25.5 |  | 29 | 87.0 |
| Guggenheim & Babigian 1974 | USA | FES | Case notes | 7.0 | 798 |  | 56.8 |  | 39 | 455 |  |
| Gupta *et al.*1997 | USA | FEP | Interview | 1.0 | 41 | 35 | 34.0 | 24 | 24 | 17 | 35.0 |
| Harrison *et al.* 2001 | Muticentre | FEP | Combination | 15.0 | 1633 | 229 | 49.4 |  | 47.5 | 48 |  |
| Harrow *et al*. 2005 | USA | FEP | Interview | 15.0 | 157 | 121 | 42.7 |  | 22.3 | 31 |  |
| Helgason 1990 | Iceland | FES | Case notes | 21.0 | 107 | 84 | 49.5 |  | 33.5 | 67 | 106.0 |
| Henisz 1966 | Poland | FES | Interview | 7.0 | 249 | 211 | 73.4 |  | 31.6 | 151 |  |
| Henry *et al*. 2010 | Australia | FEP | Interview | 7.4 | 723 | 484 | 30.6 |  | 21.5 | 303 |  |
| Herceg *et al*. 2008 | Croatia | FES | Case notes | 2.0 |  | 135 | 18.0 |  | 31 | 45 |  |
| Hollis 2000 | UK | FEP | Case notes | 11.5 | 110 | 93 | 47.3 | 14.2 |  | 23 |  |
| Huguelet *et al*. 1995 | Switzerland | FES | Interview | 5.0 | 44 | 29 | 48.0 |  | 27 | 10 | 88.0 |
| Huguelet *et al*. 1997 | Switzerland | FES | Interview | 5.0 | 67 | 27 | 43.3 |  | 26 |  | 88.0 |
| Jabs *et al*. 2004 | Germany | FES | Interview | 13.0 |  | 77 | 59.7 |  | 22.7 |  | 337.4 |
| Jarbin *et al*. 2003 | Sweden | FEP | Combination | 10.5 | 81 | 78 | 49.4 | 16 |  | 30 |  |
| Johnson *et al*. 2014 | India | FES | Interview | 5.0 | 131 | 95 | 45.0 |  | 29.5 | 22 |  |
| Köhler *et al.* 2009 | Netherlands | FEP | Case notes | 5.0 | 464 | 379 | 55.4 | 41.8 |  | 336 |  |
| Koster *et al.* 2008 | Denmark | FES | Combination | 2.0 | 269 | 186 | 34.0 |  | 20.8 | 86 |  |
| Langeveld *et al*. 2012 | Norway | FES | Interview | 2.0 | 232 | 189 | 30.6 | 22.1 |  |  | 190.4 |
| Lay *et al*. 2000 | Germany | FES | Interview | 12.0 | 96 | 69 | 41.5 |  | 16 | 54 |  |
| Leeson *et al*. 2012 | UK | FES | Interview | 1.3 | 99 | 71 | 38.0 |  | 24.6 |  | 106.0 |
| Lehtinen *et al*. 2000 | Finland | FEP | Interview | 2.0 | 135 | 106 | 43.4 |  | 29.4 | 93 |  |
| Mason *et al*. 1995 | UK | FES | Case notes | 13.0 | 67 | 58 | 37.9 |  |  | 12 |  |
| Mason *et al*. 1996 | UK | FES | Interview | 13.0 | 67 | 30 | 46.3 |  |  | 24 |  |
| McCreadie *et al*. 1989 | UK | FES | Interview | 2.0 | 49 | 38 | 53.0 |  |  | 18 |  |
| Moller *et al*. 2002 | Germany | FEP | Interview | 15.0 | 374 | 146 | 70.5 |  | 52.1 |  | 246.4 |
| Morgan *et al*. 2014 | UK | FEP | Combination | 10.7 | 532 | 387 | 42.1 |  | 30.8 | 307 |  |
| Petersen et al. 2008 | Denmark | FEP | Interview | 2.0 | 547 | 369 | 41.7 |  | 24.8 |  | 102.8 |
| Qin *et al.* 2014 | China | FES | Interview | 4.0 | 43 | 43 | 65.1 |  | 33.2 | 17 |  |
| Rabinowitz *et al*. 2006 | Israeli | FES | case notes | 10.0 |  | 12,071 | 40.0 |  | 25.8 | 7725.4 |  |
| Rangaswamy *et al*. 2012 | India | FES | Combination | 25.0 | 90 | 47 | 50.0 | 24.5 |  | 12 |  |
| Ropcke and Eggers 2005 | Germany | FES | Case notes | 15.4 | 55 | 39 | 48.7 | 16 |  | 33 | 704.0 |
| Salem *et al*. 2009 | United Arab Emirates | FES | Interview | 6.0 | 69 | 68 | 32.4 |  | 27.5 | 15 |  |
| Sarotar *et al*. 2008 | Slovenia | FES |  | 11.0 | 87 |  | 52.9 |  | 39.5 |  | 204.6 |
| Schimmelmann *et al*. 2008 | Australia | FEP | Case notes | 1.5 | 786 | 489 | 33.0 |  | 21.3 | 468 |  |
| Schmidt *et al.* 1995 | Germany | FES | Interview | 7.3 | 118 | 97 | 46.0 |  | 16.6 | 71 |  |
| Sim *et al*. 2007 | Singapore | FES | Interview | 2.0 | 254 | 254 | 44.9 |  | 28.8 |  | 28.4 |
| Singh *et al.* 2004 | UK | FEP | Combination | 3.0 | 166 | 143 | 41.0 |  |  | 102 | 83.1 |
| Soskis *et al*. 1969 | USA | FES | Interview | 5.0 | 39 | 32 | 59.0 |  | 25.4 | 16 | 76.0 |
| SSRG 1992 | UK | FES | Interview | 5.0 | 49 | 42 | 52.4 |  |  | 34 | 249.4 |
| Stirling *et al.* 2003 | UK | FES | Interview | 10.7 | 112 | 49 | 43.7 | 26.3 |  | 15 |  |
| Svedberg *et al*. 2001 | Sweden | FEP | Case notes | 5.0 | 71 | 69 |  |  | 29.5 | 39 |  |
| Takei *et al.* 1997 | UK | FES | Interview | 18.0 | 88 | 76 | 37.0 |  | 22.7 | 35 | 198.6 |
| Thara 2004 | India | FES | Interview | 20.0 | 90 | 61 | 50.0 | 24.5 |  | 22 | 322.4 |
| Thorup *et al.* 2014 | Denmark | FES | Interview | 5.0 | 578 | 520 |  |  |  |  | 23.6 |
| Tohen *et al*. 1990 | USA | FEAF | Interview | 4.0 | 24 | 24 | 46.0 |  | 26 | 13 |  |
| Turner *et al*. 2009 | New Zealand | FEP | Interview | 2.0 | 236 | 194 |  | 22.4 |  |  | 739.9 |
| Üçok *et al.* 2011 | Turkey | FES | Interview | 4.9 | 93 | 44 | 47.9 |  | 19.9 |  | 47.8 |
| Ucok *et al.* 2006 | Turkey | FES | Interview | 1.0 | 83 | 74 | 48.7 | 19.9 | 21.2 | 9 |  |
| Verdoux *et al.* 2002 | France | FES | Combination | 2.0 | 65 | 34 | 42.9 |  | 32.1 | 4 |  |
| Wade *et al*. 2006 | Australia | FEP | Interview | 1.3 | 104 | 98 | 35.6 | 20.6 | 21.2 | 75 | 25.9 |
| White *et al.* 2009 | UK | FEP | Interview | 10.0 | 109 | 69 | 41.0 |  | 27.4 | 57 |  |
| Whitty *et al.* 2008 | Ireland | FEP | Interview | 4.0 | 171 | 129 | 35.0 | 25.5 |  |  | 92.8 |
| Wiersma *et al.* 1998 | Netherland | FES | Case notes | 15.0 | 82 | 63 | 48.0 | 25 |  | 34 |  |
| Wieselgren & Lindstrom 1996 | Sweden | FES | Interview | 5.0 | 120 | 101 | 28.0 | 22.5 | 27.1 | 86 | 249.4 |
| Yildiz 2010 | Turkey | FES | case notes | 12.0 |  | 720 | 49.7 |  | 23.5 | 523 | 71.3 |
| Zhang-Wong *et al.* 1995 | Canada | FEP | Interview | 5.0 | 175 | 123 | 28.9 | 23.3 |  | 54 |  |

FU, follow up period; n, number; FES, first episode schizophrenia; FEP, first episode psychosis, FEAF, first episode affective psychosis; BL, baseline; FU, follow-up; UK, United Kingdom; USA, United States of America; LOS, average length of inpatients stays (measured in days).

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