

Dimensions of Formal Thought Disorder are linked to Catatonia in Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders

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Introduction & Aim

- Formal thought disorder (FTD) describes impairments of language and subjective thought processes. It is a core symptom of schizophrenia spectrum disorders and is known to covary with motor abnormalities.
- Previous studies have suggested 4 distinct dimensions of FTD, some of which are associated with brain regions involved in motor planning.^{1,2}

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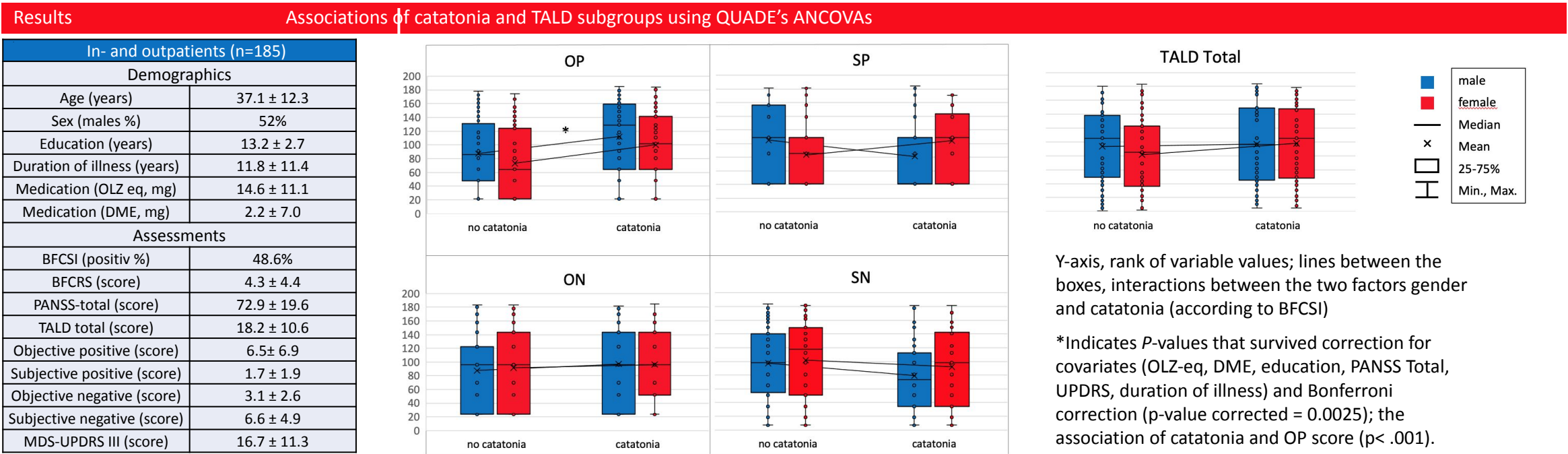
- Catatonia is a well-known disturbance of motor control and will in psychotic disorders.
- However, the link between FTD and catatonia remains unknown.

Methods

Thought and Language Disorder scale (TALD)²

Positive		Negative	
Objective (OP)	Subjective (SP)	Objective (ON)	Subjective (SN)
e.g. - Logorrhoe - Pressured speech	- Pressure of thought - Thought interference	e.g. - Concretism - Slowing of speech	e.g. - Poverty of thought - Thought blocking

This study is the first to investigate whether four distinct FTD dimensions differ in their association with catatonia.



Conclusion

- This study provides evidence of distinct associations between Formal Thought disorder dimensions and catatonia in patients with schizophrenia spectrum disorders.
- These findings may have important implications for the assessment and treatment of patients with psychotic disorders, especially those who exhibit catatonic symptoms.

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References

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