

Gemelli



Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS  
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore



UNIVERSITÀ  
CATTOLICA  
del Sacro Cuore

# La centralità del paziente nel trattamento del disturbo bipolare

Prof. Luigi Janiri

Università Cattolica S. Cuore

# Una mente inquieta



Kay Redfield  
Jamison



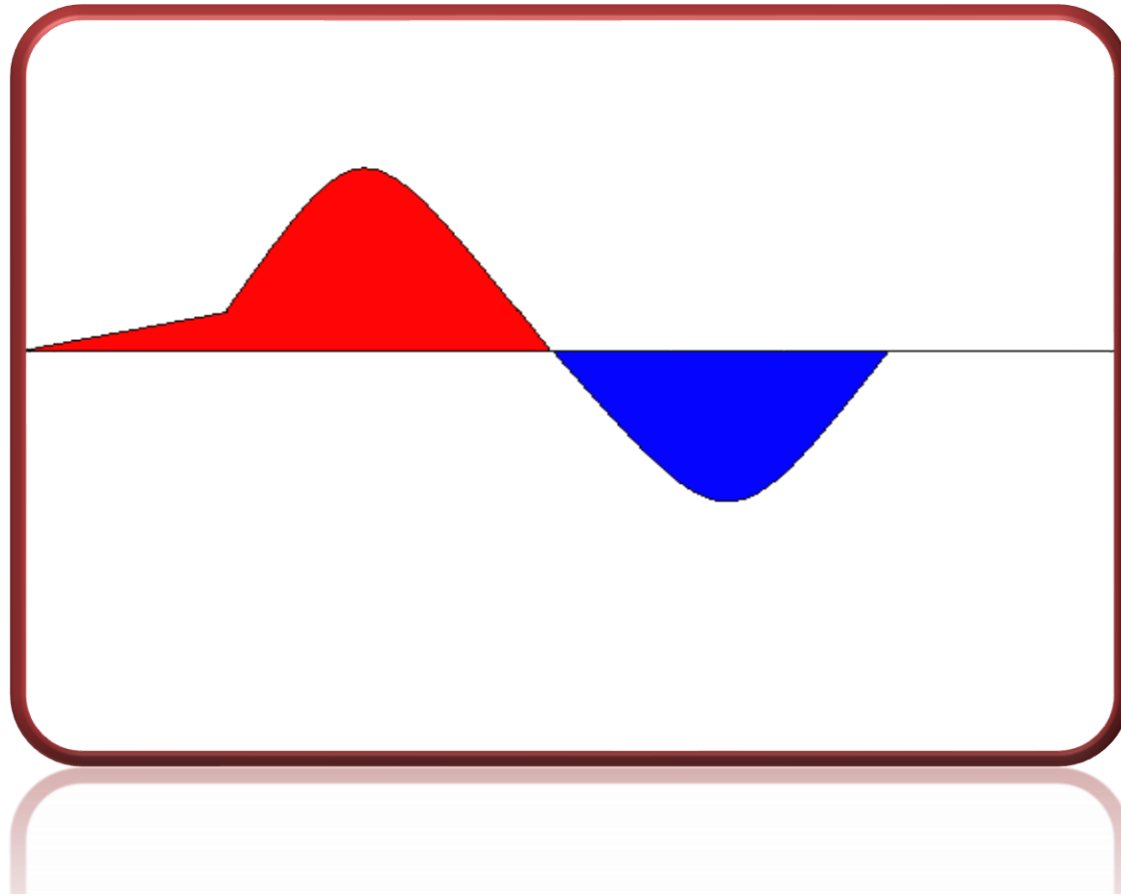
# It is not a gentle or easy disease

“I have had manic-depressive illness, also known as bipolar disorder, since I was 18 years old. It is an illness that ensures that those who have it will experience a frightening, chaotic and emotional ride. It is not a gentle or easy disease.”



Kay Redfield Jamison (2014). “An Unquiet Mind: A memoir of moods and madness”,

Il disturbo bipolare è una patologia cronica caratterizzata dalla ricorrenza di sintomi maniacali, ipomaniacali e depressivi, alternati ad intervalli liberi e asintomatici.



- **Disturbo Bipolare I:** caratterizzato dall'alternarsi di fasi depressive e maniacali o dalla sola presenza di ricorrenti episodi maniacali.
- **Disturbo Bipolare II:** caratterizzato da almeno un episodio maniacale o ipomaniacale; in anamnesi deve esserci stato almeno un episodio depressivo.
- **Disturbo Ciclotimico:** caratterizzato da almeno due episodi ipomaniacali che non sono seguiti da sintomi depressivi o da sintomi depressivi e da almeno un episodio ipomaniacale, nei due anni precedenti la diagnosi.
- **Disturbo Schizoafettivo:** caratterizzato da qualche momento, simultaneo o consecutivo, di sintomi schizofrenici e di sintomi di un episodio maniacale o di un episodio depressivo, in concomitanza a sintomi di un episodio maniacale o di un episodio depressivo.

## Specificatori:

- Con ansia
- Con caratteristiche miste
- Con cicli rapidi
- Con caratteristiche melanconiche
- Con caratteristiche atipiche
- Con caratteristiche psicotiche
- Con catatonia
- Con esordio nel peripartum
- Con andamento stagionale
- indotto da sostanze/farmaci

# OBIETTIVI TERAPEUTICI PRIMARI

**Mantenimento**

*Litio; Antiepilettici; Antipsicotici  
Atipici*

**Mania acuta**

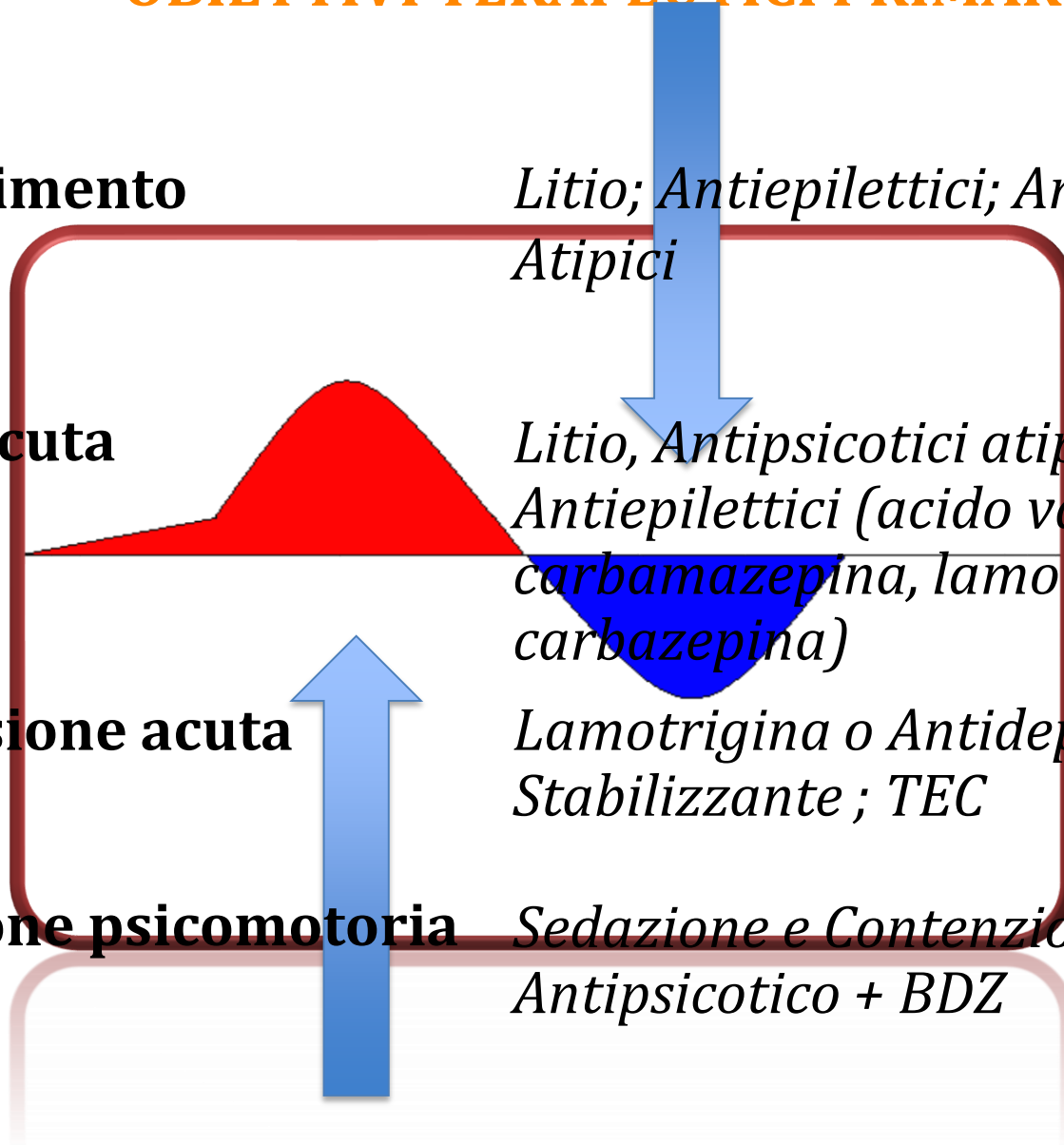
*Litio, Antipsicotici atipici,  
Antiepilettici (acido valproico,  
carbamazepina, lamotrigina, ox-  
carbazepina)*

**Depressione acuta**

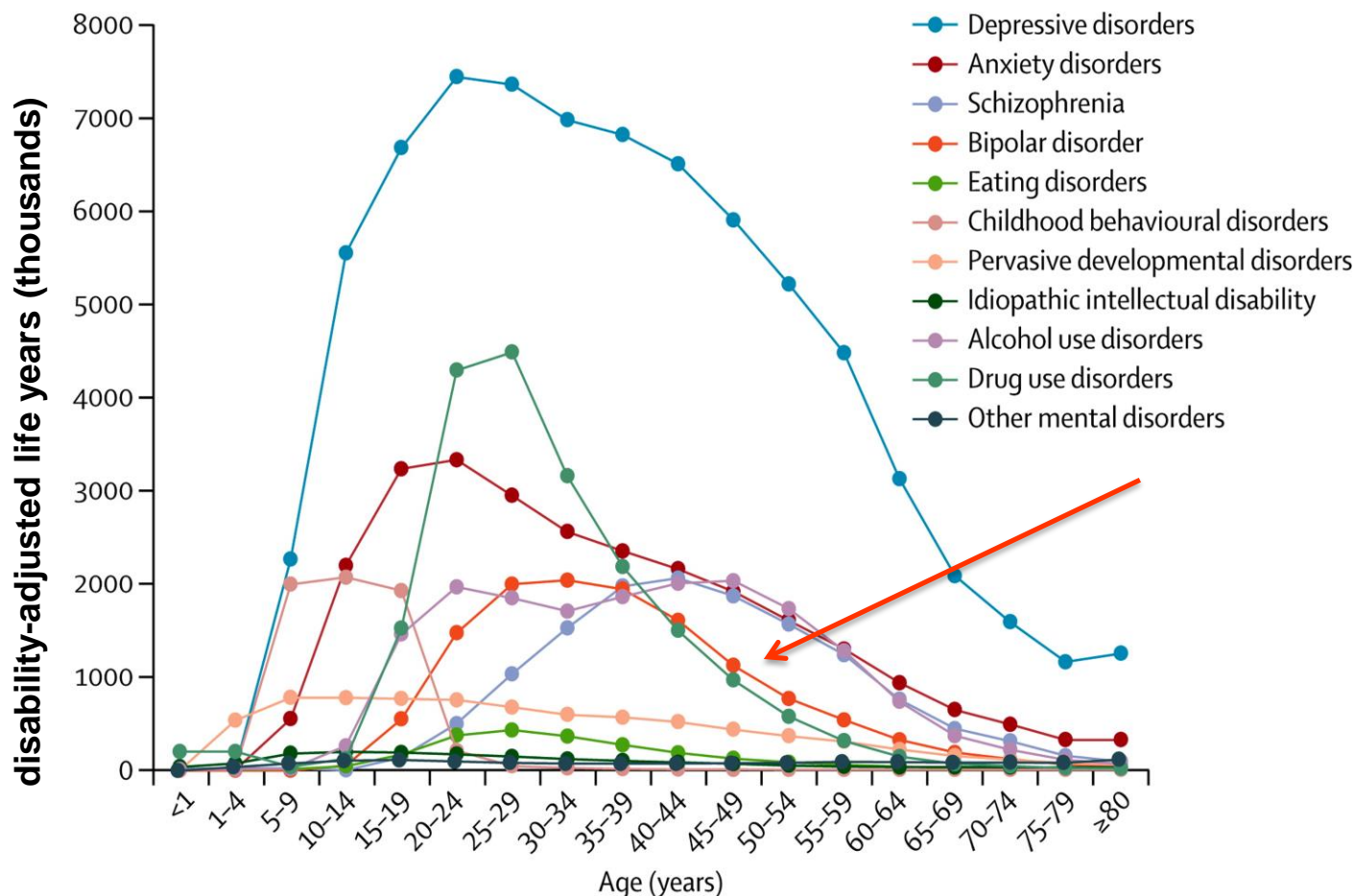
*Lamotrigina o Antidepressivo +  
Stabilizzante ; TEC*

**Agitazione psicomotoria**

*Sedazione e Contenzione:  
Antipsicotico + BDZ*

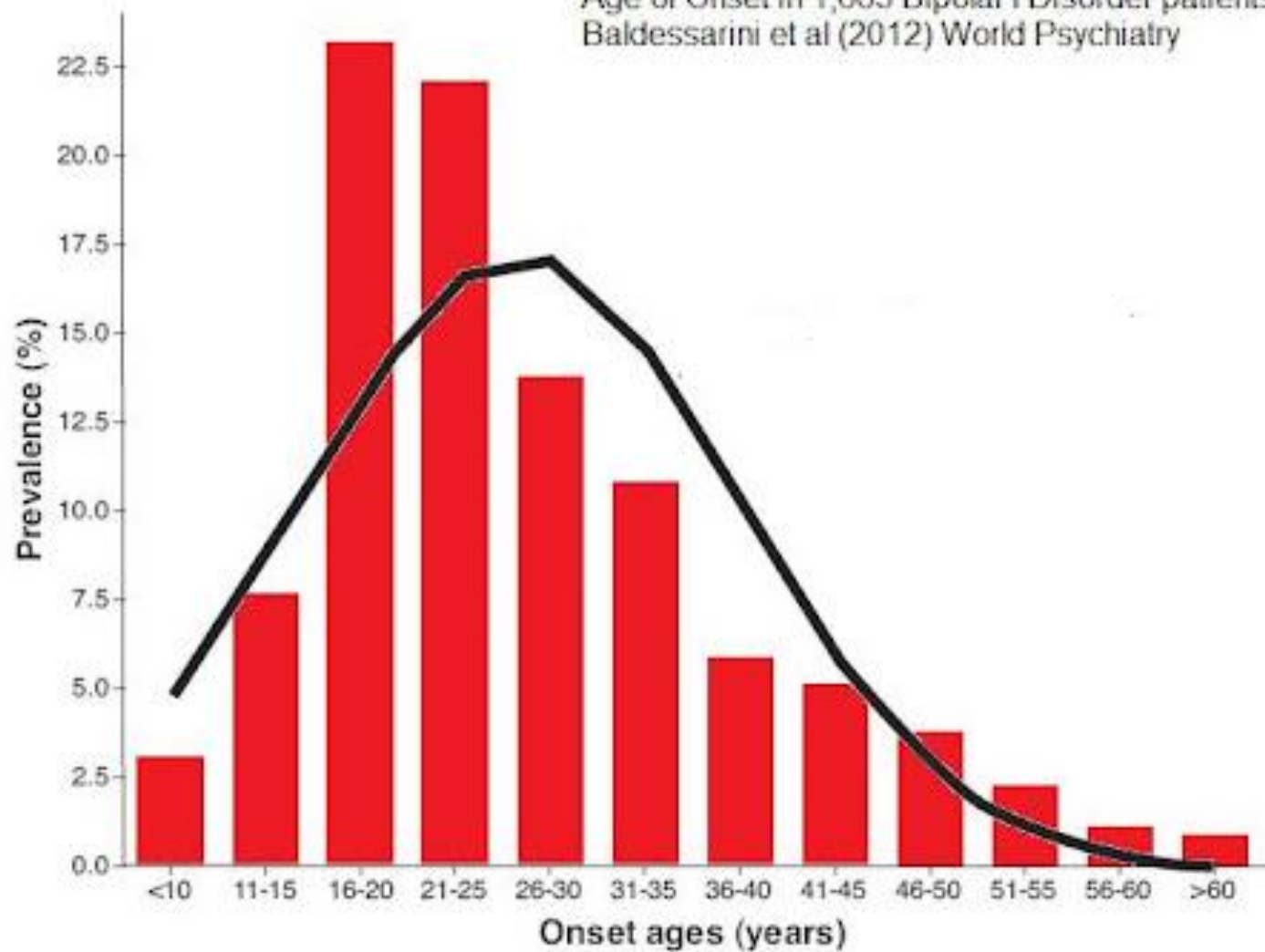


# Global burden of disease attributable to mental and substance use disorders: findings from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2010 (Whiteford et al. Lancet 2013)



Depressive disorders account for 40.5% of DALYs; anxiety disorders accounting for 14.6% , illicit drug use disorders for 10.9%, alcohol use disorders for 9.6%, schizophrenia for 7.4%, **bipolar disorder for 7.0%**, pervasive developmental disorders for 4.2%, childhood behavioural disorders for 3.4%, and eating disorders for 1.2%. DALYs varied by age and sex, with the highest proportion of total DALYs occurring in people aged 10–29 years.

Age of Onset in 1,665 Bipolar I Disorder patients  
Baldessarini et al (2012) World Psychiatry





# MIGLIORE STRATEGIA di intervento nel disturbo bipolare:

DIMINUIZIONE

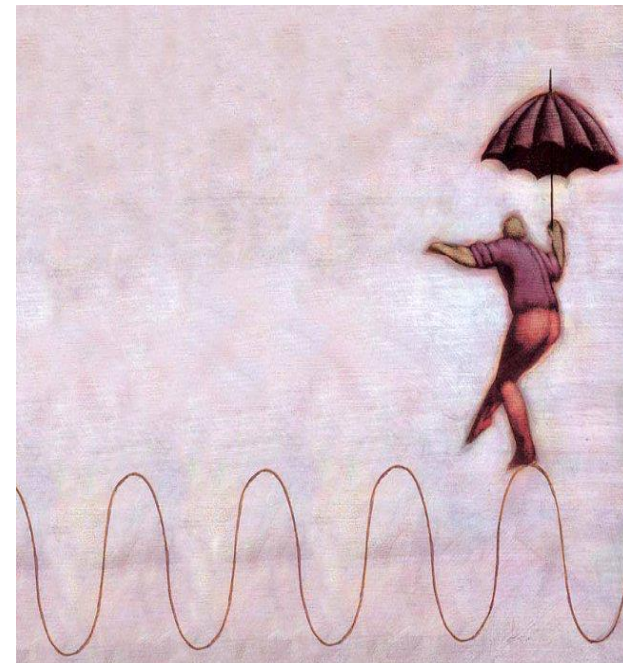
- ✧ numero
- ✧ durata
- ✧ gravità

DEGLI EPISODI

Vieta et al., Nature Reviews 2018

**LAVORARE SUL DECORSO**

**LAVORARE SUL TEMPO**



# Time will pass

Time will pass; these mood will pass; and I will, eventually, be myself again.



Kay Redfield Jamison (2014). "An Unquiet Mind: A memoir of moods and madness",

# TIME

**Alice: “How long is forever?”**

**White Rabbit: “Sometimes, just one second”.**

**Lewis Carrol**

Lavorare **sul tempo**....

**Il litio**



**This lithium that you gave to me, and which I have been taking for a month, does not do anything to me. I sleep better, I do not quarrel with my wife, I go to work quietly in the morning, I do not have moments of despair, I do not visit pornographic websites at night and I do not crave for cocaine. But I do feel like it does not anything to me.**

**A patient**

# Lithium, the forgotten drug

- Psychiatrists' preference for having a medicine that is simple to use, not potentially toxic, possibly transnosographic and which does not require frequent physical and laboratory tests
- Introduction of new effective drugs supported by strong economic interests
- Different effects of lithium in the bipolar spectrum

**Mario Maj**

# Lithium

## Guidelines of the British Association for Psychopharmacology

---

*“The strongest evidence among medicines that are often referred to as mood stabilisers for bipolar I disorder is still for lithium.”*

# Prescribing trend in Bipolar Disorder: 1995-2009

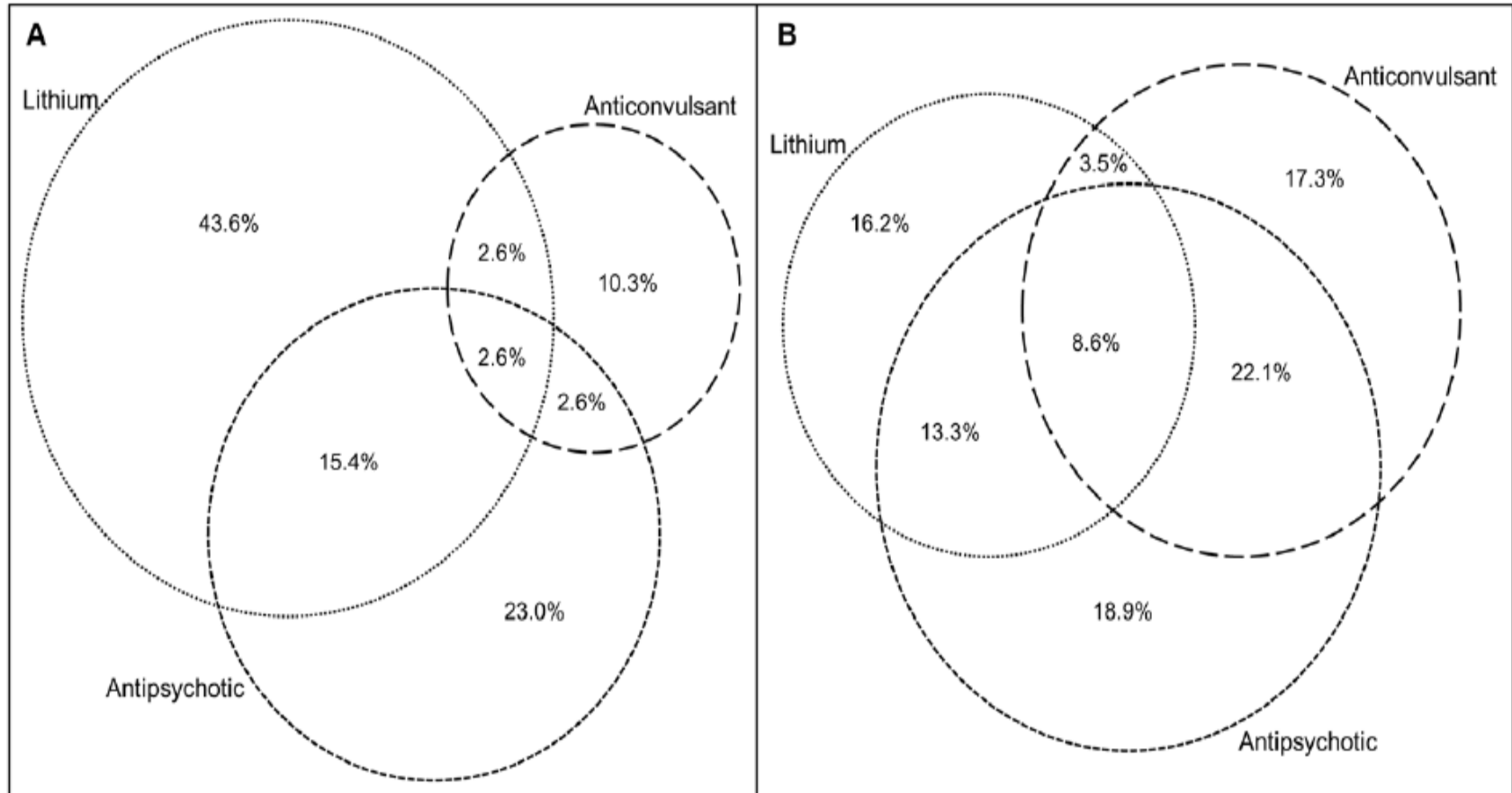


Figure 6. Percentage of treated individuals by medication group in A) 1995 and B) 2009\*.

Hayes et al.,  
2011



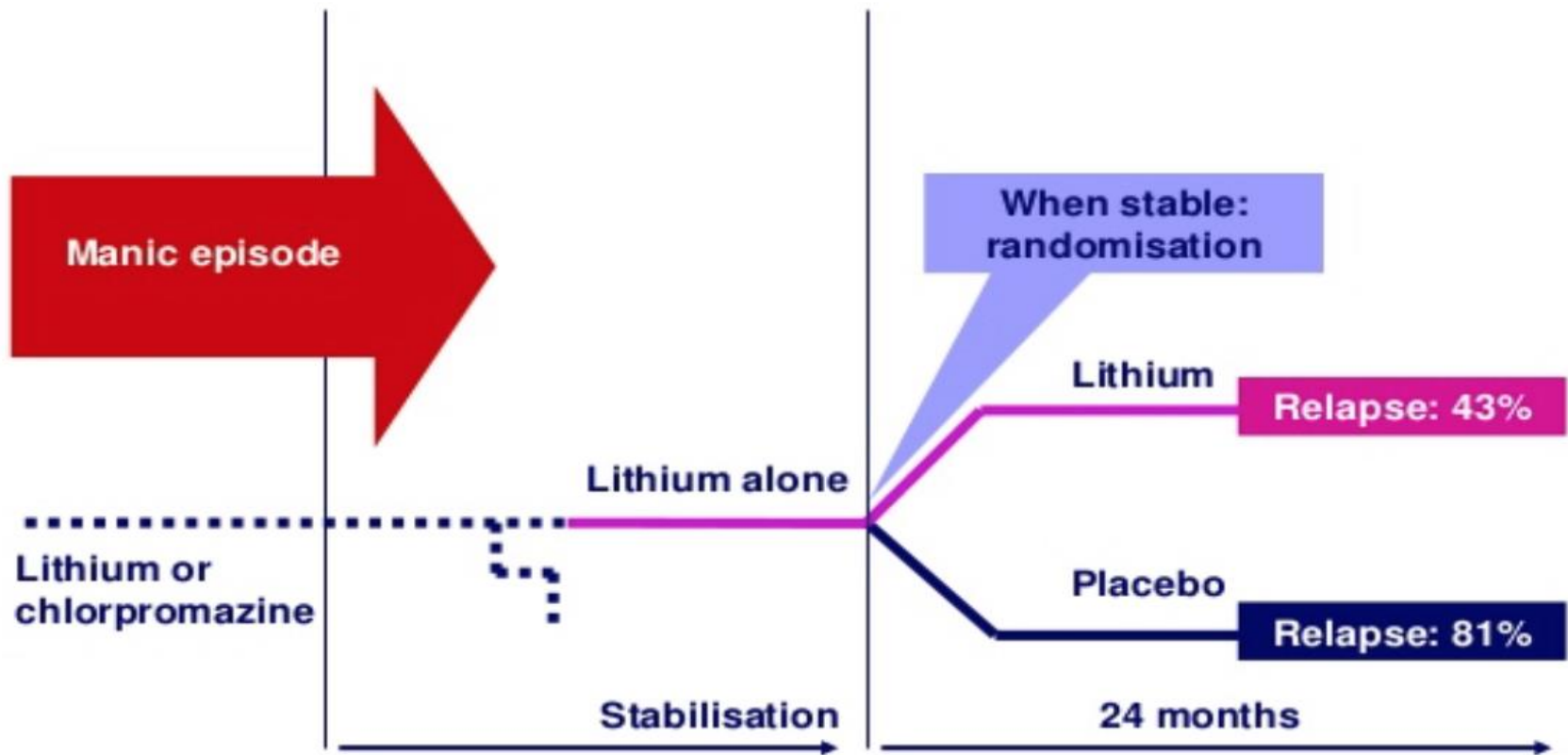
# Use of lithium

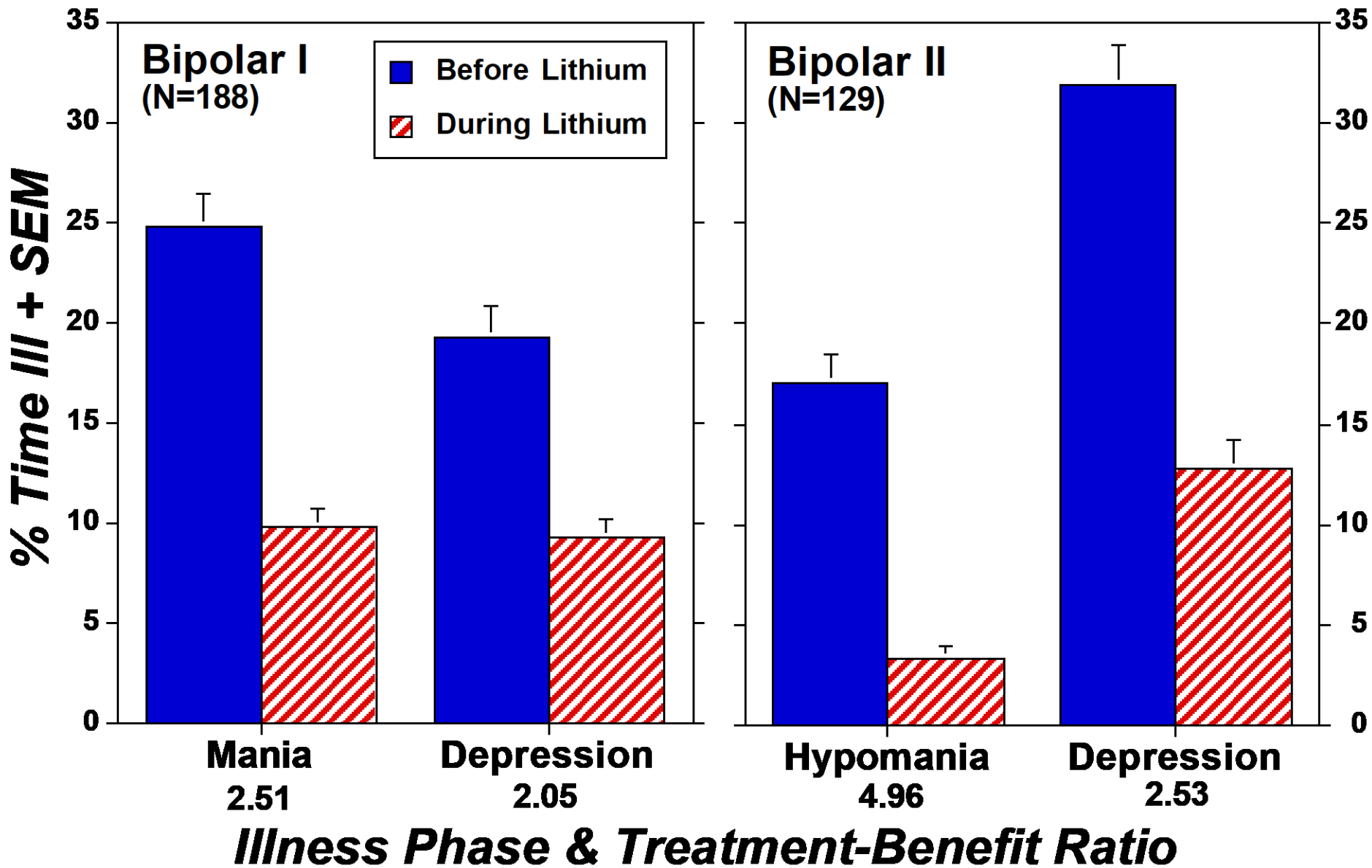
- **Treatment of Mania**
- **Prophylaxis of recurrences**
- **Prevention of suicide**
- **Neuroprotection**

# Use of lithium

- **Treatment of Mania**
- **Prophylaxis of recurrences**
- Predictor of phase change
- Prevention of suicide
- Neuroprotection

The current knowledge about Li solidly supports its usefulness during all phases of bipolar illness and its specific effectiveness on suicidal prevention





[From Tondo et al.: Br J Psychiatry 2001; 178 (S-40): 184–190]

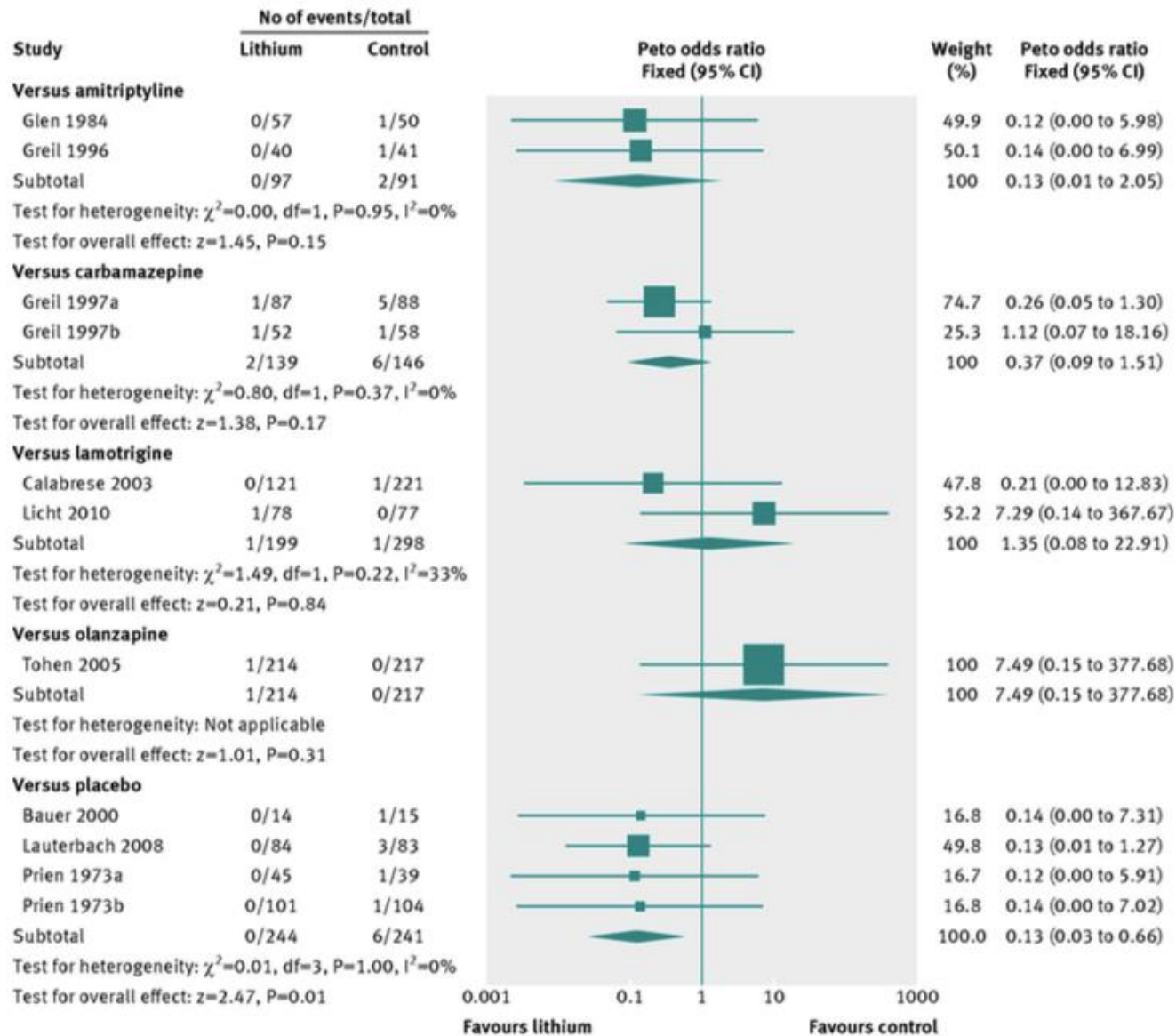
# Medications with the highest SMD

- 1. Interferon for chronic hepatitis C** **2.27**
- 2. Proton pump inhibitors for reflux esophagitis** **1.39**
- 3. Lithium for prophylaxis of bipolar disorder** **1.12**
- 4. Metformin for diabetes** **0.87**
- 5. Methotrexate for rheumatoid arthritis** **0.86**

Leucht et al,  
2012

# Use of lithium

- Treatment of Mania
- Prophylaxis of recurrences
- Predictor of phase change
- **Prevention of suicide**
- Neuroprotection



Lithium is more effective than placebo in reducing the number of suicides (odds ratio 0.13, 95% confidence interval 0.03 to 0.66)

# ***Suicidal Acts in Bipolar Disorder: Lithium vs. Anticonvulsants/Antipsychotics***

Thies-Flechtner et al. 1996

Greil et al. 1997

Bowden et al. 2003

Calabrese et al. 2003

Goodwin et al. 2003

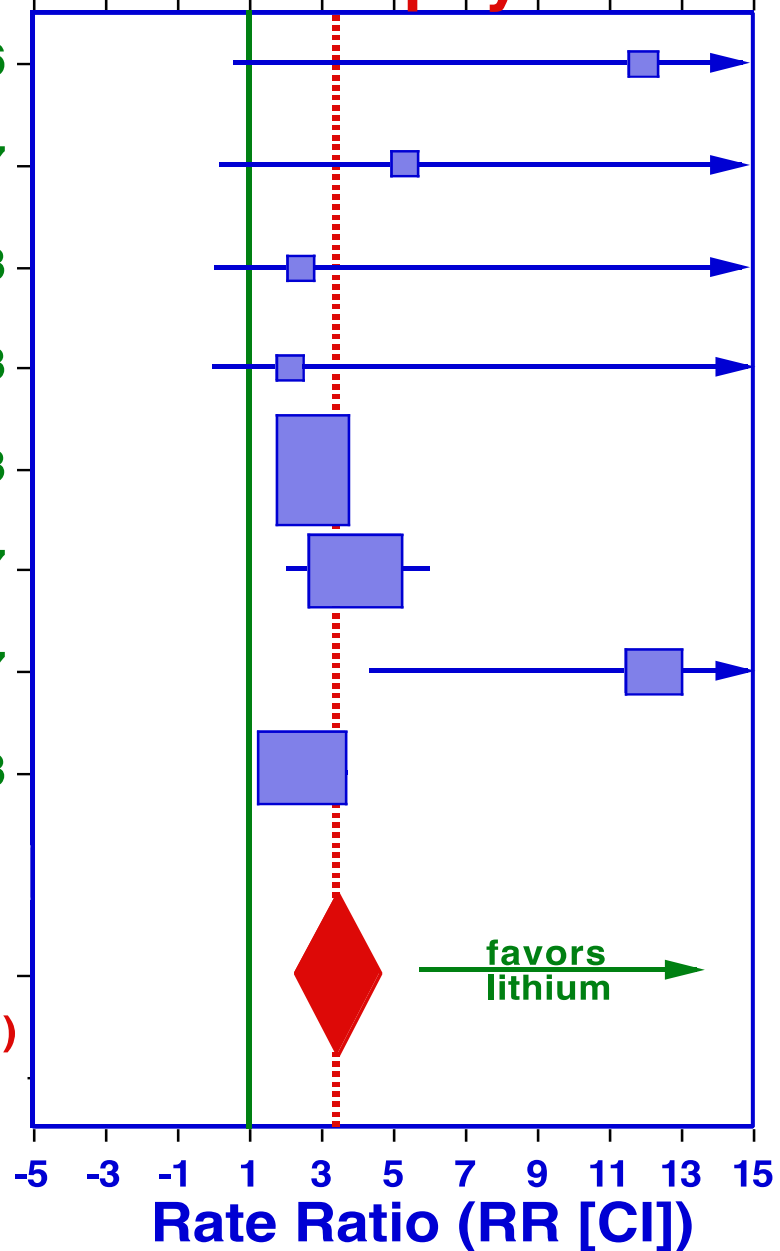
Collins & McFarland 2007

Yerevanian et al. 2007

Ahearn et al. 2013

***Pooled RR***  
**3.25 [2.28–4.64]**  
**( $z=6.50, p<0.0001$ )**

[From Tondo &  
Baldessarini 2013]

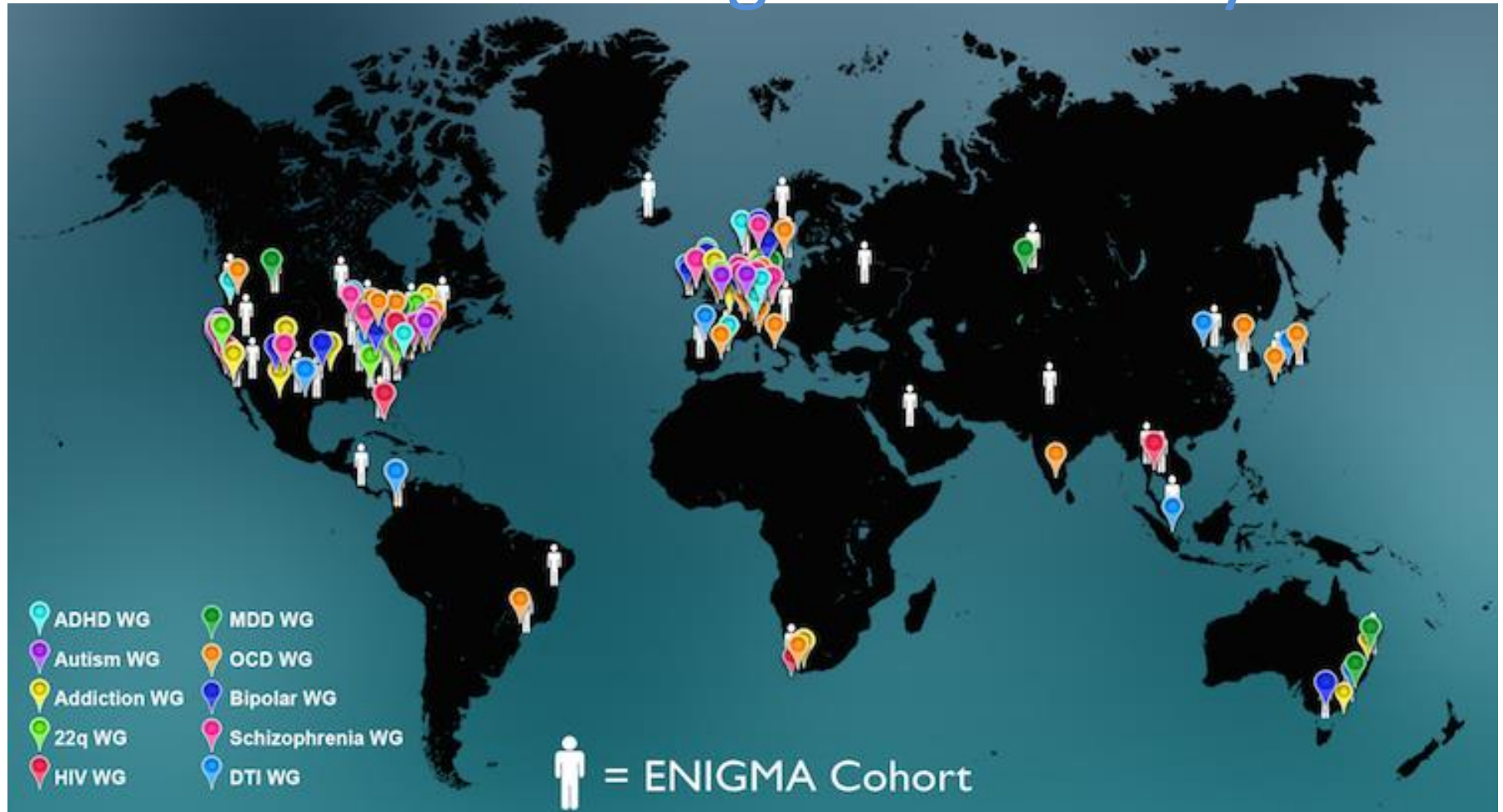




# Use of lithium

- Treatment of Mania
- Prophylaxis of recurrences
- Predictor of phase change
- Prevention of suicide
- **Neuroprotection**

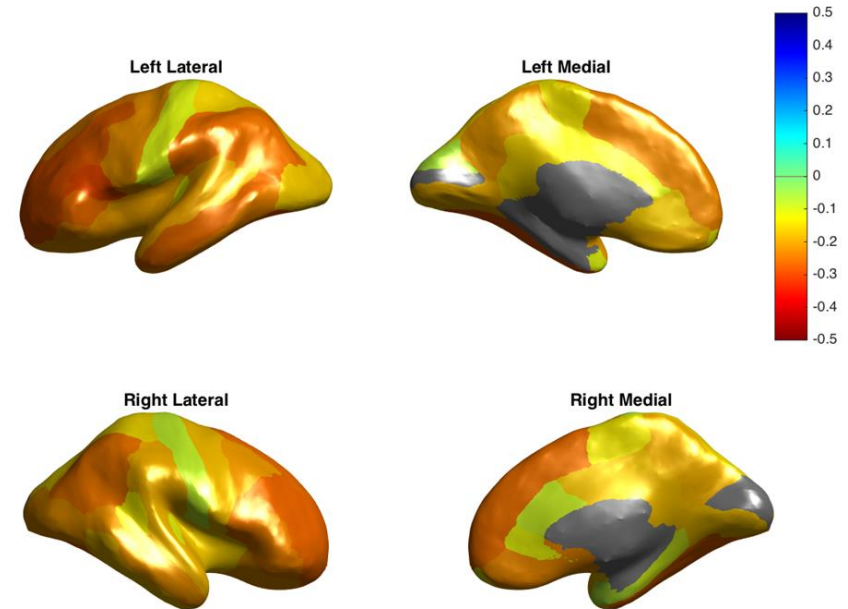
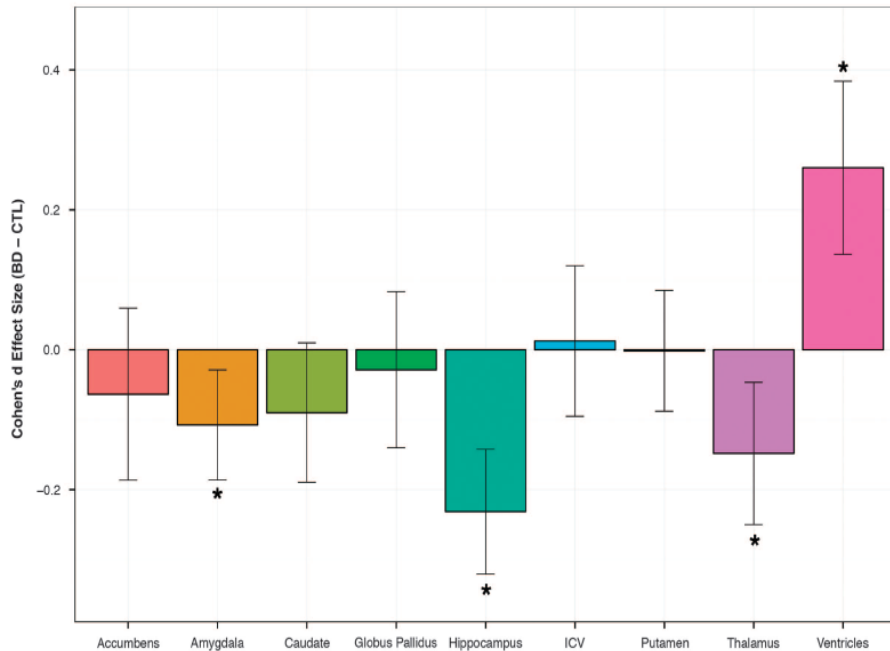
# ENIGMA: Enhancing Neuroimaging Genetics Through Meta-Analysis



# ENIGMA: Bipolar Disorder

## Brain Structural Changes in 2260 BD patients compared to 3819 healthy controls

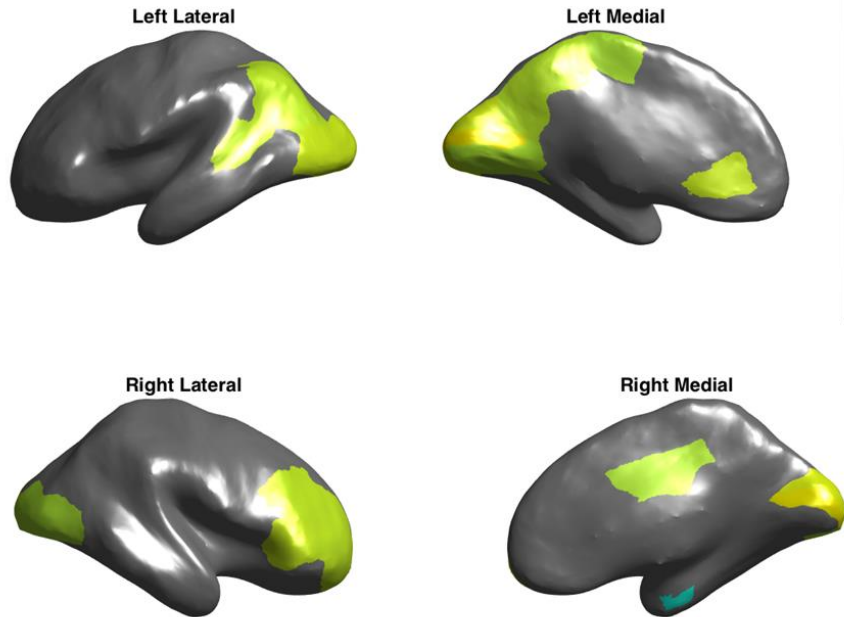
Subcortical Brain Volumes in Bipolar Disorder versus Controls



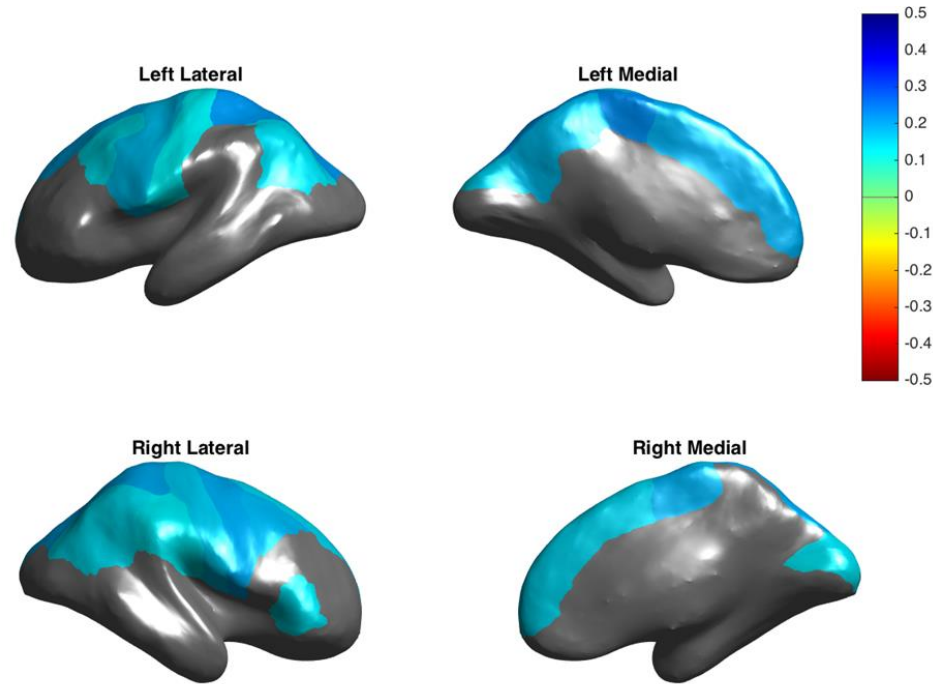
Cortical gray matter was thinner in frontal, inferior temporal and inferior parietal regions of both brain hemispheres; strongest effects on the inferior frontal gyrus (Cohen's  $d = -0.29$ ;  $P = 3.98 \times 10^{-26}$ ), middle frontal cortex ( $d = -0.28$ ;  $P = 1.71 \times 10^{-23}$ ) and left fusiform gyrus ( $d = -0.28$ ;  $P = 2.65 \times 10^{-23}$ ) and insula esp. in younger patients ( $d = -0.18$ ;  $p = 0.0002$ )

# ENIGMA: Bipolar Disorder

## Duration of Illness



## Effect of Lithium Treatment



WHO CAN NOT OR DO NOT WANT TO USE LITHIUM  
MUST NOT TAKE CARE OF BIPOLAR PATIENTS.

*Frederick K.  
Goodwin*

Lavorare **sul tempo**....

**Interventi di  
psicoeducazione**



# ***Criticità nel decorso***

- ✓ **VULNERABILITA' AGLI STRESS**
- ✓ **STILI DI VITA A RISCHIO (instabilità ritmi circadiani, abuso sostanze etc.)**
- ✓ **RECIDIVE**
- ✓ **DURATA DEGLI INTERVALLI LIBERI**
- ✓ **SINTOMI SUB-SINDROMICI INTEREPISODICI**
- ✓ **DETERIORAMENTO DEL FUNZIONAMENTO (cognitivo e psicosociale)**
- ✓ **CICLI RAPIDI**
- ✓ **MORTALITA'**

# **FALLIMENTI TERAPEUTICI**

**-SCARSA ADERENZA**

**- RITMI BIOLOGICI IRREGOLARI**

**- ABUSO DI SOSTANZE**

**- DESIDERABILITÀ IPOMANIA**



**È evidente un notevole divario  
tra l'efficacia dei trattamenti in acuto e  
l'esito terapeutico a lungo termine  
nei pazienti bipolari**

## Un po' di storia....

- ✓ Peet et al. 1991 → programma educativo per pz trattati con Litio.
- ✓ Perry et al. 1999 → primi studi clinici controllati, randomizzati. Dimostrazione efficacia psicoterapia individuale nella riduzione recidive maniacali.
- ✓ van Gent EM et al. 1988 e Clarkin JF 1998 → primi interventi psicoeducativi poco strutturati
- ✓ Bauer MS et al 1996 → interventi focalizzati sulla capacità di gestione della malattia atto a diminuire numero ricoveri
- ✓ Colom et al 2003 → Primo studio clinico randomizzato condotto in cieco per dimo:

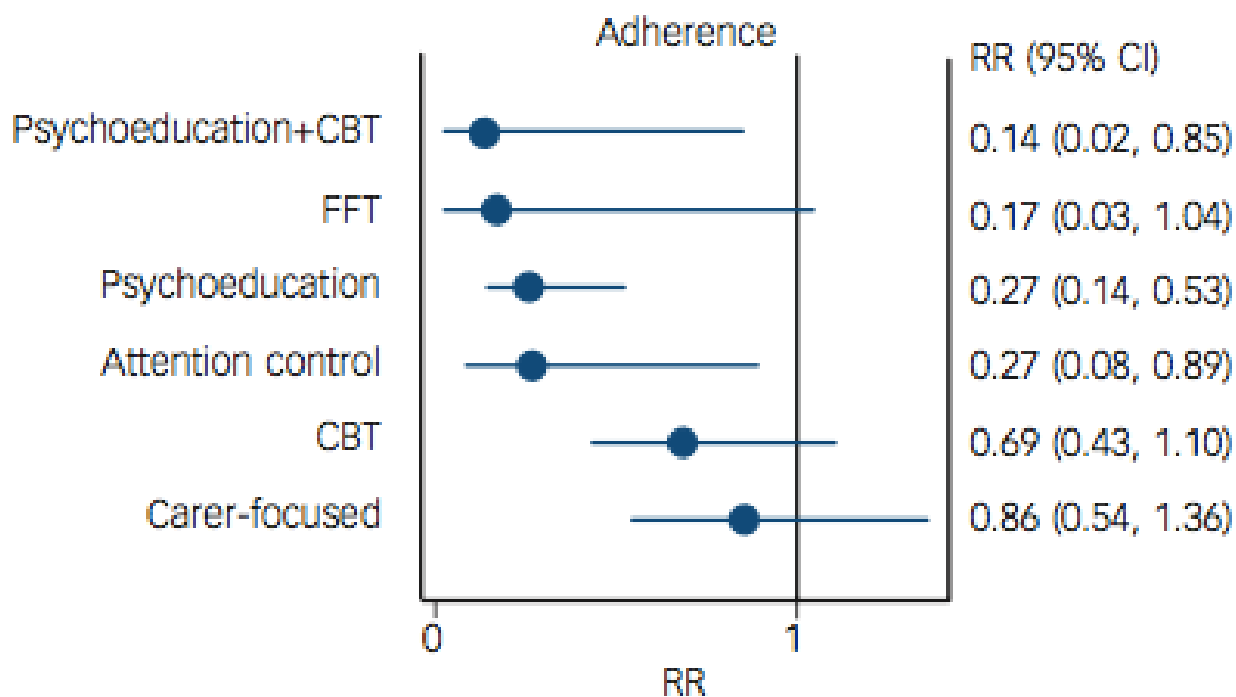
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

trattamer  
BPII

### A Randomized Trial on the Efficacy of Group Psychoeducation in the Prophylaxis of Recurrences in Bipolar Patients Whose Disease Is in Remission

*Francesco Colom, PhD; Eduard Vieta, MD, PhD; Anabel Martínez-Arán, PhD; María Reinares; José Manuel Goikolea; Antonio Benabarre, MD; Carla Torrent; Mercè Comes; Barbara Corbella; Gemma Parramon; Josep Corominas, MD, PhD*

# Le evidenze oggi



The most recent meta-analysis on the topic showed that Psychoeducation alone and in combination with cognitive-behavioural therapy (CBT) significantly reduced medication non-adherence.

Chatterton et al, 2017 The British journal of psychiatry

I will, eventually, be myself again.

“Which of my feelings are real? Which of the me's is me? The wild, impulsive, chaotic, energetic, and crazy one? Or the shy, withdrawn, desperate, suicidal, doomed, and tired one? Probably a bit of both, hopefully much that is neither.”



Time will pass; these mood will pass; and I will, eventually, be myself again.

Kay Redfield Jamison (2014). “An Unquiet Mind: A memoir of moods and madness”,