

# CAP 2

**(24 marks)**

**Please read the following abstract, table and figure and answer the questions based on this information and your other knowledge.**

## **“How do psychiatrists address delusions in first meetings in acute care? A qualitative study**

Alessia Zangrilli, Giuseppe Ducci, Pier Luca Bandinelli, Jemima Dooley, Rosemarie McCabe and Stefan Priebe (2014). *BMC Psychiatry*, 14(1), 178. doi:10.1186/1471-244X-14-178

### **Background:**

Communicating about delusions can be challenging, particularly when a therapeutic relationship needs to be established in acute care. So far, no systematic research has explored how psychiatrists address patients' delusional beliefs in first meetings in acute care. The aim of this study was to describe how psychiatrists address patients' delusional experiences in acute in-patient care.

### **Methods:**

First meetings between five psychiatrists and 14 patients in acute care were audio-recorded and analysed using thematic content analysis.

### **Results:**

296 psychiatrist statements about delusions were identified and coded. Three commonly used approaches (with a total of 6 subthemes) were identified. The most common approaches were eliciting the content (1 subtheme: eliciting content and evidence) and understanding the impact (3 subthemes: identifying emotions, exploring links with dysfunctional behaviour and discussing reasons for hospital admission) while questioning the validity of the beliefs (2 subthemes: challenging content and exploring alternative explanations) was less common. The last approach sometimes put patients in a defensive position.

### **Conclusions:**

Psychiatrists commonly use three approaches to address patients' delusions in the first meeting in acute in-patient care. Questioning the patients' beliefs can lead to disagreement which might hinder establishing a positive therapeutic relationship. Future research should explore the impact of such an approach on outcomes and specify to what extent questioning the validity of delusional beliefs is appropriate in the first meeting.”

### Question 1

**Based on the abstract and your other knowledge, which option best describes the study objectives? (2 marks)**

- A. To describe psychiatrists clinical approaches to delusions in acute care.
- B. To increase understanding of an under-researched area.
- C. To increase understanding of the patients' experiences of delusions in acute care.
- D. To justify resource allocation in acute care.
- E. To provide a definitive description of an under-researched area.
- F. To quantify that delusional beliefs are assessed in acute care.
- G. To test the null hypothesis that there are no challenges in the communication about delusions in acute care.

**Answer:** A - To describe psychiatrists clinical approaches to delusions in acute care.

## Question 2

“This was an exploratory qualitative observational study of audio-recorded first meetings between psychiatrists and patients with delusions in routine in-patient care. Recruitment ran from April 2011 to January 2012. All ten psychiatrists from the 13-bed psychiatric in-patient service of the San Filippo Neri Hospital of Rome, Italy, were asked to participate. Five consented.

... sampling was used to recruit patients from the service. Each participating psychiatrist identified recently admitted patients that fitted the inclusion criteria to approach for participation in the study.”

**Based on the abstract, the quote above and your other knowledge, which option best describes the sampling method used? (2 marks)**

- A. Convenience sampling.
- B. Criterion sampling.
- C. Deviant case sampling.
- D. Expert sampling.
- E. Maximum variation sampling.
- F. Purposive random sampling.
- G. Snowball sampling.
- H. Unrestricted random sampling.

**Answer:** B - Criterion sampling.

### Question 3

“This was an exploratory qualitative observational study of audio-recorded first meetings between psychiatrists and patients with delusions in routine in-patient care. Recruitment ran from April 2011 to January 2012. All ten psychiatrists from the 13-bed psychiatric in-patient service of the San Filippo Neri Hospital of Rome, Italy, were asked to participate. Five consented.

... sampling was used to recruit patients from the service. Each participating psychiatrist identified recently admitted patients that fitted the inclusion criteria to approach for participation in the study.”

**Based on the abstract, the quote above and your other knowledge, which option would best describe the sampling method if psychiatrists were asked to invite their colleagues to participate in the study? (1 mark)**

- A. Convenience sampling.
- B. Criterion sampling.
- C. Deviant case sampling.
- D. Expert sampling.
- E. Maximum variation sampling.
- F. Purposive random sampling.
- G. Snowball sampling.
- H. Unrestricted random sampling.

**Answer:** G - Snowball sampling.

#### Question 4

“This was an exploratory qualitative observational study of audio-recorded first meetings between psychiatrists and patients with delusions in routine in-patient care. Recruitment ran from April 2011 to January 2012. All ten psychiatrists from the 13-bed psychiatric in-patient service of the San Filippo Neri Hospital of Rome, Italy, were asked to participate. Five consented.

“... sampling was used to recruit patients from the service. Each participating psychiatrist identified recently admitted patients that fitted the inclusion criteria to approach for participation in the study.”

**Based on the abstract, the quote above and your other knowledge, which option best describes the sampling method that would be used to seek unusual delusional subtypes? (1 mark)**

- A. Convenience sampling.
- B. Criterion sampling.
- C. Deviant case sampling.
- D. Expert sampling.
- E. Maximum variation sampling.
- F. Purposive random sampling.
- G. Snowball sampling.
- H. Unrestricted random sampling.

**Answer:** C - Deviant case sampling.

### Question 5

“This was an exploratory qualitative observational study of audio-recorded first meetings between psychiatrists and patients with delusions in routine in-patient care. Recruitment ran from April 2011 to January 2012. All ten psychiatrists from the 13-bed psychiatric in-patient service of the San Filippo Neri Hospital of Rome, Italy, were asked to participate. Five consented.

“... sampling was used to recruit patients from the service. Each participating psychiatrist identified recently admitted patients that fitted the inclusion criteria to approach for participation in the study.”

**Based on the abstract, the quote above and your other knowledge, which option best describes the sampling method used to select psychiatrist/patient assessments with markedly different characteristics? (1 mark)**

- A. Convenience sampling.
- B. Criterion sampling.
- C. Deviant case sampling.
- D. Expert sampling.
- E. Maximum variation sampling.
- F. Purposive random sampling.
- G. Snowball sampling.
- H. Unrestricted random sampling.

**Answer:** E - Maximum variation sampling.

### Question 6

“This was an exploratory qualitative observational study of audio-recorded first meetings between psychiatrists and patients with delusions in routine in-patient care.”

**Based on the abstract, the quote above and your other knowledge, which option describes the most relevant limitation of audio-recording interviews? (1 mark)**

- A. Behaviour change due to awareness of being recorded.
- B. Data loss due to recall bias.
- C. Ethics approval is unlikely to be obtained.
- D. Limited generalisability.
- E. Low credibility.
- F. Poorly validated method.
- G. Represents a threat to patient privacy.
- H. Researcher bias.
- I. Sampling bias.

**Answer:** A - Behaviour change due to awareness of being recorded.

### Question 7

“Different themes addressing delusions were identified, each one characterised by specific verbal behaviours. The themes were then further discussed and revised [a number of times].”

**Based on the abstract, the quote above and your other knowledge, which option best describes the approach used? (1 mark)**

- A. Deductive.
- B. Discourse analytic.
- C. Heuristic conversational.
- D. Induction.
- E. Iterative.
- F. Reflexive.

**Answer:** E – Iterative.



### Question 8

“Different themes addressing delusions were identified, each one characterised by specific verbal behaviours. The themes were then further discussed and revised [a number of times].”

**Based on the abstract, the quote above and your other knowledge, which option best describes the practice of investigators considering their own beliefs and assumptions in relation to the research? (1 mark)**

- A. Deduction.
- B. Discourse analysis.
- C. Heuristic conversational approach.
- D. Induction.
- E. Iterative approach.
- F. Reflexivity.

**Answer:** F – Reflexivity.

### Question 9

“Different themes addressing delusions were identified, each one characterised by specific verbal behaviours. The themes were then further discussed and revised [a number of times].”

**Based on the abstract, the quote above and your other knowledge, which option best describes an approach used to study the use of language in transcripts of conversation? (1 mark)**

- A. Deduction.
- B. Discourse analysis.
- C. Heuristic conversational approach.
- D. Induction.
- E. Iterative approach.
- F. Reflexivity.

**Answer:** B - Discourse analysis.

### Question 10

“The analysis reached saturation in identifying core themes across almost all meetings”

**Based on the abstract and your other knowledge, which option best describes the meaning of the above quote? (2 marks)**

- A. The researchers demonstrated that the semi-structured questionnaire had sufficient internal validity.
- B. The researchers developed a theory to explain the relationship between the themes identified.
- C. The researchers exhausted the process of identifying and analysing key patterns or themes within data available.
- D. The researchers identified all items of raw data from the transcripts.
- E. The researchers selected enough cases to reach statistical significance.
- F. The researchers sought out further specific cases in order to ensure that no unidentified themes had been missed.

**Answer:** C - The researchers exhausted the process of identifying and analysing key patterns or themes within data available.

## Question 11

“... extracts were grouped into six specific themes in the analysis. ... In order of frequency the themes were:

- 1) Eliciting the content (127 extracts)
- 2) Challenging content (76)
- 3) Exploring alternative explanations (41)
- 4) Identifying emotions (24)
- 5) Exploring links with dysfunctional behaviour (15)
- 6) Discussing reasons for hospital admission (13)

*PSYCHIATRIST: How did you realize that you were decomposing?*

*PATIENT: Because of the strong smell*

*PSYCHIATRIST: Ok, and what did you do about that?*

*PATIENT: I put hydrochloric acid on, ...*

*PSYCHIATRIST: Did you put hydrochloric acid on your skin?*

*PATIENT: Yep*

**Based on the abstract, the quote above, the listed themes and your other knowledge, which option best describes the above psychiatrist/patient dialogue? (2 marks)**

- A. Eliciting the content.
- B. Challenging content.
- C. Exploring alternative explanations.
- D. Identifying emotions.
- E. Exploring links with dysfunctional behaviour.
- F. Discussing reasons for hospital admission.

**Answer:** E - Exploring links with dysfunctional behaviour.

## Question 12

“... extracts were grouped into six specific themes in the analysis. ... In order of frequency the themes were:

- 1) Eliciting the content (127 extracts)
- 2) Challenging content (76)
- 3) Exploring alternative explanations (41)
- 4) Identifying emotions (24)
- 5) Exploring links with dysfunctional behaviour (15)
- 6) Discussing reasons for hospital admission (13)

*PSYCHIATRIST: Could you please tell me why you are here? What happened?*

*PATIENT: Oh, well, I called the ambulance many times for months, and the police, and firemen and the centre for victims of violence against women ... 'cause some people followed me to trouble me or damage things*

**Based on the abstract, the quote above, the listed themes and your other knowledge, which option best describes the above psychiatrist/patient dialogue? (2 marks)**

- A. Eliciting the content.
- B. Challenging content.
- C. Exploring alternative explanations.
- D. Identifying emotions.
- E. Exploring links with dysfunctional behaviour.
- F. Discussing reasons for hospital admission.

**Answer:** F - Discussing reasons for hospital admission.

### Question 13

“... extracts were grouped into six specific themes in the analysis. ... In order of frequency the themes were:

- 1) Eliciting the content (127 extracts)
- 2) Challenging content (76)
- 3) Exploring alternative explanations (41)
- 4) Identifying emotions (24)
- 5) Exploring links with dysfunctional behaviour (15)
- 6) Discussing reasons for hospital admission (13)

*PSYCHIATRIST: Do you think there is any slightest chance that this is something you are exaggerating? Or that you are possibly wrong?*

*PATIENT: Nooo ... I am not wrong at all.*

**Based on the abstract, the quote above, the listed themes and your other knowledge, which option best describes the above psychiatrist/patient dialogue? (1 mark)**

- A. Eliciting the content.
- B. Challenging content.
- C. Exploring alternative explanations.
- D. Identifying emotions.
- E. Exploring links with dysfunctional behaviour.
- F. Discussing reasons for hospital admission.

**Answer:** B - Challenging content.

### Question 14

The study is described as “exploratory” and that the method of analysis was selected specifically “in order to broadly identify overarching themes in responses to patients’ communication about their delusional experiences rather than the interactional processes per se.”

**Based on the abstract, the quote above and your other knowledge, which option best describes the study methodology used by the authors to achieve their objectives? (2 marks)**

- A. Autoethnographic approach.
- B. Dialogical Research approach.
- C. Ethnographic approach.
- D. Mixed methods approach.
- E. Narrative approach.
- F. Quantitative analysis.
- G. Thematic content analysis.

**Answer:** G - Thematic content analysis.

### Question 15

The study is described as “exploratory” and that the method of analysis was selected specifically “in order to broadly identify overarching themes in responses to patients’ communication about their delusional experiences rather than the interactional processes per se.”

**Based on the abstract, the quote above and your other knowledge, which option best describes the most appropriate method for a purely observational study of patients with delusions during their admission to hospital?**

**(1 mark)**

- A. Autoethnographic approach.
- B. Dialogical Research approach.
- C. Ethnographic approach.
- D. Mixed methods approach.
- E. Narrative approach.
- F. Quantitative analysis.
- G. Thematic content analysis.

**Answer:** C - Ethnographic approach.



### Question 16

The study is described as “exploratory” and that the method of analysis was selected specifically “in order to broadly identify overarching themes in responses to patients’ communication about their delusional experiences rather than the interactional processes per se.”

**Based on the abstract, the quote above and your other knowledge, which option best describes the most appropriate method to use when a patient documents and reflects on their own experiences? (1 mark)**

- A. Autoethnographic approach.
- B. Ethnographic approach.
- C. Grounded theory analysis.
- D. Mixed methods approach.
- E. Narrative approach.
- F. Quantitative analysis.
- G. Thematic content analysis.

**Answer:** A - Autoethnographic approach.

### Question 17

“The findings were also repeatedly discussed in a wider research team in London (also including clinical and academic psychiatrists and psychologists as well as allied health professionals) to check and ensure internal homogeneity and external heterogeneity. Following this, the themes were revised and combined into a smaller number of overarching themes.”

**Based on the abstract, the quote above and your other knowledge, which option best describes what the researchers mean by “internal homogeneity and external heterogeneity”?** (2 marks)

- A. Another sample with a similar demographic would produce similar themes.
- B. Data within themes is coherent and themes have distinct boundaries.
- C. Deviant cases do not impact on research findings.
- D. The sample was internally consistent and externally distinct.
- E. The study is adequately powered.
- F. There was interdisciplinary consensus.

**Answer:** B - Data within themes is coherent and themes have distinct boundaries.