

Friendships of Adolescents and Young Adults in Early Psychosis

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Why focus on friends?

What do we know about friendships in early psychosis?

How can we support our young people in living well socially?

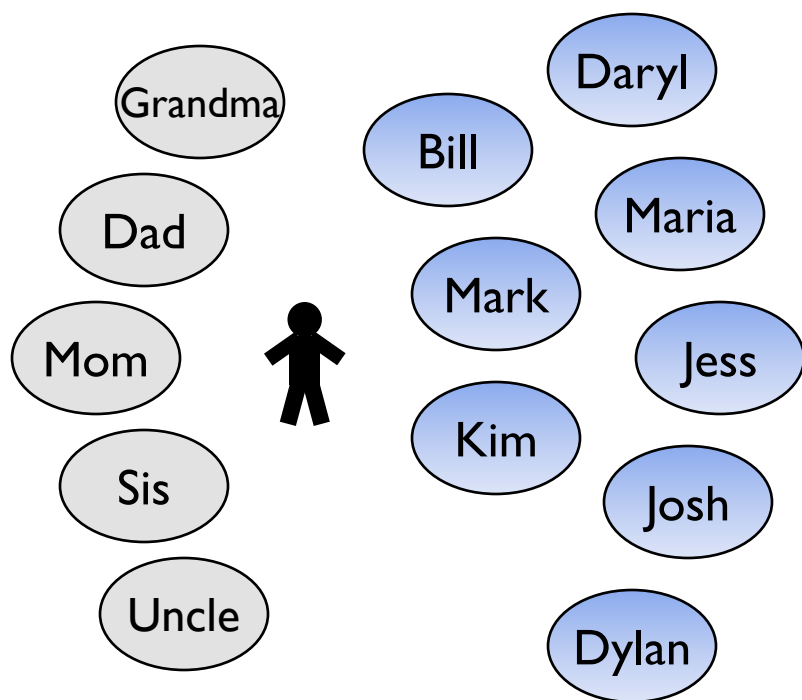
Why focus on friends?



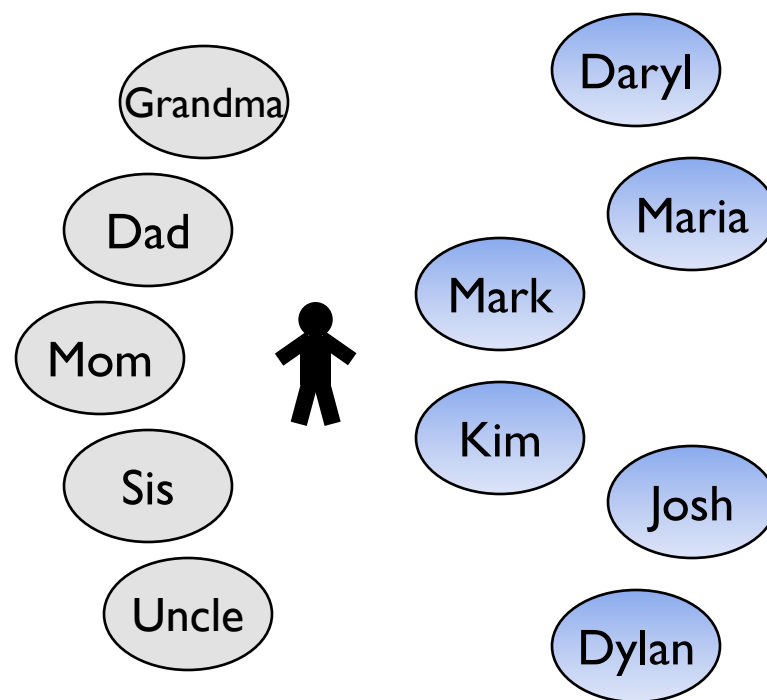
Highest risk period
for onset of psychosis

Social networks over time: Before the illness

No Psychosis



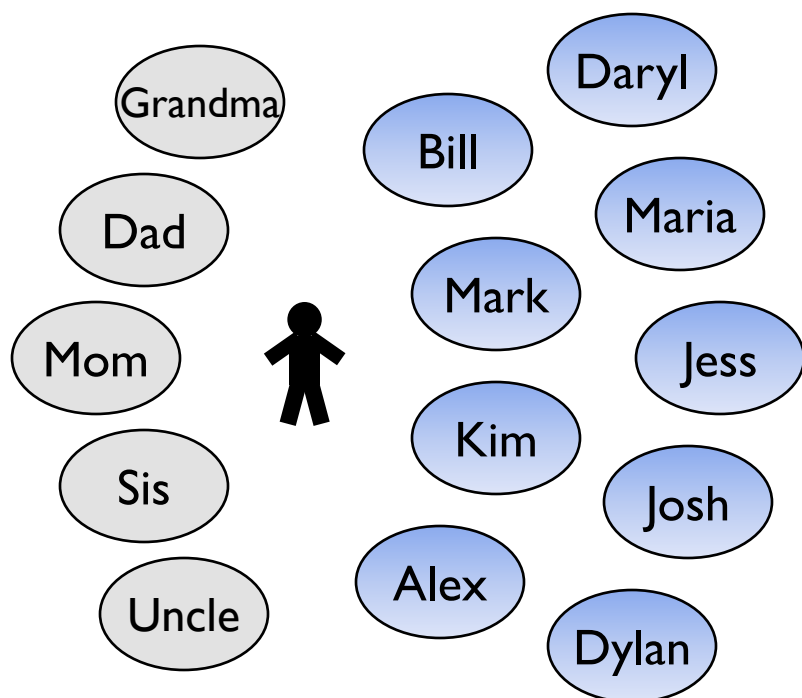
Psychosis



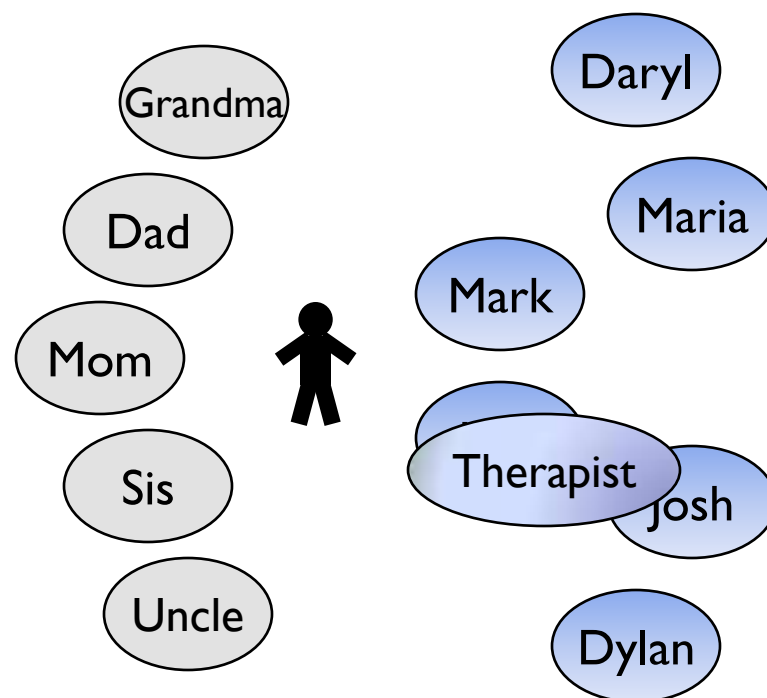
References: Ballon, Kaur, Marks, & Cadenhead, 2007; Dworkin, Lewis, Cornblatt, & Erlenmeyer-Kimling, 1994; Isele, Merz, Malzacher, & Angst, 1985; Roff & Fultz, 2003

Social networks over time: First episode

No Psychosis



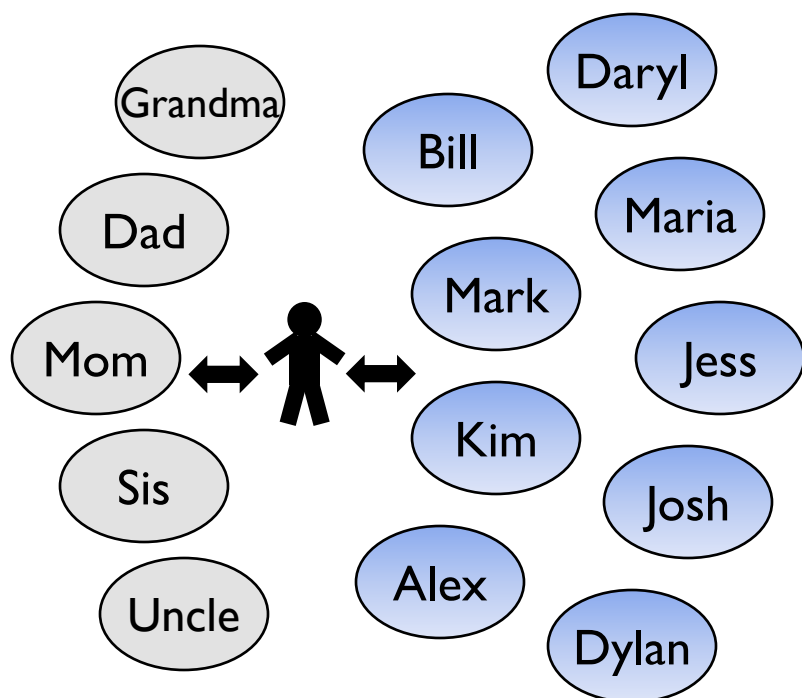
Psychosis



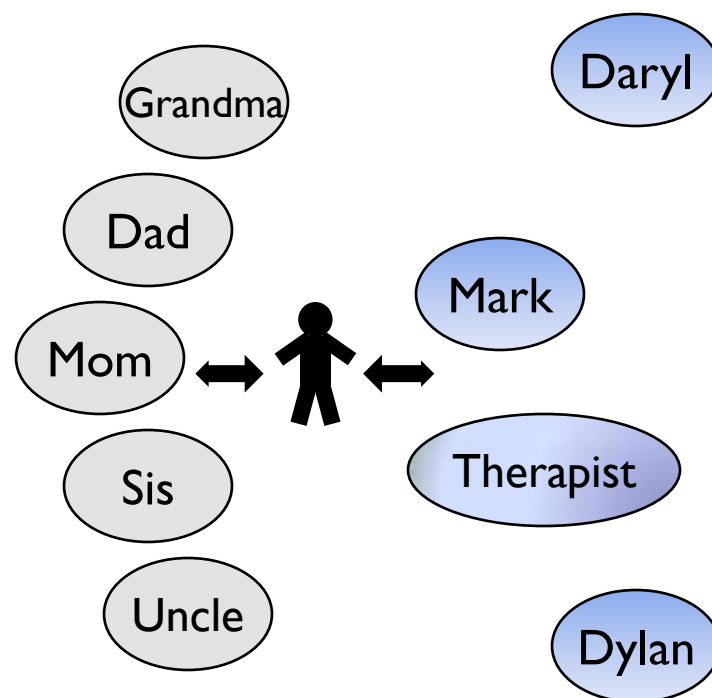
References: Addington & Addington, 2005; Addington, Young & Addington, 2003; Macdonald, Hayes, & Baglioni, 2000

Social networks over time: First episode

No Psychosis



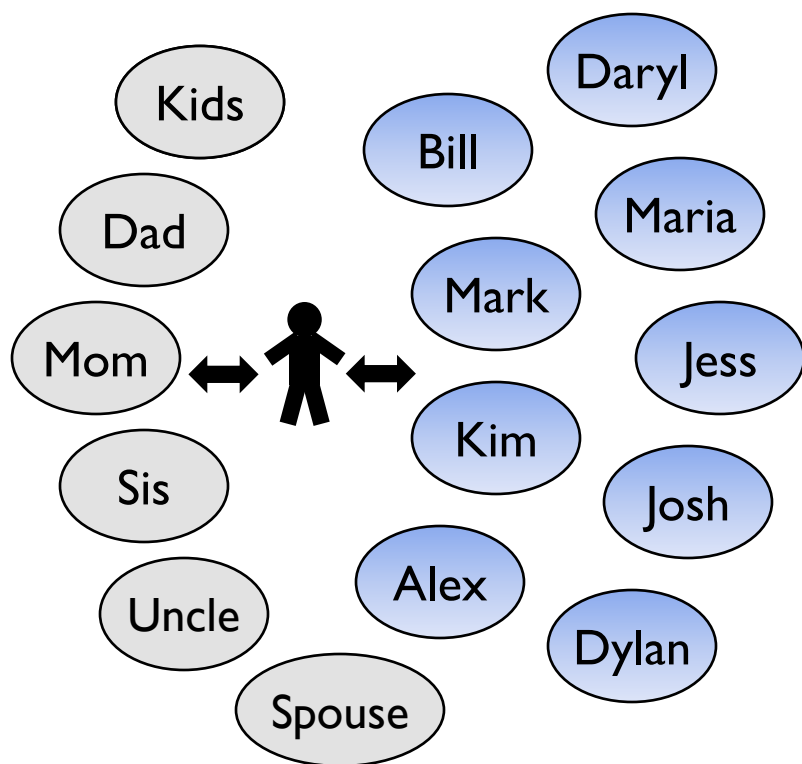
Psychosis



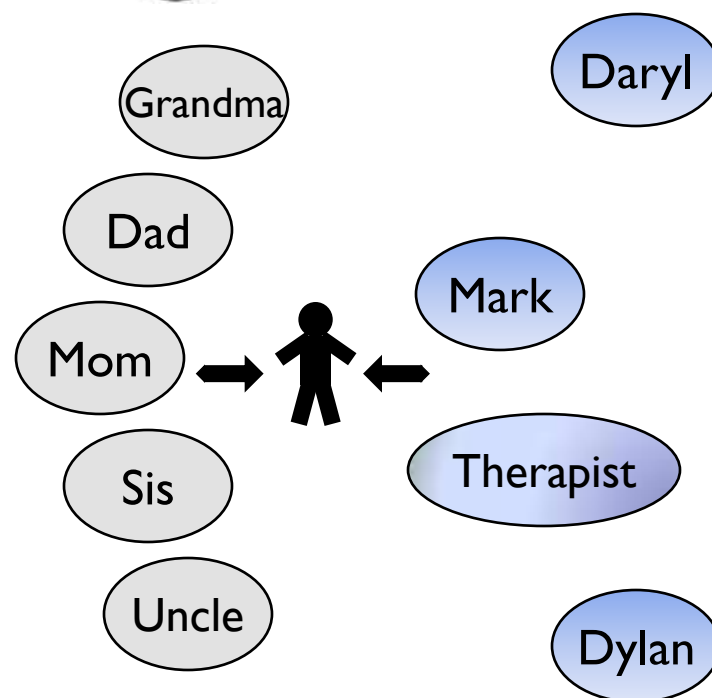
References: Macdonald, Hayes, & Baglioni, 2000; Tolsdorf, 1976

Social networks over time: Multiple episodes

No Psychosis

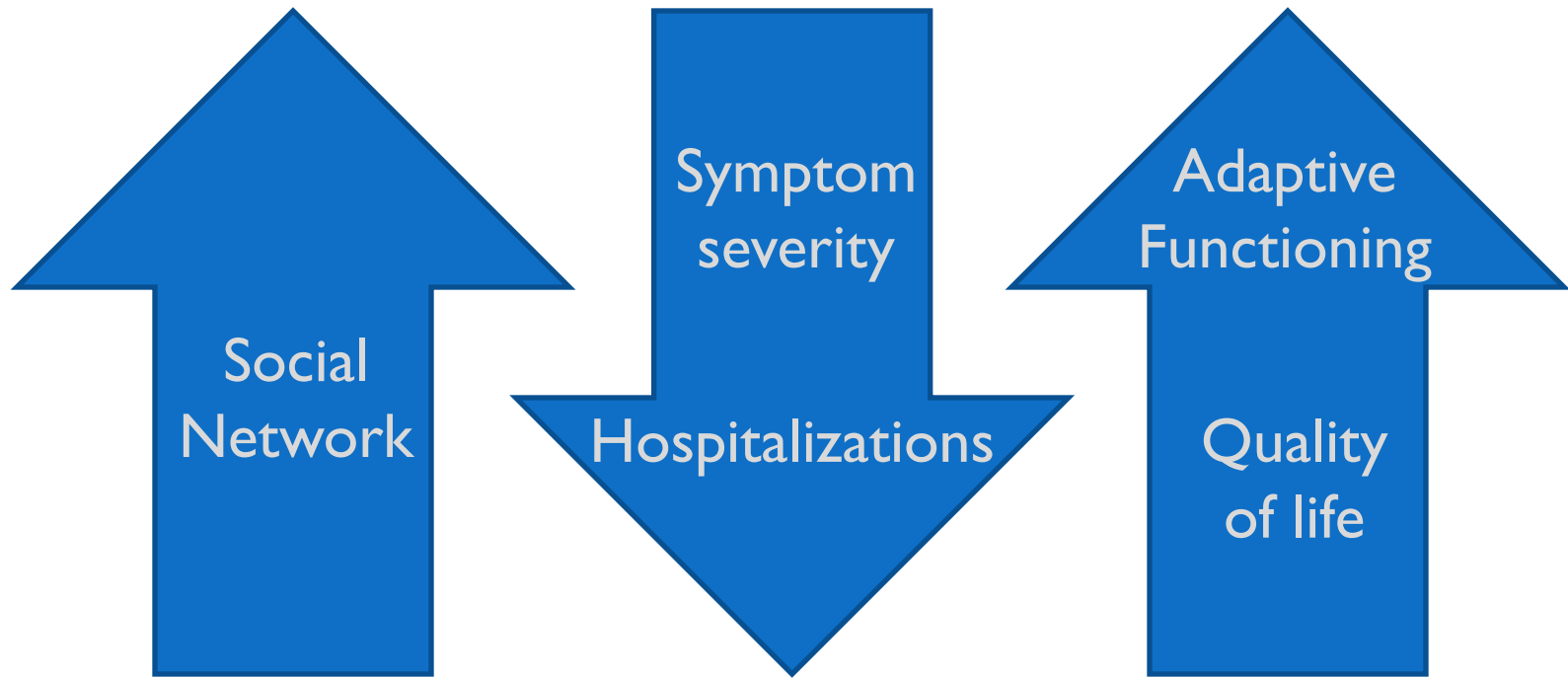


☹️ Psychosis



References: Semple, Cohen, Fischer, & Katz, 1981; Pattison, Llamas, & Hurd; 1979; Semple et al., 1997

Relation of social networks with mental health



References: Becker et al., 1997; Bengtsson-Tops & Hansson, 2001; Clinton et al., 1998; Cohen & Sokolovsky, 1978; Dozier et al., 1987; Erickson et al., 1998; Erickson et al., 1989; Evert et al., 2002; Gaitte et al., 2002; Hamilton et al., 1989; Hansson et al., 1999; Howard et al., 2000; Mattsson et al., 2007; Mattsson et al., 2008; Randolph & Escobar, 1985; Salkongas, 1997; Sorgaard et al., 2001; Thorup et al., 2006

Peer networks in first-episode psychosis

Mackrell and Lavender (2004)

↑ isolation

- relationships

“Since I went to hospital and got help they always said, like, if I walk inside a pub and they just say ‘oh madman’ so I don’t keep them as my friends”

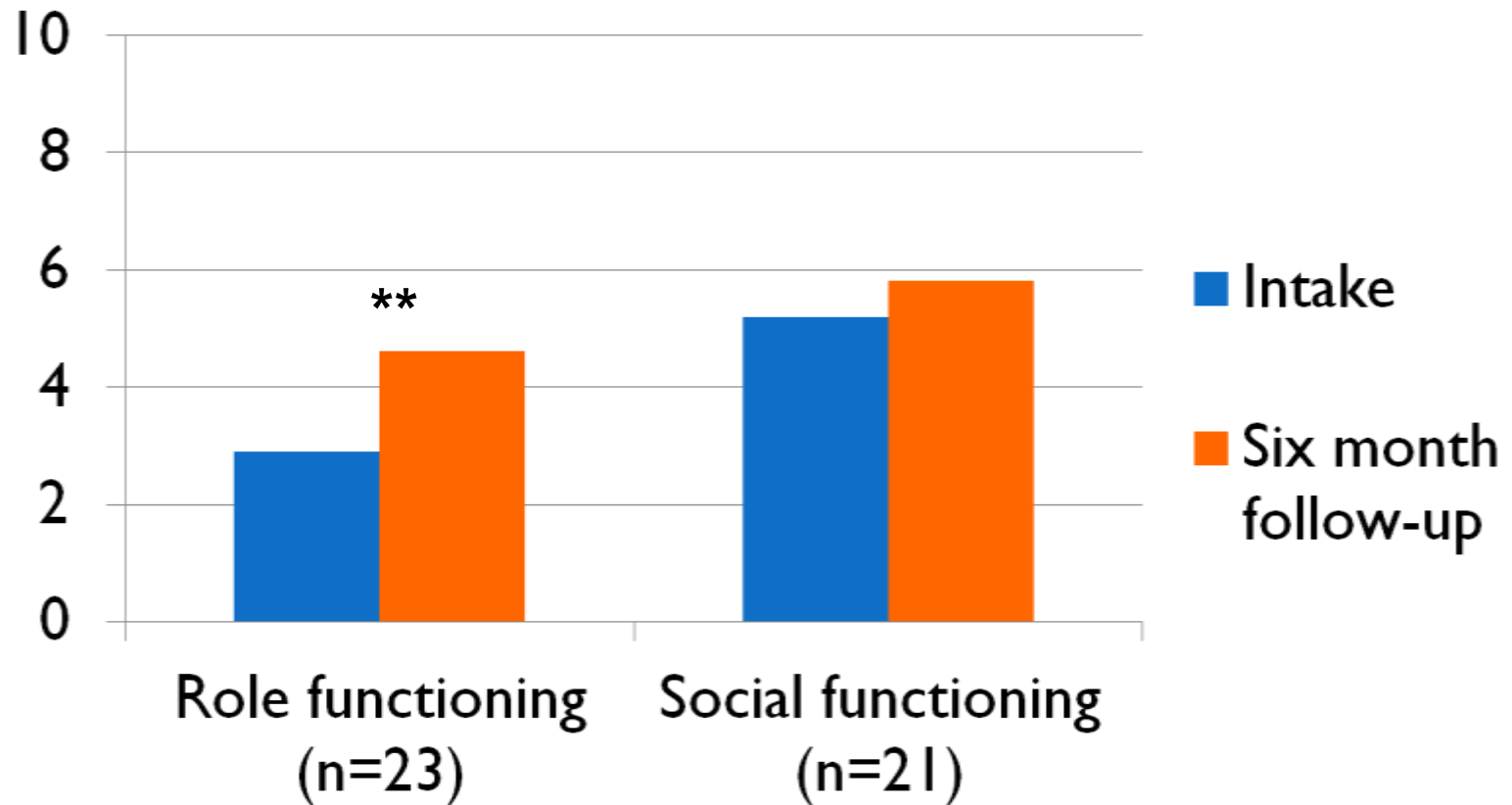
Peer networks in first-episode psychosis

Macdonald, Sauer, Howie, & Albiston (2005)

- valuing social activities
- being perceived as different
- losing contact with old friends
- desiring new relationships
- valuing family and service providers

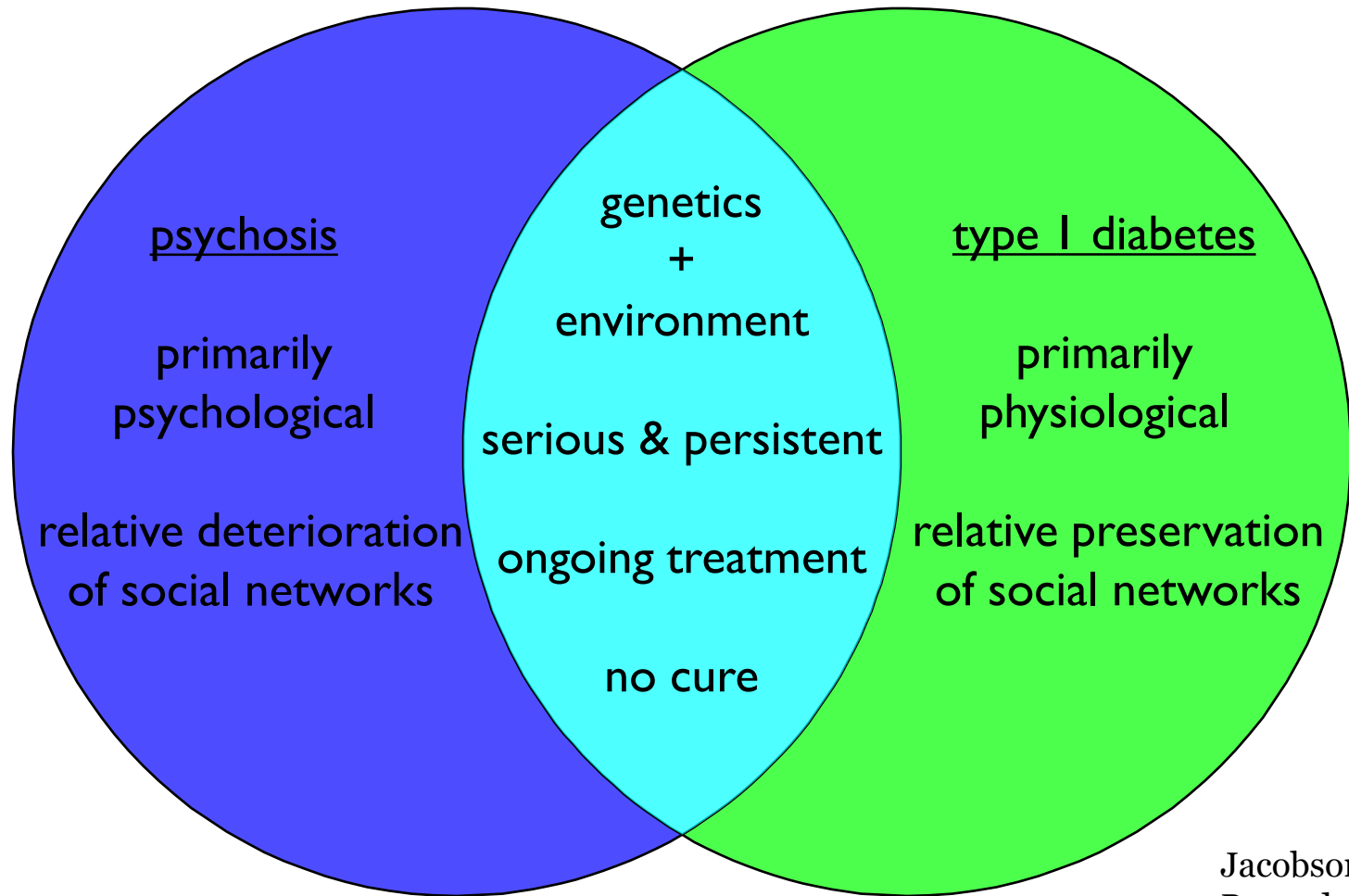
“Like with a lot of my friends that I used to hang around with, half of them they don’t know what happened. I think a few know, I don’t like to go and see them no more... I feel lost a bit... Maybe later on when I get my confidence back maybe I will approach them. But you know at this time I don’t think I feel the need to.

Role and Social Functioning Over Time



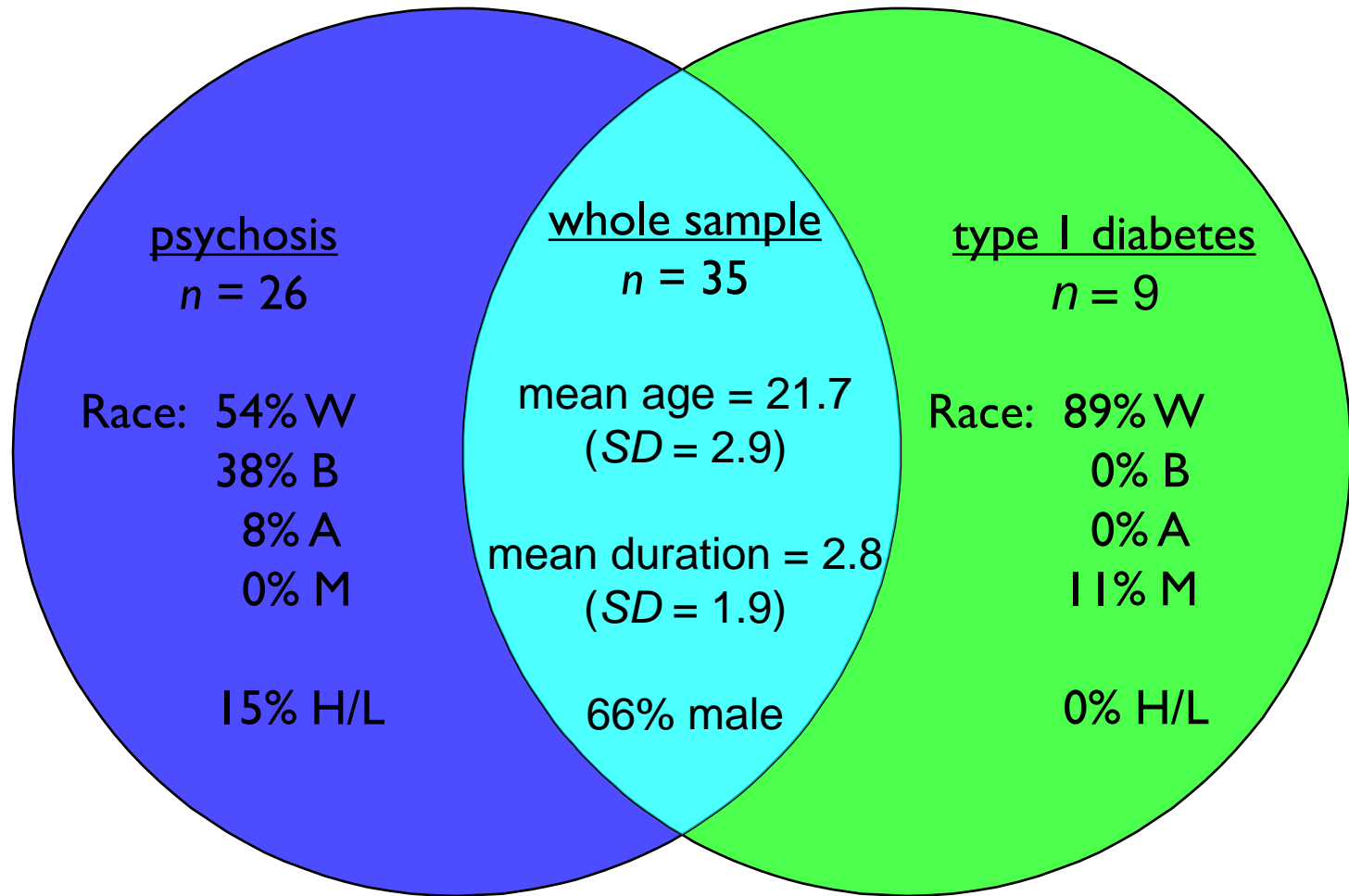
** $p \leq .01$

Why type 1 diabetes as a comparison group?



Jacobson et al., 1996;
Pacaud et al., 2007

Study sample



Interview Schedule for Social Interaction (ISSI)

3. On most days, how many people do you see whom you know just a little, to smile or wave to, or to say good morning to? People you do not know well—you may not know their names—but you greet each other when you pass by.

None	1
1-2	2
3-5	3
6-10	4
11-15	5
More than 15	6

4. Is this about right for you, or do you wish you saw more or fewer such people?

Less	1
About right	2
More	3

Interview Schedule for Social Interaction (ISSI)

21. Among your family and friends, how many people are there who are immediately available to you whom you can talk with frankly, without having to watch what you say?

None (<i>Go to Q.21D</i>)	1
1-2	2
3-5	3
6-10	4
11-15	5
More than 15	6

A. Would you like to have more or less people like this or is it about right for you?

Less	1
About right	2
Depends on the situation	3
More	4
Not applicable	9

B. With the one (those) you have, would you like to feel more free to be frank or is it about right?

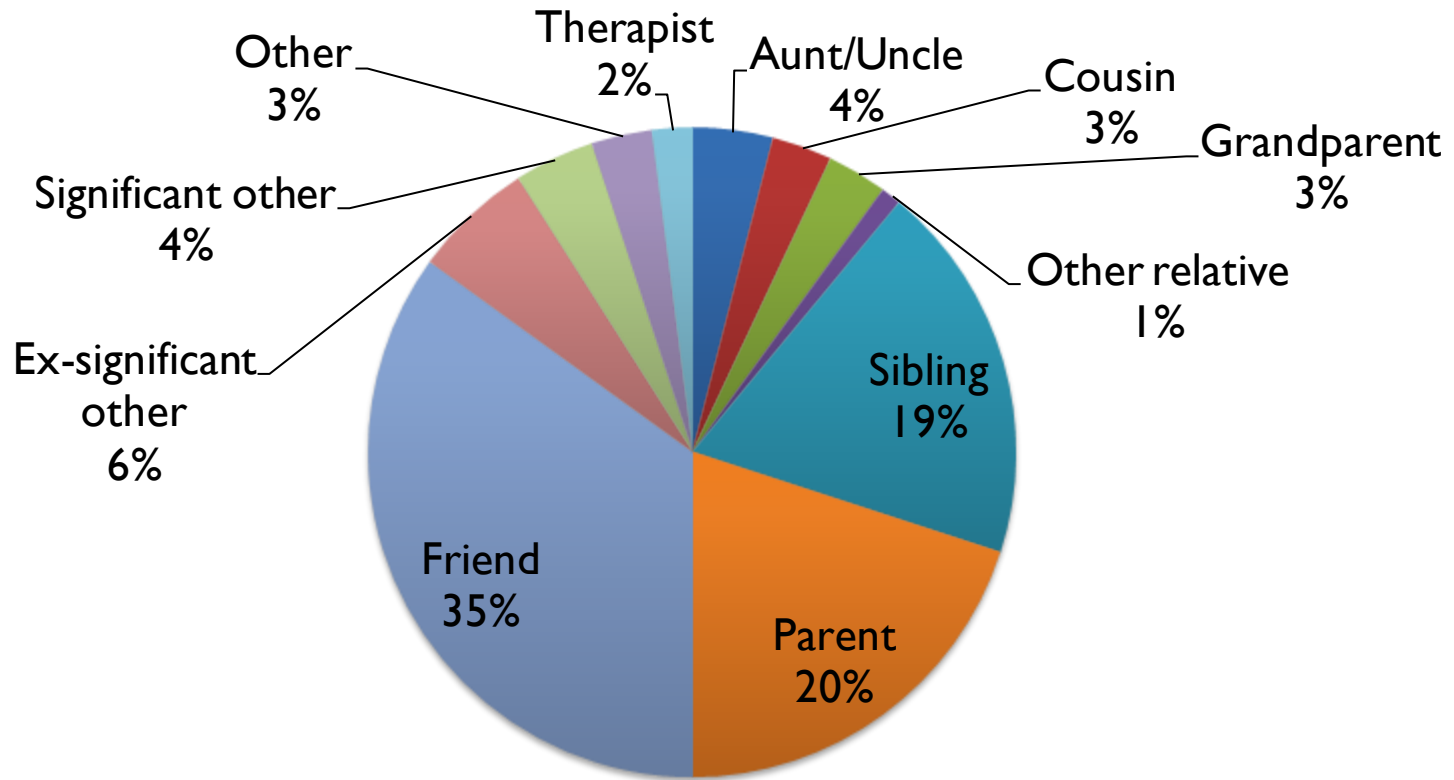
About right	1
Depends on the situation	2
More free	3
Not applicable	9

Network Orientation Scale (NOS)

- ▶ **Items indicating a negative network orientation**
 - **Even if I need something, I would hesitate to borrow it from someone.**
 - **I can never trust people to keep a secret.**
- ▶ **Items indicating a positive network orientation**
 - **Friends often have good advice to give.**
 - **It's okay to ask favors of people.**

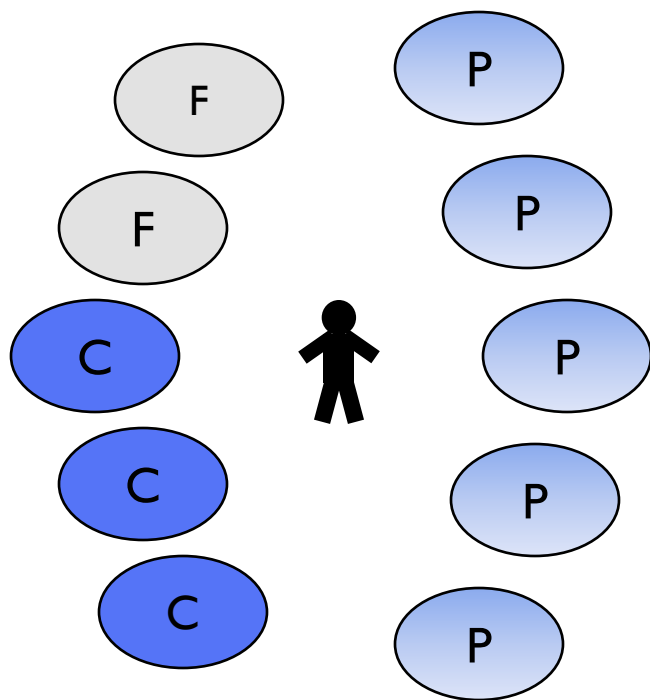
Results

With whom do adolescents and young adults experiencing first-episode psychosis form the closest bonds?

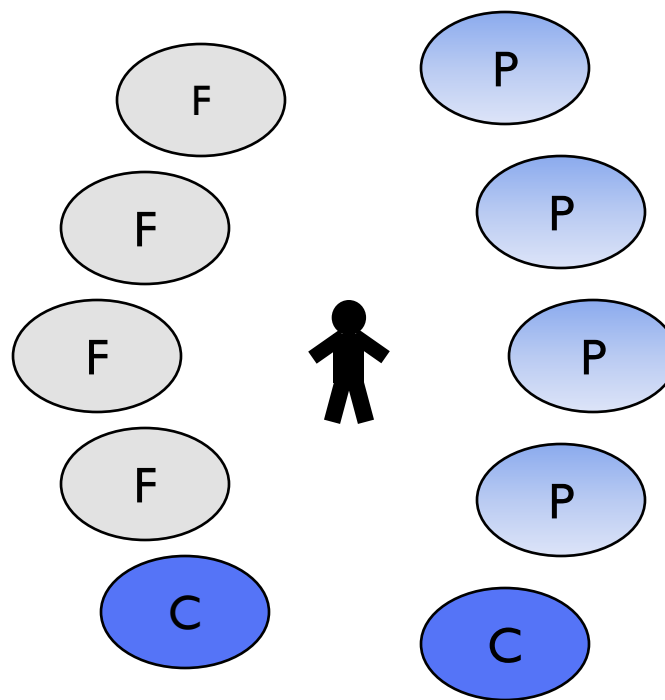


Social networks in diabetes versus psychosis

Diabetes



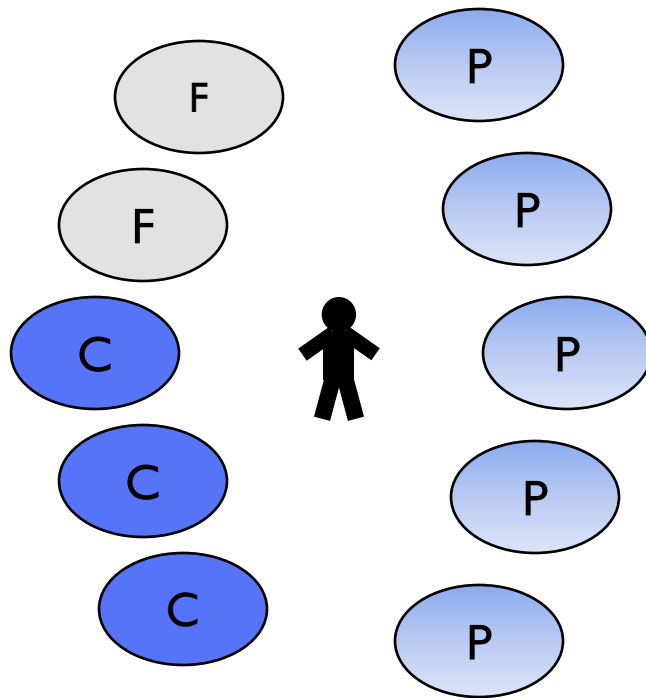
Psychosis



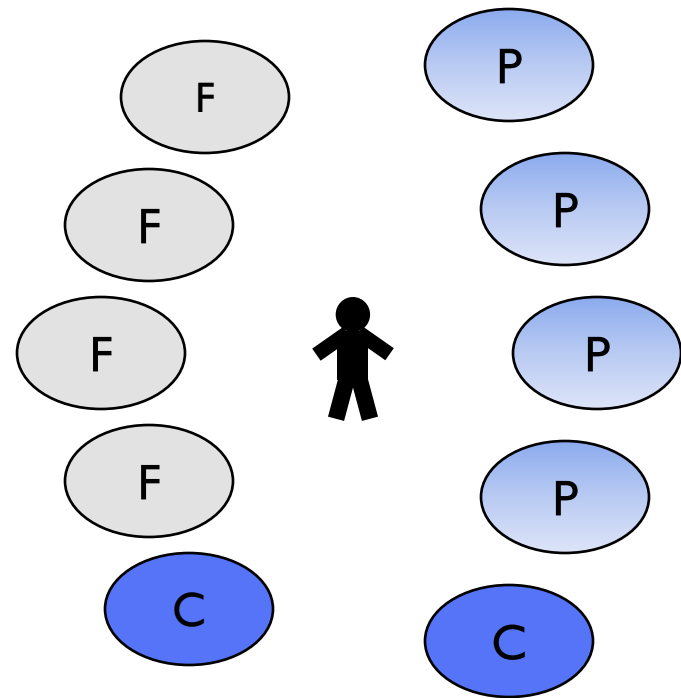
Similar overall network size

Social networks in diabetes versus psychosis

Diabetes



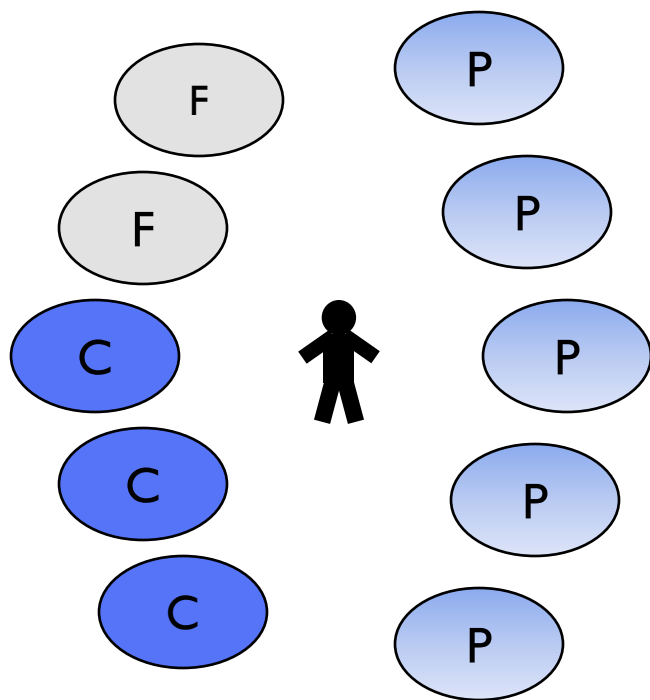
Psychosis



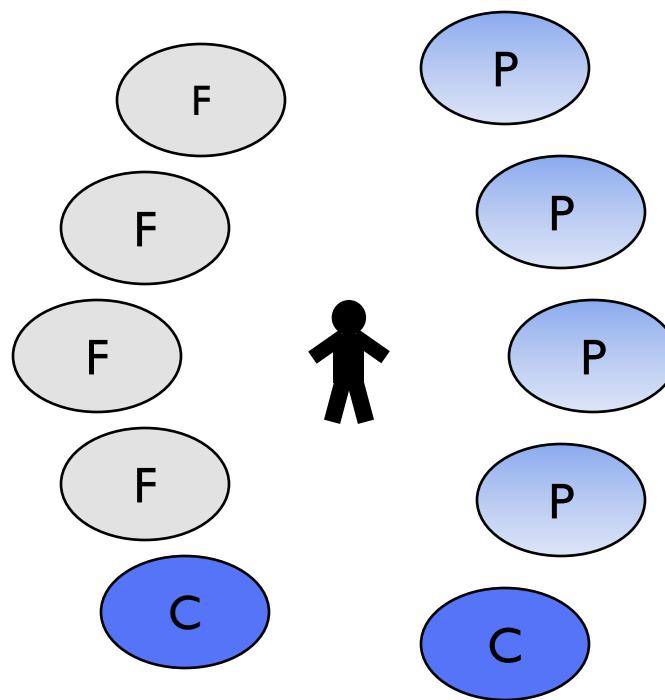
Fewer close friends: $t(32) = -3.16, p = .003$

Social networks in diabetes versus psychosis

Diabetes



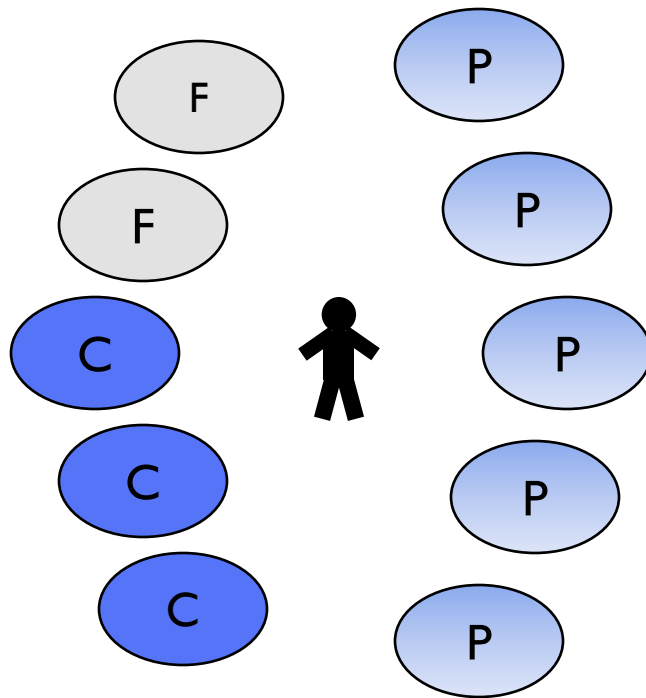
Psychosis



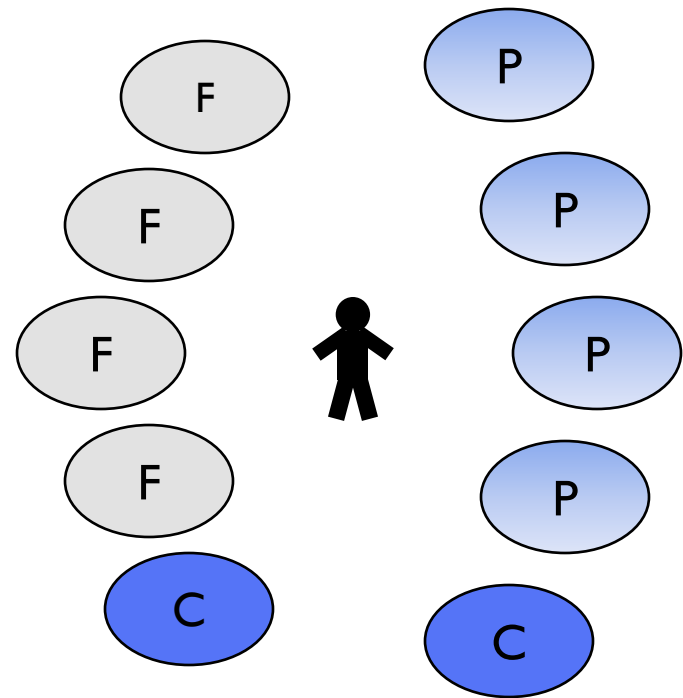
Fewer community ties: $t(32) = -3.02, p = .005$

Social networks in diabetes versus psychosis

Diabetes



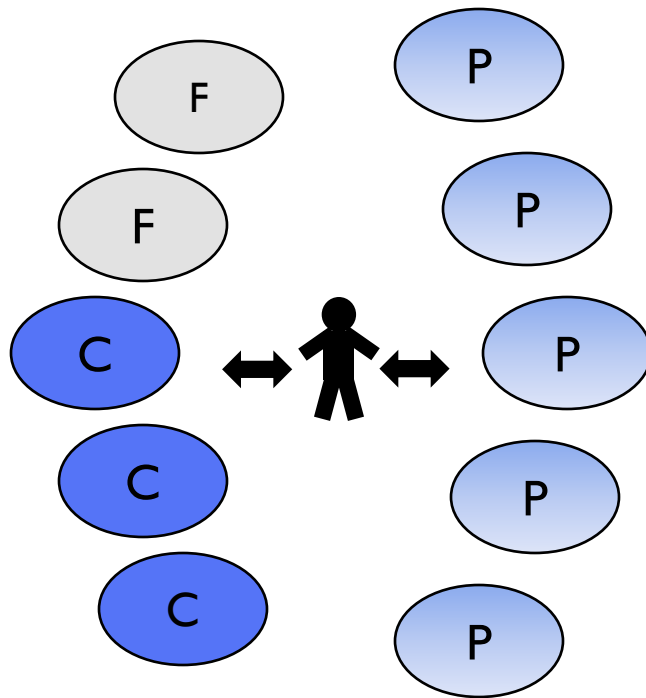
Psychosis



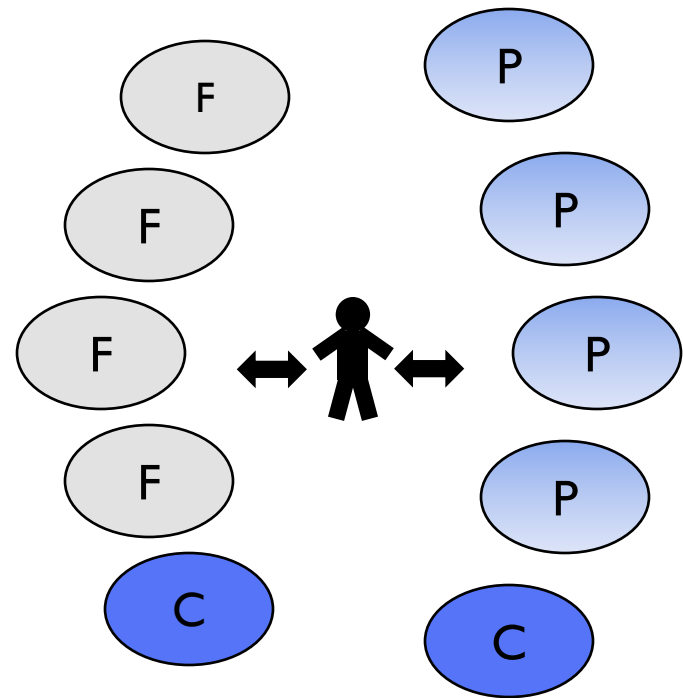
More family bonds: $t(26) = 3.15, p = .004$

Social networks in diabetes versus psychosis

Diabetes



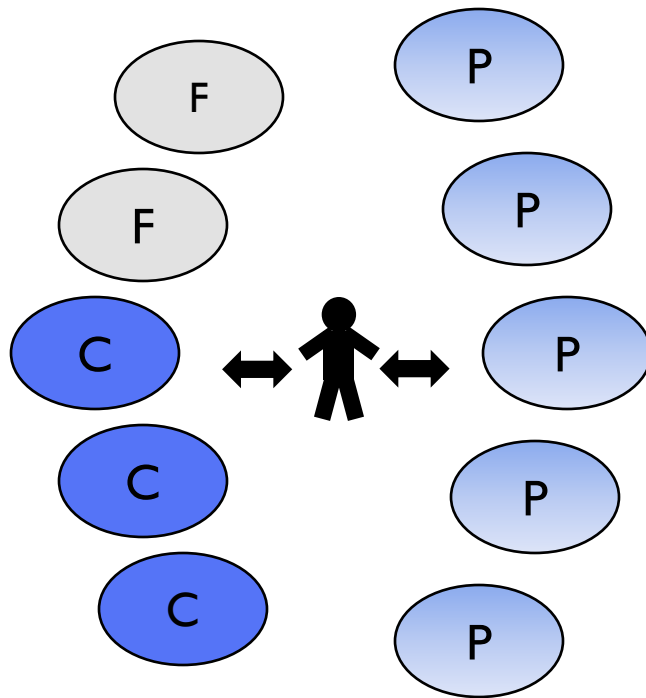
Psychosis



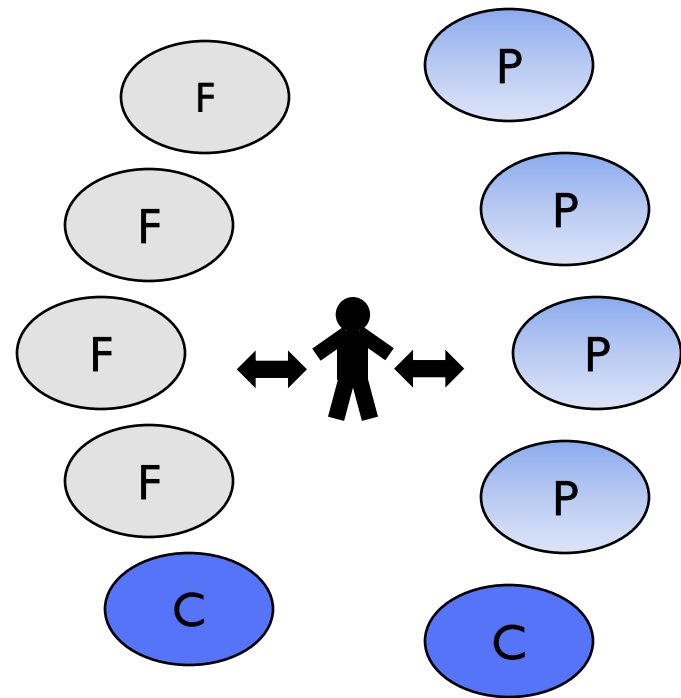
Similar frequency of contact

Social networks in diabetes versus psychosis

Diabetes



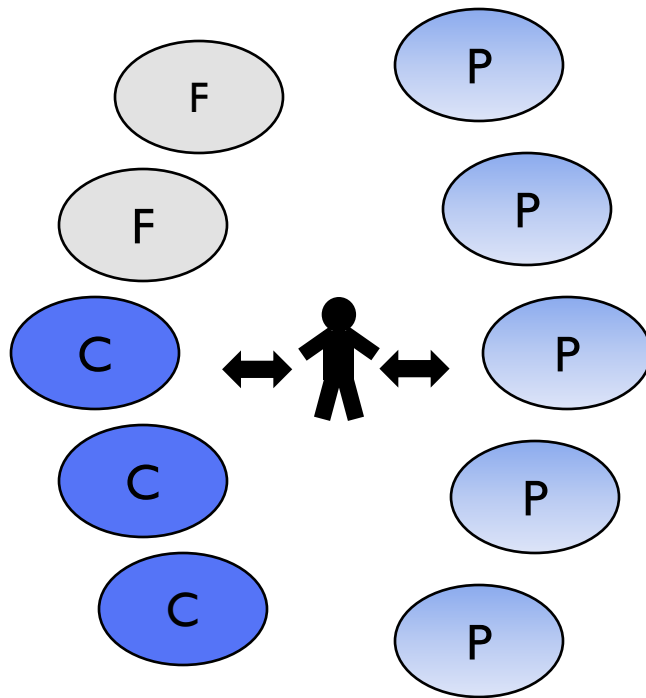
Psychosis



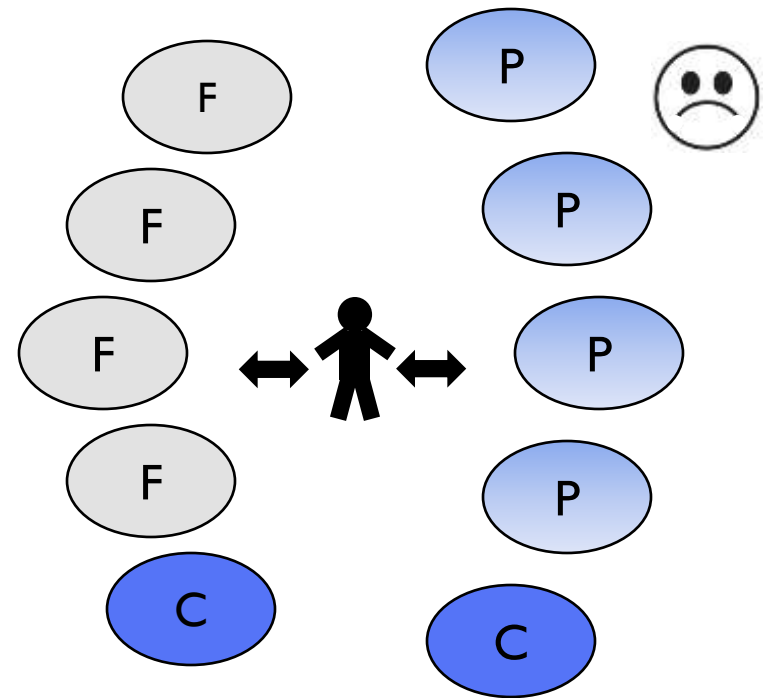
Similar network orientation

Social networks in diabetes versus psychosis

Diabetes

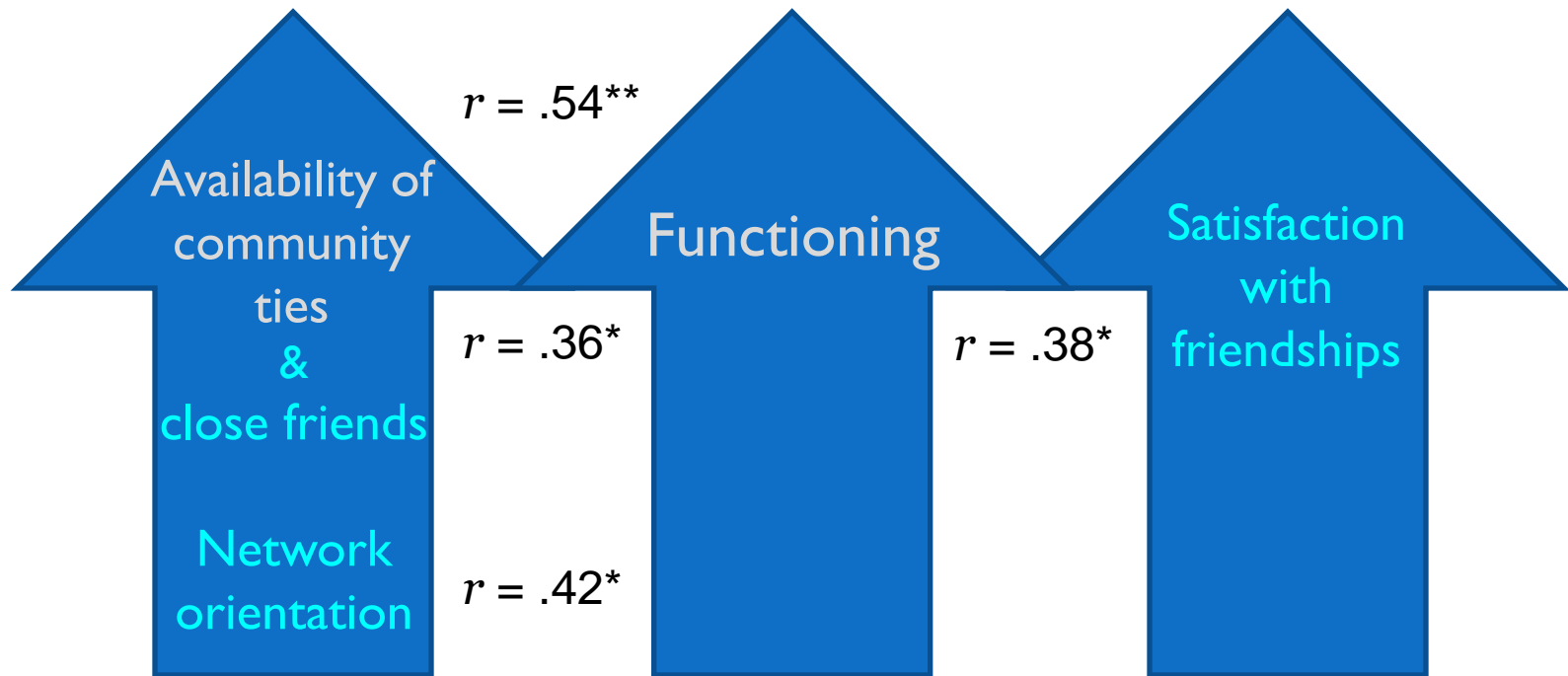


Psychosis



Less satisfied with friendships: $t(26) = -3.10, p = .005$

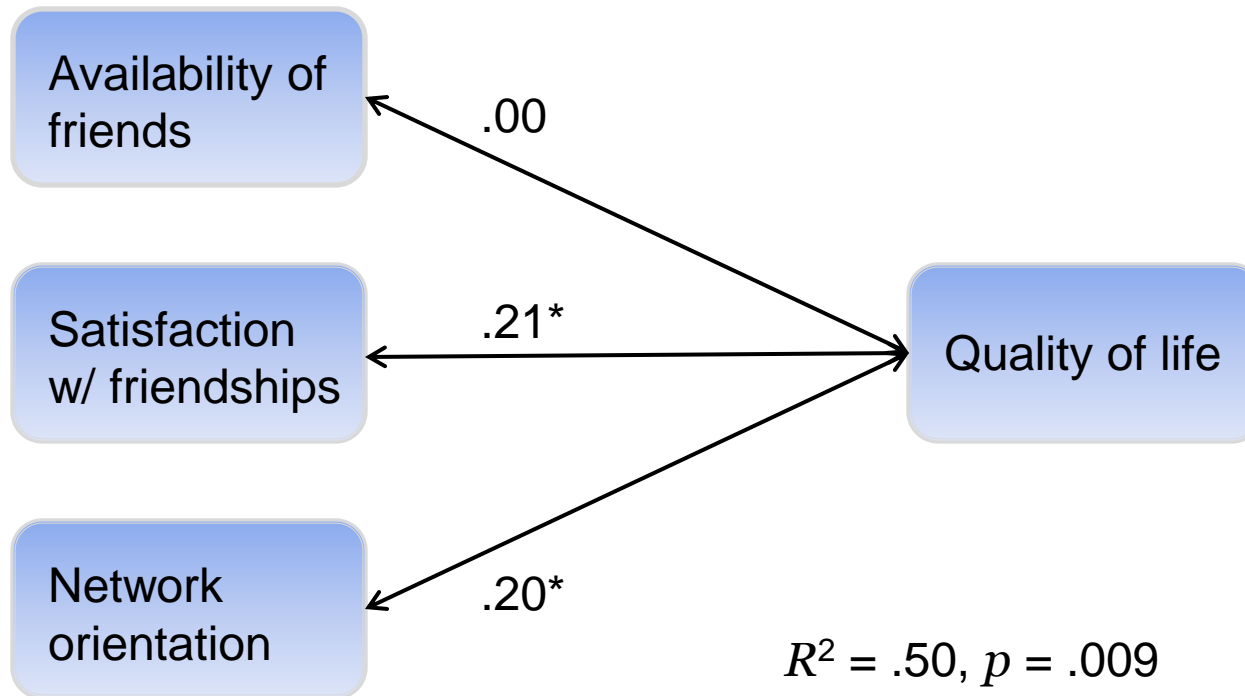
Relation of social networks with functioning



* $p \leq .05$; ** $p \leq .01$

Relation of peer networks with quality of life

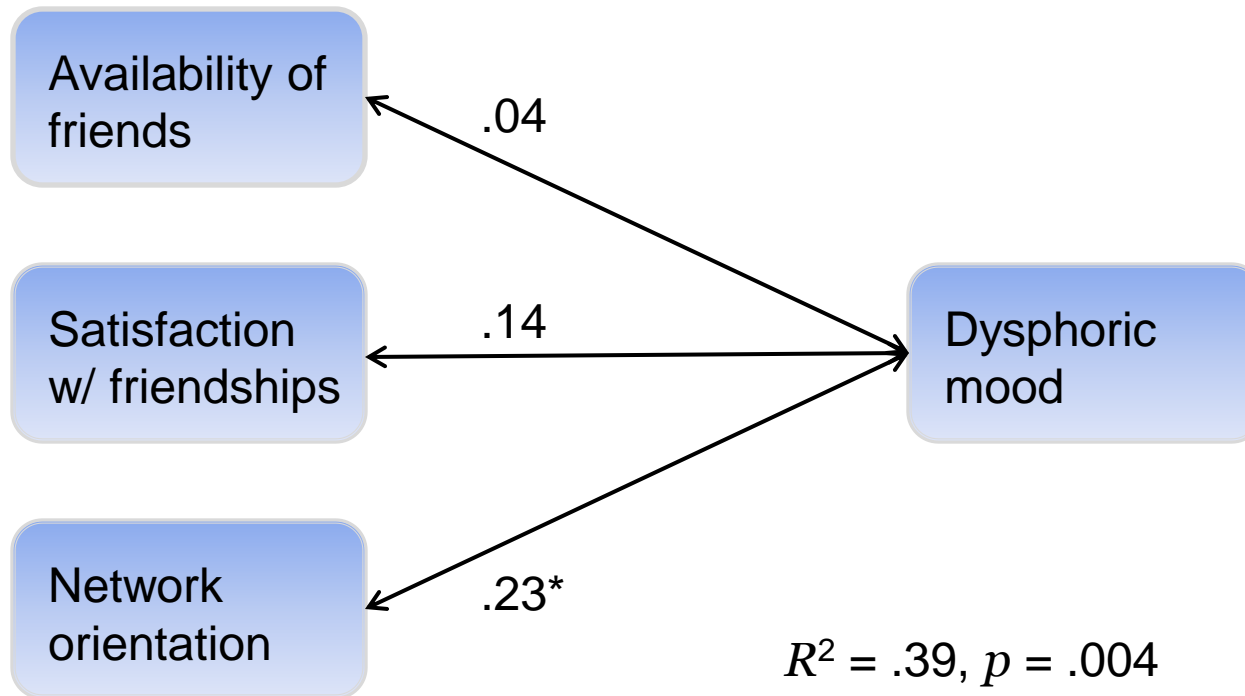
Psychosis participants only



* $p \leq .05$

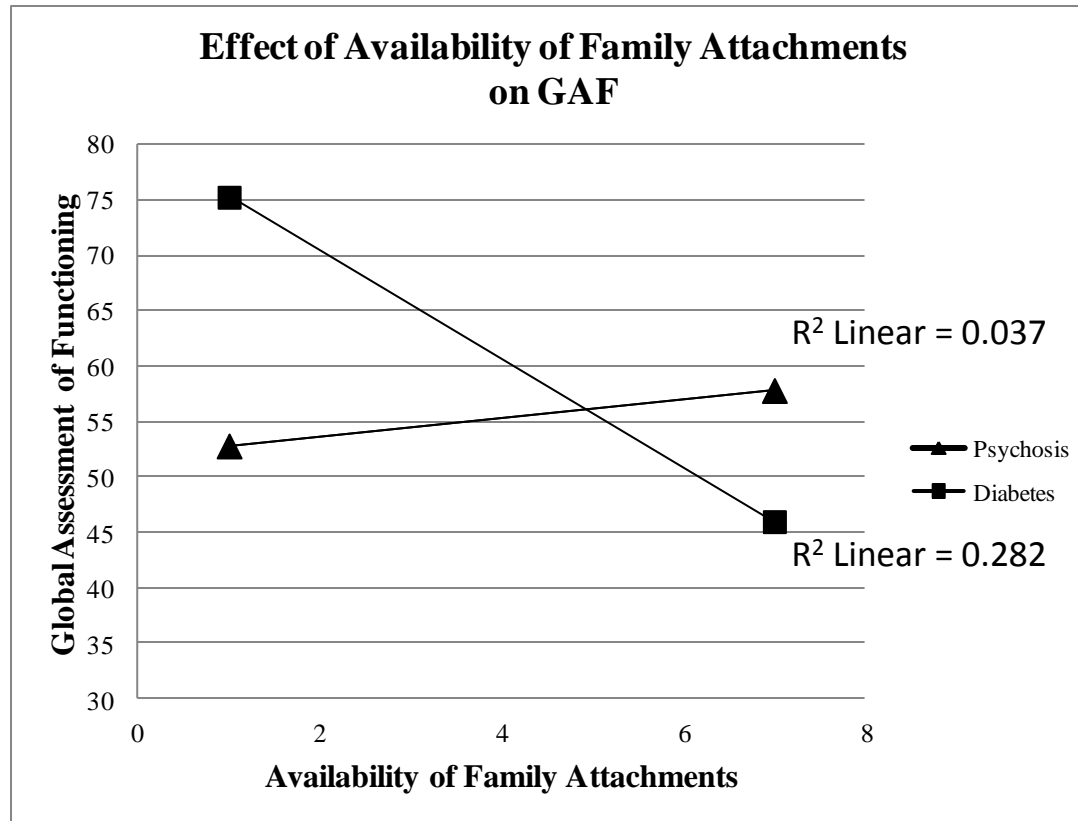
Relation of peer networks with dysphoric mood

Psychosis participants only



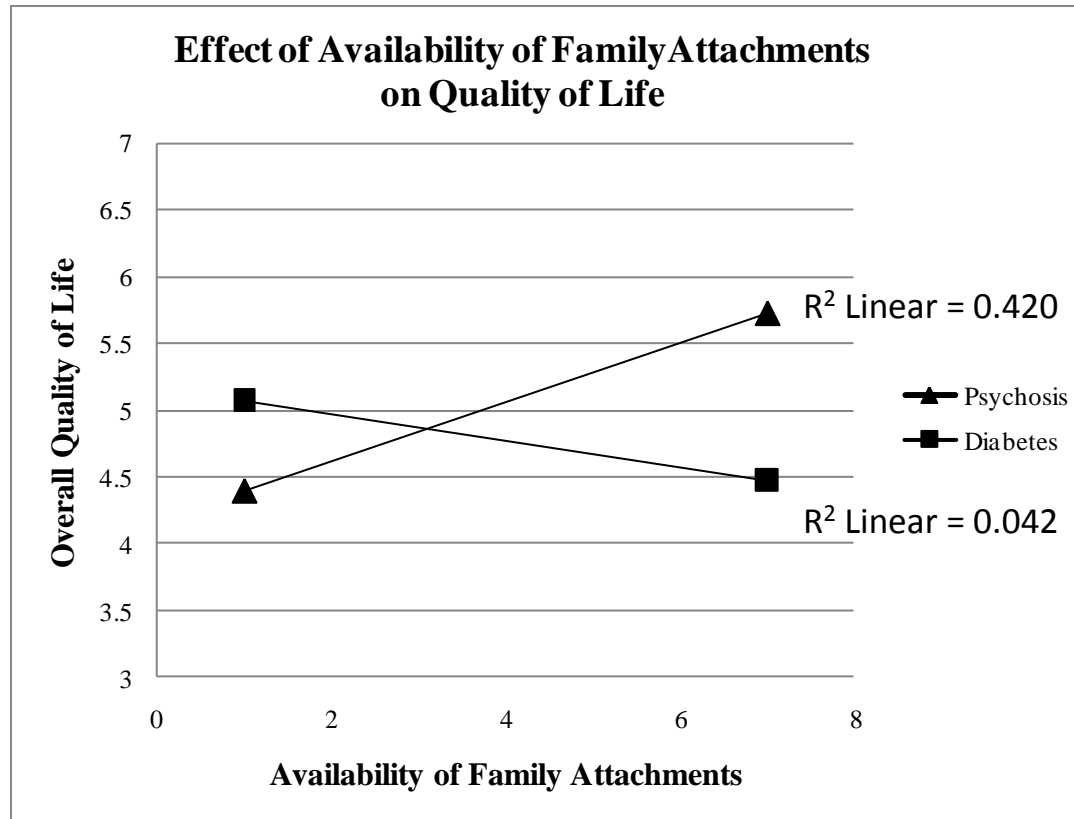
* $p \leq .05$

Differential impact in diabetes versus psychosis



Moderating effect of diagnosis on the association between availability of family attachments and global assessment of functioning, $F(1,30) = 3.73, p = .06$

Differential impact in diabetes versus psychosis



Moderating effect of diagnosis on the association between availability of family attachments and quality of life, $F(1,30) = 3.18, p = .08$

To living well socially



New peer-based treatments

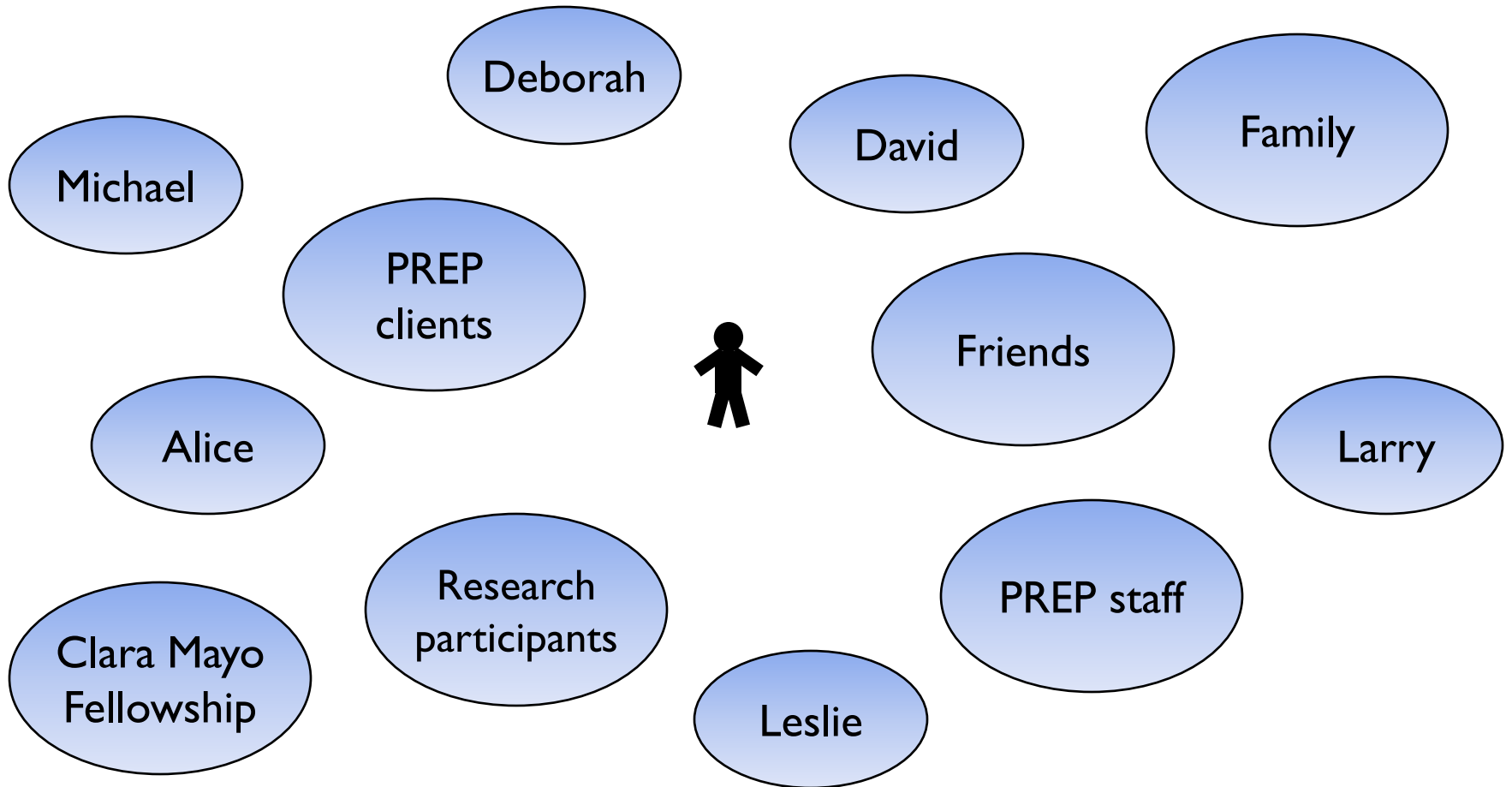
Improved family-based treatments



Making friends. Changing lives.



A big thank you to...



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