

# Juvenile Mania: Diagnosis and Treatment

## 2 parts

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## Disclosure and potential conflicts

My spouse and I have the following financial relationship with a commercial interest to disclose:

*Research support:* PCORI

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# Juvenile Mania: Diagnosis part 1

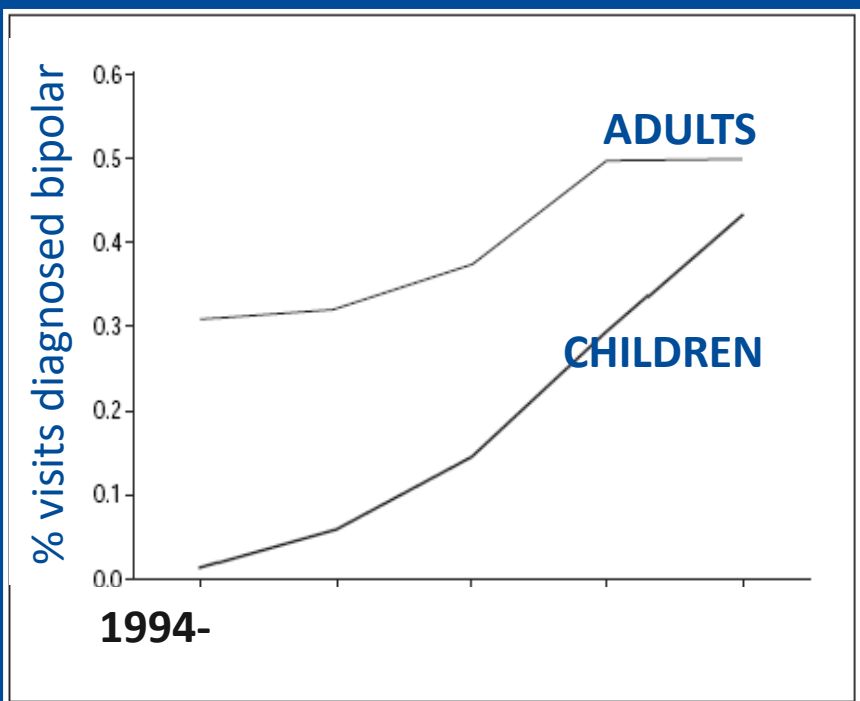
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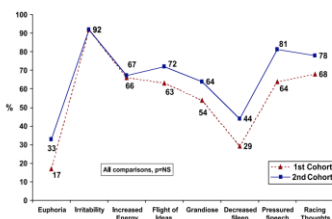
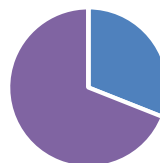
Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital



**Overview: Switch from pediatric depression to bipolar disorder is common. Pediatric-onset bipolar disorder is a severely impairing disorder which persists into late adolescence.**

Antipsychotic medications are most effective for pediatric mania, and comorbid conditions must be addressed. Natural treatments hold promise

**Children with MDD often switch:** Early depression is a predictor of bipolar disorder



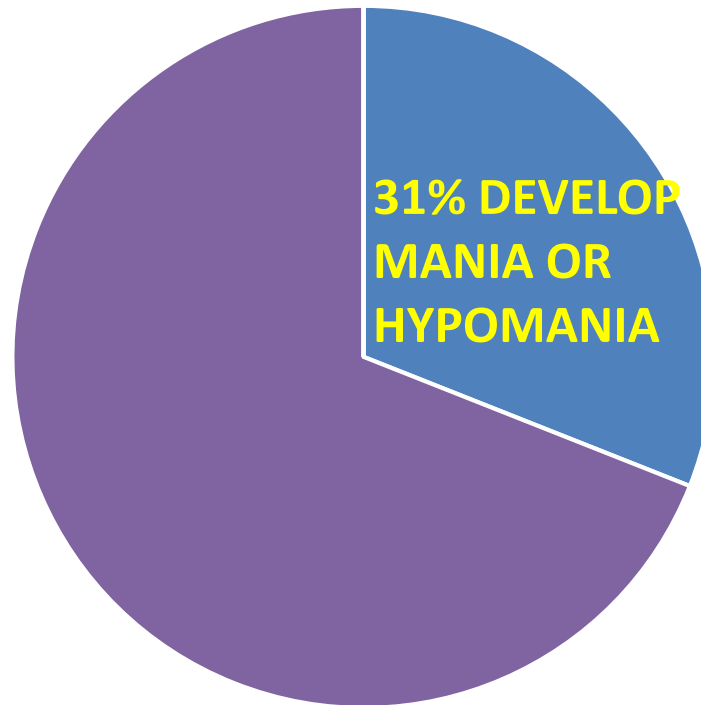
**Pediatric Bipolar disorder** is a highly morbid condition that affects a significant minority of young children, is familial and persists over time

**Treatment:** Pharmacologic treatment with SGAs is generally required for pediatric bipolar disorder and comorbidities need separate treatment: use antidepressants with caution

**Natural Treatments** hold promise in the treatment of pediatric bipolar disorder

# Children with MDD often switch

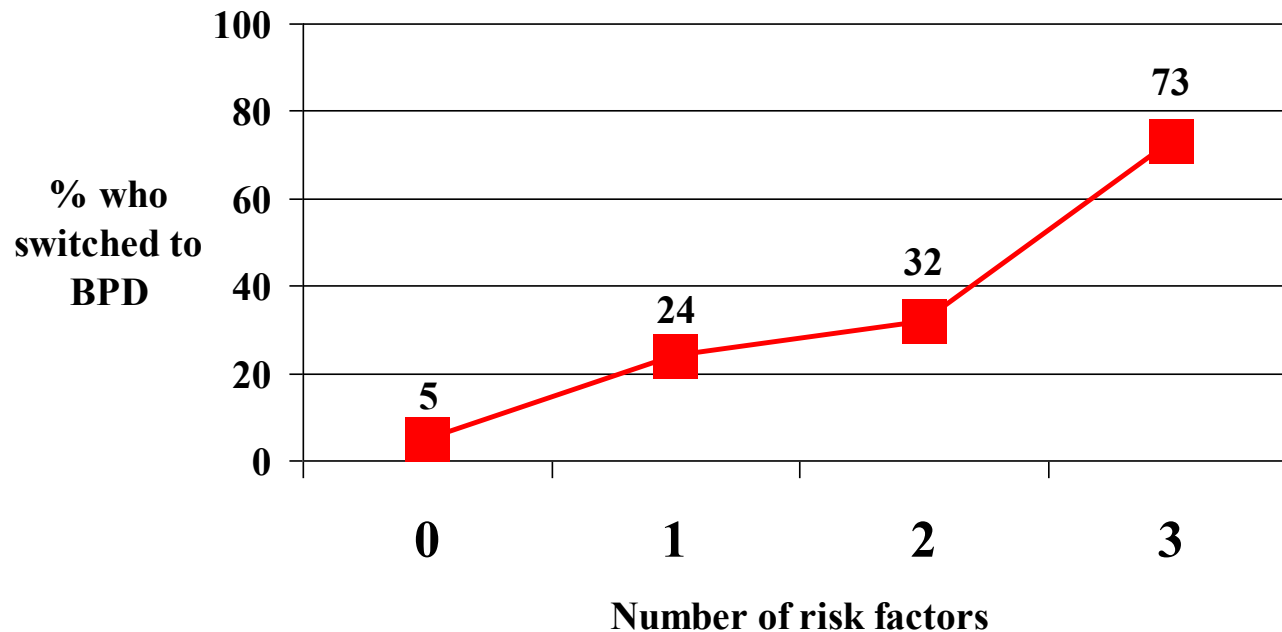
## CHILDREN WITH MDD

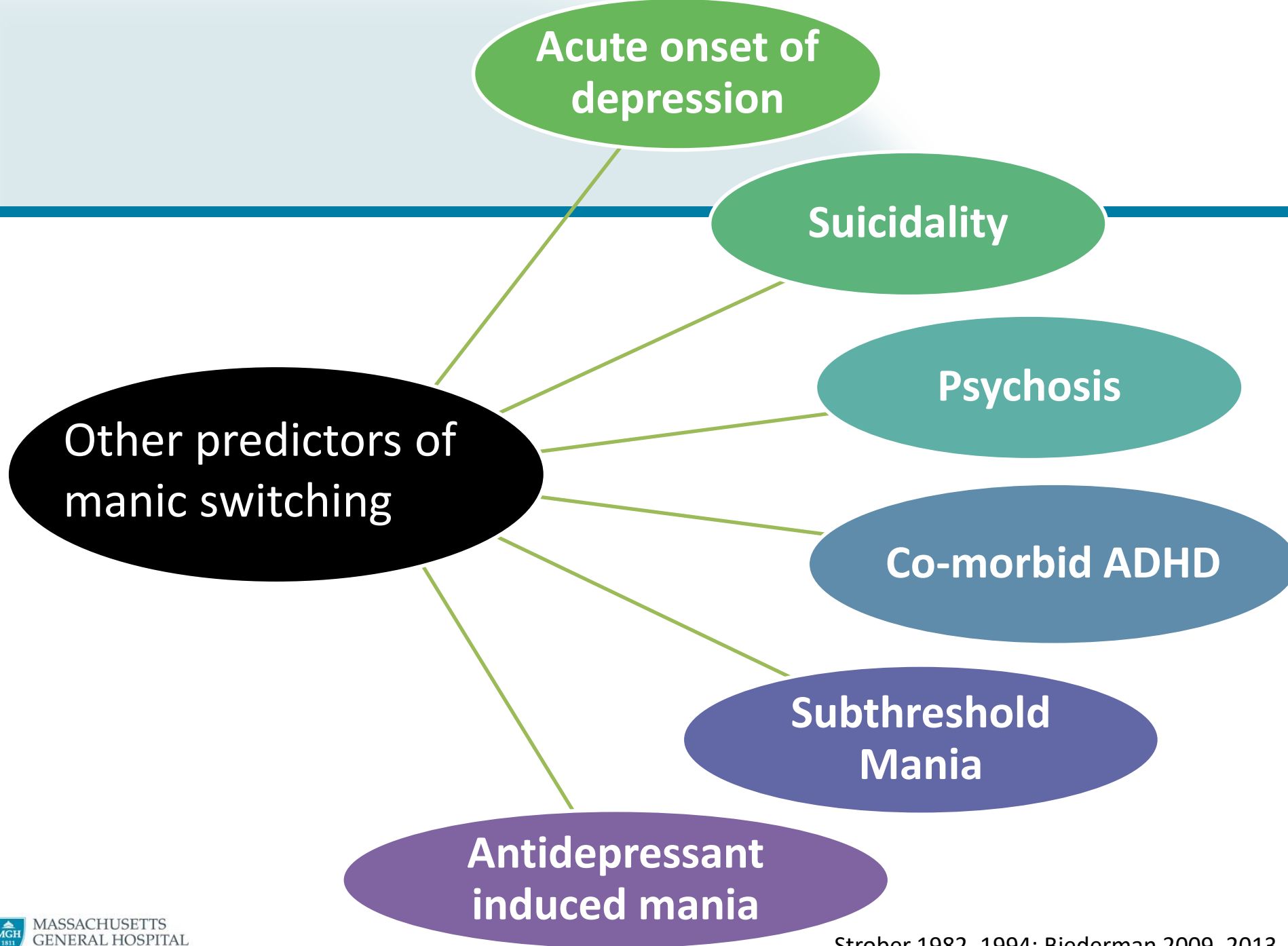


Adult literature has consistently reported that “early onset” (< 25 years) depression poses a risk of switching

# There is a 'dose response' of multiple risk factors contributing to manic switch

- conduct disorder
- school behavior problems
- parental mood disorder





# Antidepressants can lead to switching

## Use with caution

pharmacologically induced hypomania was a predictor of a bipolar course

antidepressant induced mood change was seen more in BP MDD

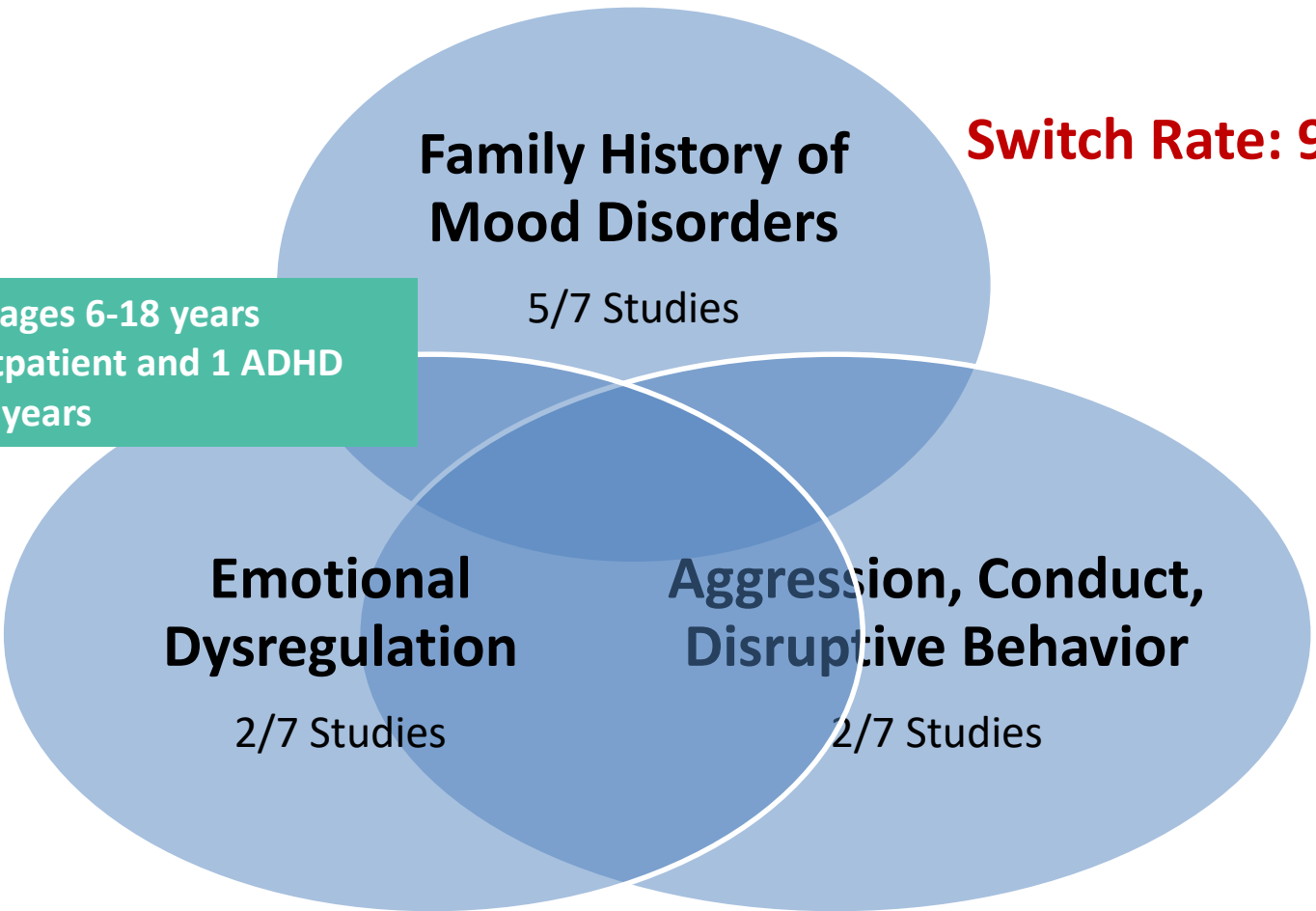
rate of switching higher in subjects with history of receiving antidepressants especially in children





# Top features of pediatric depression found which predict subsequent switch to bipolar disorder from 7 prospective studies (4 samples)

N= 985 subjects, ages 6-18 years  
2 inpatient, 1 outpatient and 1 ADHD  
Follow up: 1 - 11 years



**Switch Rate: 9% - 43%**

Strober 1982,1993; Geller 1994,2001; Kochman 2005; Biederman 2009, 2013

# In a meta-analysis of international studies, the rate of pediatric bipolar disorder was 1.8%

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Zealand).

**Results:** The overall rate of bipolar disorder was 1.8% (95% CI, 1.1%–3.0%). There was no significant difference in the mean rates between US and non-US studies, but the US studies had a wider range of rates. The highest estimates came from studies that used broad definitions and included bipolar disorder not otherwise specified. Year of enrollment was

Bipolar Disorder affects 1.8% children worldwide

**Conclusions:** Mean rates of bipolar disorder were higher than commonly acknowledged and not significantly different in US compared to non-US samples, nor was there evidence of an increase in rates of bipolar disorder in the community over time. Differences in diagnostic criteria were a main driver of different rates across studies.

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# The symptoms of mania are the same in children and adults

## Mania:

A. *A distinct period (7 days=mania; 4 days=hypomania) of abnormally and persistently elevated, expansive, or irritable mood and persistently increased goal-directed activity or energy*

B. At least 3/7 (4/7 if mood is irritable)

1) D Distractibility

2) I Increased activity/psychomotor agitation

3) G Grandiosity or inflated self-esteem

4) F Flight of ideas or racing thoughts

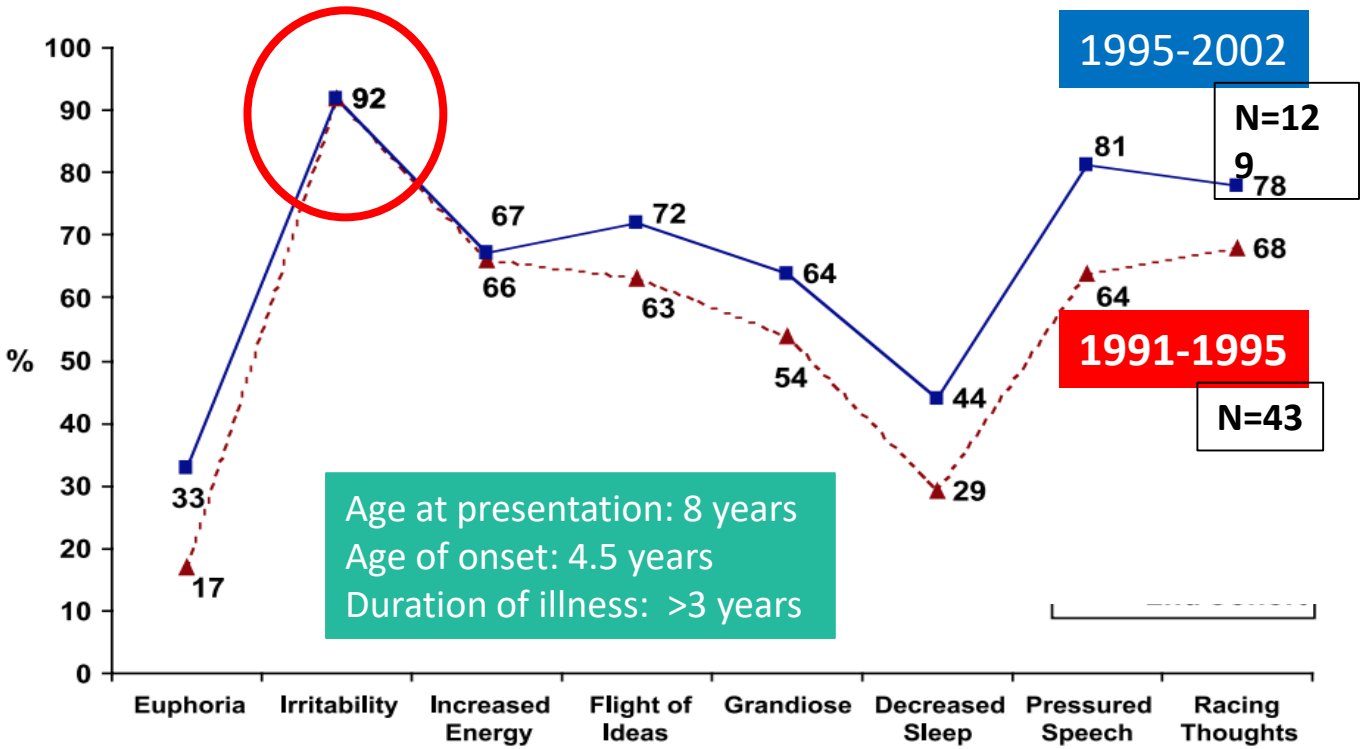
5) A Activities with painful consequences

6) S Sleep decreased

7) T Talkative or pressured speech

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM-5)

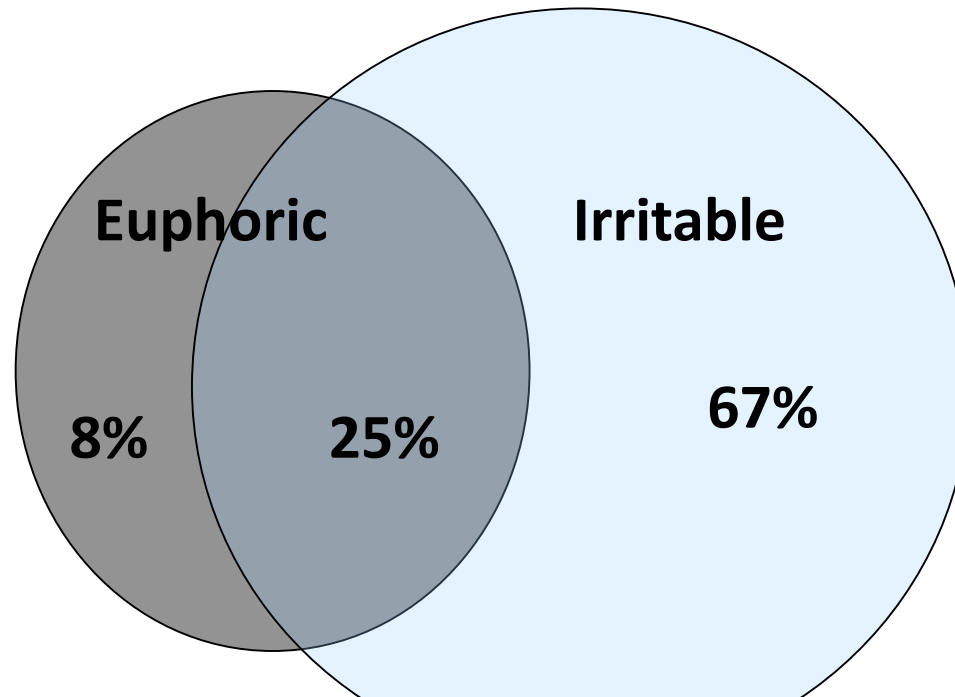
# The symptoms of mania are the same in two cohorts of pre-adolescent age (<12 years) youth with bipolar disorder



Age at presentation: 8 years  
 Age of onset: 4.5 years  
 Duration of illness: >3 years

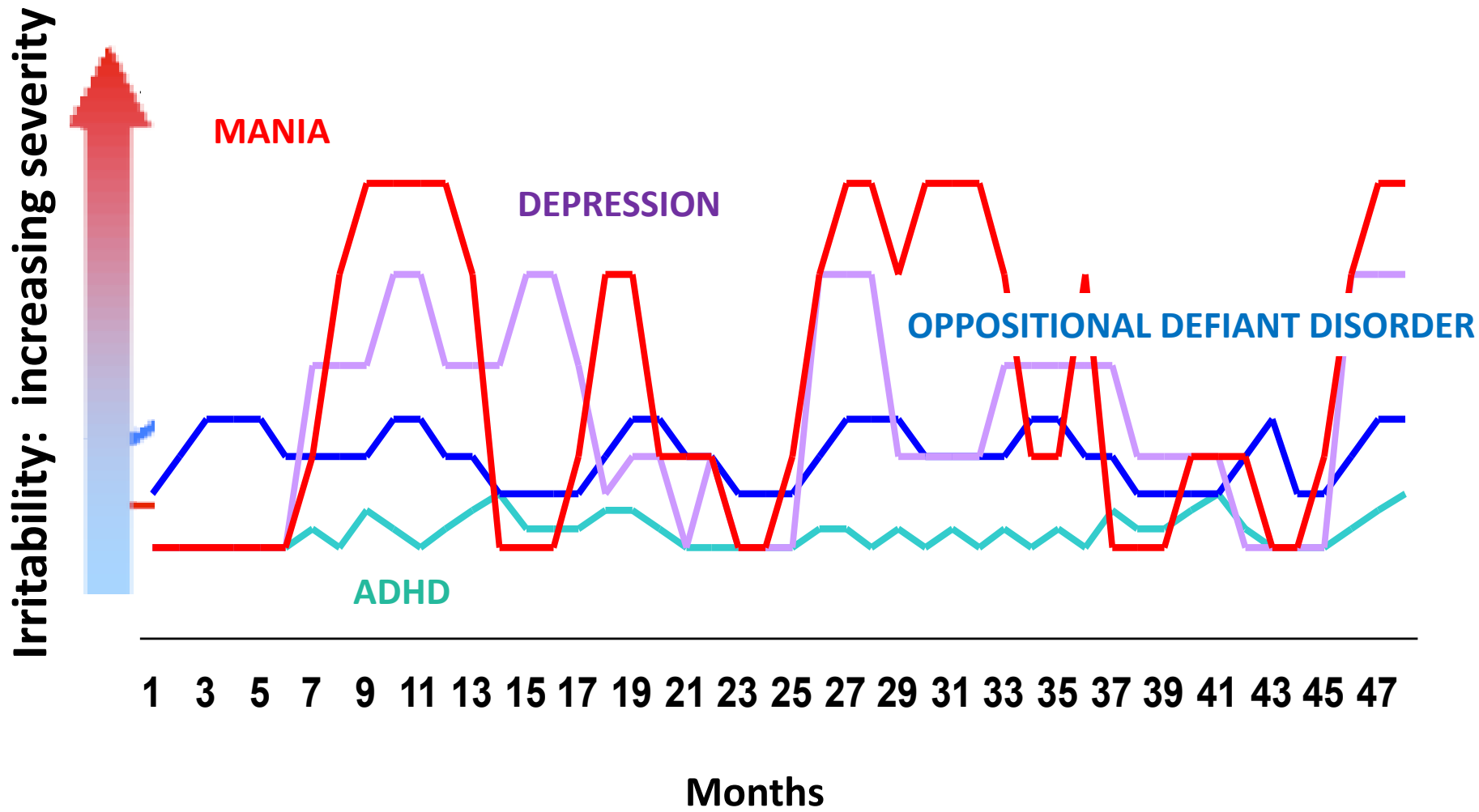
Wozniak, 1995; Biederman, 2004

# Severe aggressive and destructive irritability is a common feature of pediatric mania: kicking, hitting, biting, spitting



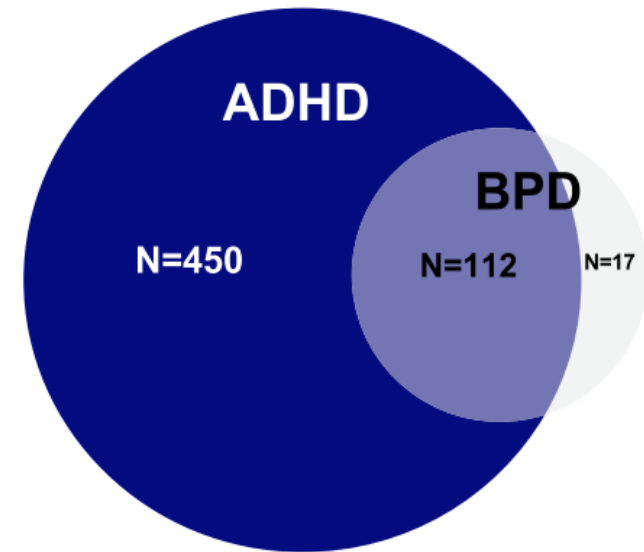
Bipolar disorder has 'highs' and 'lows,' with euphoric mania and melancholy depression, but irritability is common and highly impairing

# Children with bipolar disorder are seldom completely well and different types of irritability may be present



# Bipolar disorder + ADHD (common pediatric presentation) is a different more impairing condition from ADHD alone

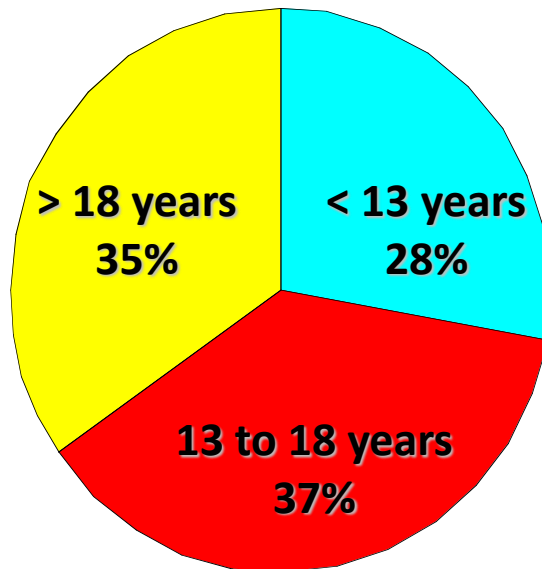
	Bipolar	ADHD
Depression	86%	38%
Psychosis	<b>16%</b>	0
Defiance	88%	48%
Conduct Disorder	<b>37%</b>	15%
Anxiety	56%	26%
Hospitalization	21%	2%
Functioning	Very poor	fair
Learning Disability	42%	14%



Most children with bipolar disorder also have comorbid ADHD

# Adults with Bipolar Disorder + ADHD have clinical correlates similar to that seen in pediatric bipolar disorder

9.5% lifetime prevalence comorbid ADHD in adult  
STEP-BD (N=983)



## BPD+ADHD Adult patients:

- had **earlier onset** BPD by 5 years
- had shorter periods of wellness (**chronic**)
- had more comorbidity (**anxiety and substance**)
- were more likely to be **male**
- were more likely to have **Bipolar I**
- had **more days irritable** and more days elated
- had **lower GAF**
- more **suicide attempts**
- more **violence**
- more **legal problems** (conduct disorder?)

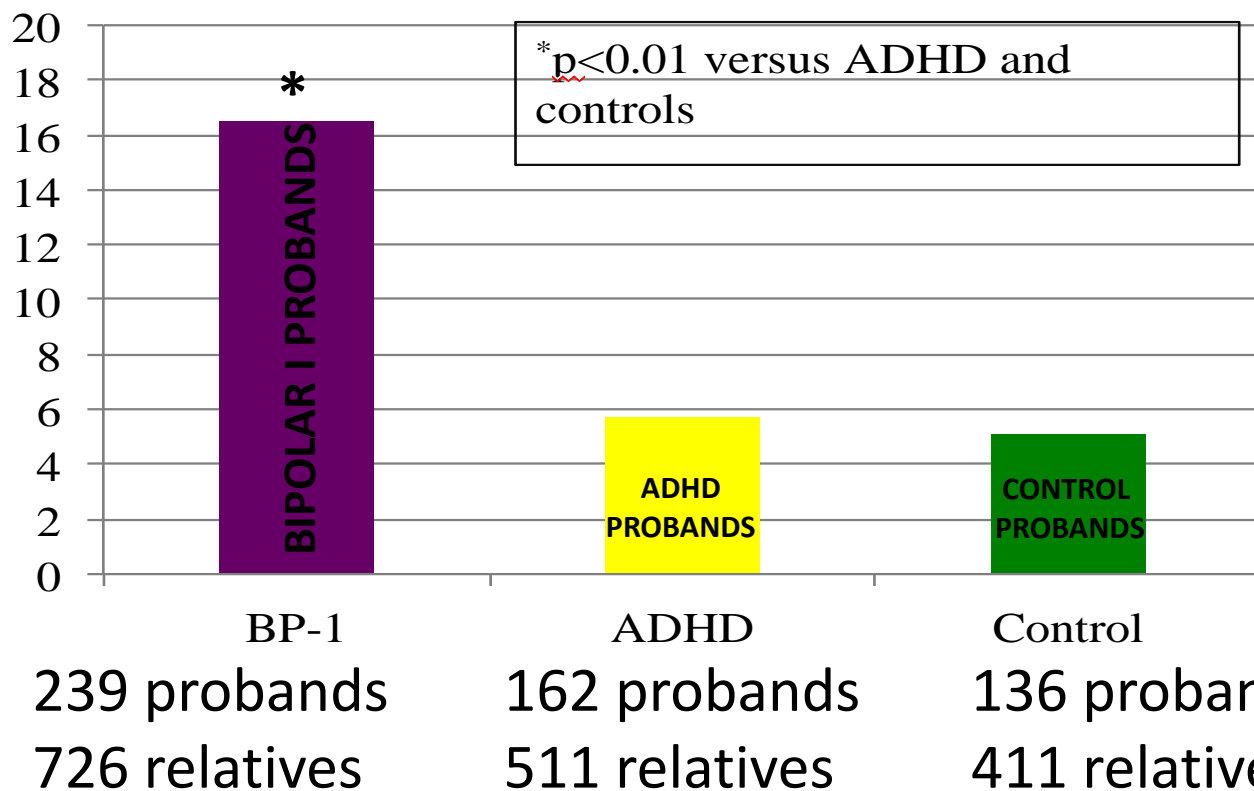
Perlis Biol Psych 2004; Nierenberg 2005



# Familial risk of bipolar I disorder is greatest in first-degree relatives of BP-I versus ADHD and control probands

The MGH Pediatric Bipolar Disorder family is the largest controlled family study

Morbid risk bipolar disorder  
in first-degree relatives



# Subsyndromal pediatric bipolar disorder is also familial and highly impairing


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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

WILEY **BIPOLAR DISORDERS**  
An International Journal of Psychiatry and Neuroscience

## Similar familial underpinnings for full and subsyndromal pediatric bipolar disorder: A familial risk analysis

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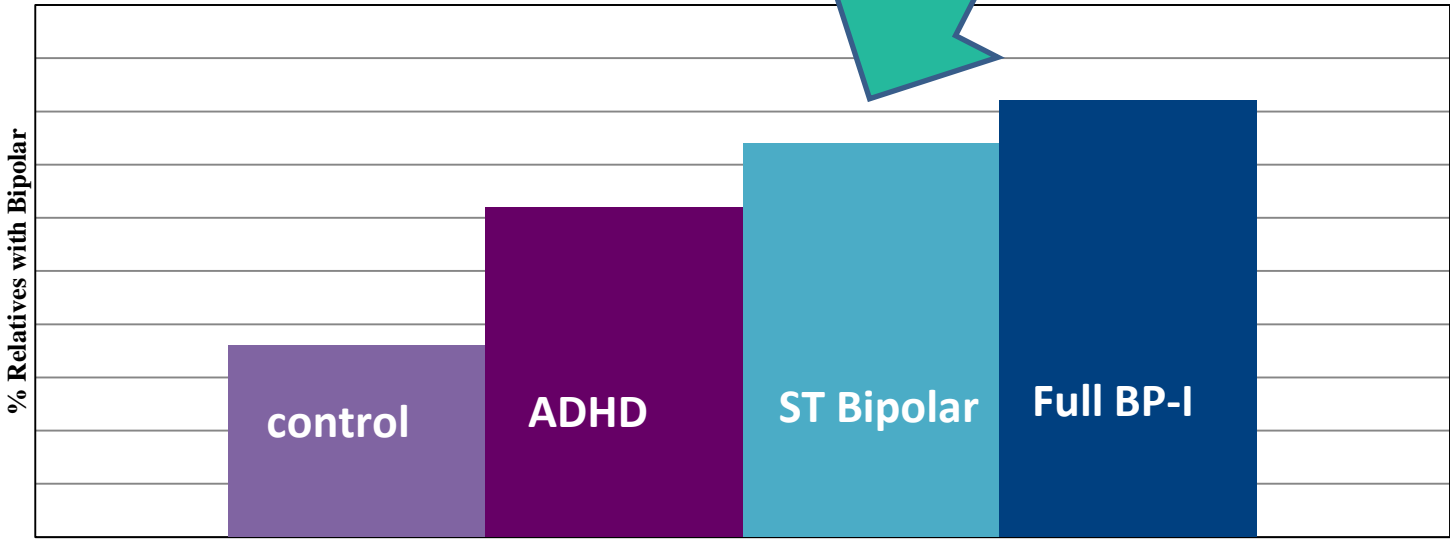
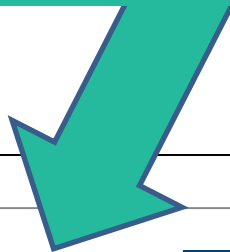
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Pediatric probands with subthreshold bipolar disorder have rates of familiarity similar to full syndrome probands



Comparison Groups

# Persistence of pediatric-onset bipolar disorder has been documented in St Louis and Pittsburgh samples

Geller, 2008:

WashU KSADS (modified criteria) study

In grown-up subjects with child BP-I, identified using the, the **44.4% frequency of manic episodes was 13 to 44 times higher than population prevalences**, strongly supporting continuity

Birmaher, 2009:

The Course and Outcome of Bipolar Youth (COBY) Study

**25% of BPDII and 38% of BPD NOS converted** to BPI

Subjects symptomatic on average for 60% of the follow-up period

# We followed-up children ascertained for a family study of pediatric-onset bipolar disorder to assess persistence



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## 78 of 105 youth with Bipolar I Disorder participating in family study followed-up after 4 years

- Baseline age 10 years
- 76% male
- Age of onset bipolar disorder: 5 years
- Duration of BPD at baseline: 7 years

High level of persistence of pediatric bipolar-I disorder from childhood onto adolescent years: A four year prospective longitudinal follow-up study

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### ABSTRACT

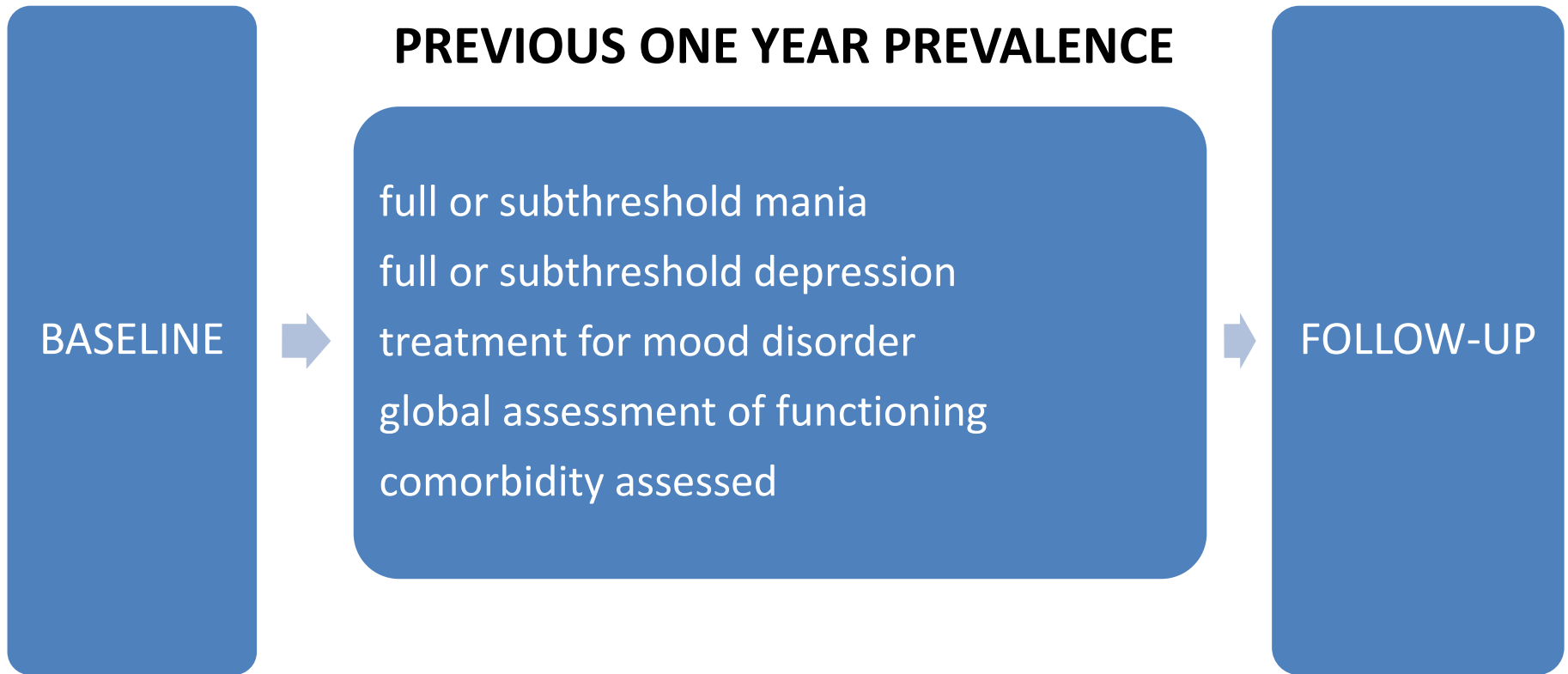
**Objective:** To examine the longitudinal course of pediatric bipolar (BP)-I disorder in youth transitioning from childhood into adolescence.

**Methods:** We conducted a four year prospective follow-up study of 78 youth with BP-I disorder 6–17 years old at ascertainment followed up into adolescent years ( $13.4 \pm 3.9$  years). All subjects were comprehensively assessed with structured diagnostic interviews, neuropsychological testing, psychosocial, educational and treatment history assessments. BP disorder was considered persistent if subjects met full criteria for DSM-IV BP-I disorder at follow-up.

**Results:** Of 78 BP-I participating youth subjects, 57 (73.1%), continued to meet full diagnostic criteria for BP-I Disorder. Of those with a non-persistent course, only 6.4% ( $n = 5$ ) were euthymic (i.e., syndromic and symptomatic remission) at the 4-year follow-up and were not receiving pharmacotherapy for the disorder. The other non-persistent cases either continued to have subthreshold BP-I disorder ( $n = 5$ , 6.4%), met full ( $n = 3$ , 3.8%) or subthreshold ( $n = 1$ , 1.3%) criteria for major depression, or were euthymic but were treated for the disorder ( $n = 7$ , 9.0%). Full persistence was associated with higher rates of major depression and disruptive behavior disorders at the follow-up assessment and higher use of stimulant medicines at the baseline assessment. Non-Persistent BP-I was also characterized by high levels of dysfunction and morbidity.

**Conclusions:** This four year follow-up shows that the majority of BP-I disorder youth continue to experience persistent disorder into their mid and late adolescent years and its persistence is associated with high levels of morbidity and disability. Persistence of subsyndromal forms of bipolar disorder was also associated with dysfunction and morbidity.

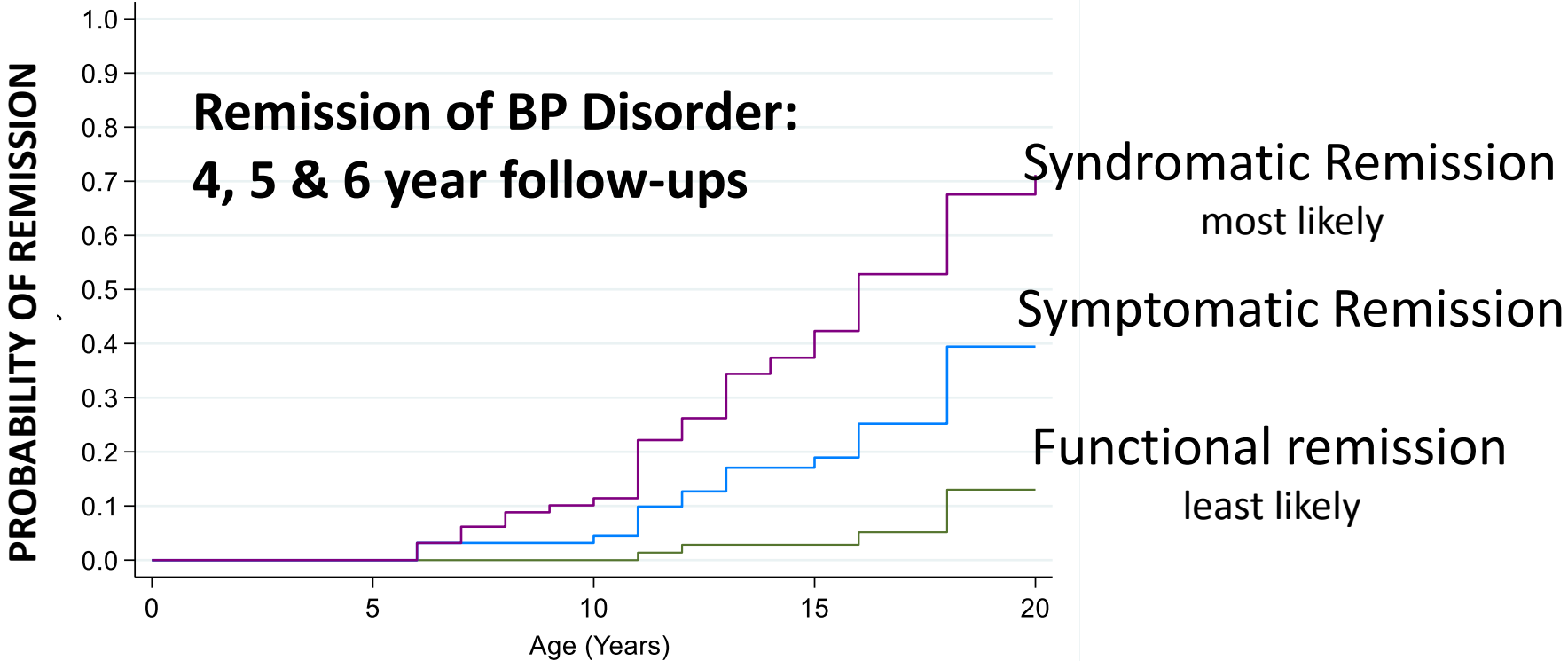
# A one-year period at follow-up and nuanced definition of persistence are clinically meaningful



**Functional Remission**  
(no symptoms, good functioning) is less likely than

**Symptomatic Remission**  
(no symptoms, functioning impaired) which is less likely than

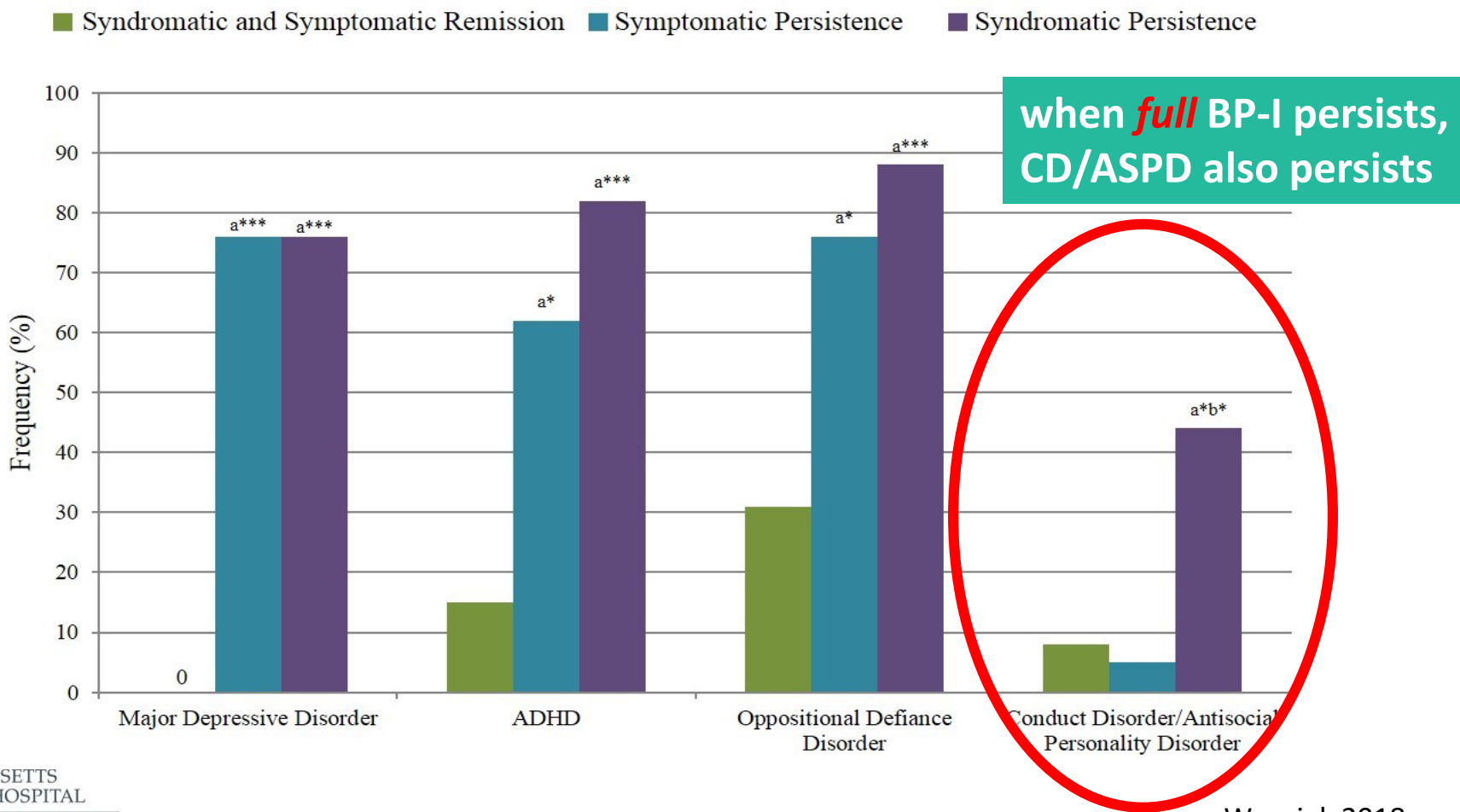
**Syndromatic Remission**  
(symptoms persist, functioning impaired)



**Symptoms and poor functioning found at follow-up**

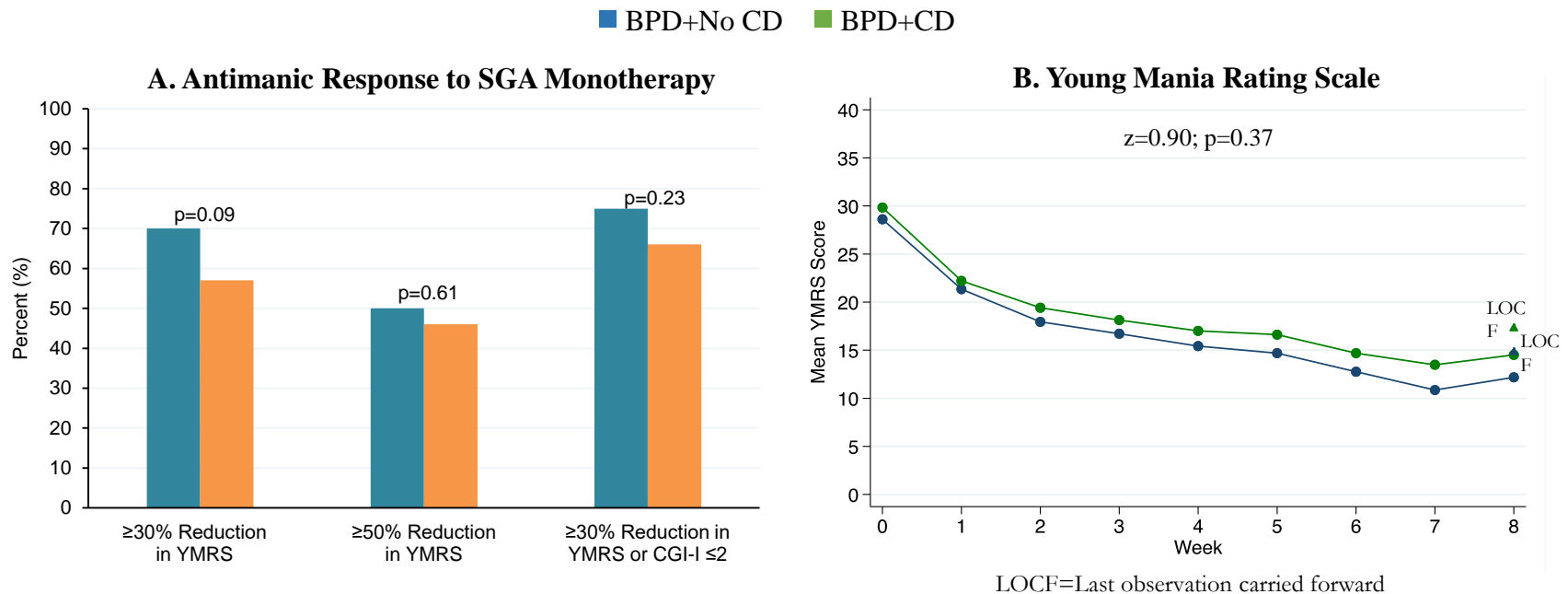
# Comorbid diagnoses at 5-year follow-up are high and similar in both persistent groups versus full remission (except CD/ASPD)

**Figure 2.** One-year prevalences of comorbid psychiatric disorders.  
<sup>a</sup> Compared to syndromatic and symptomatic remission. <sup>b</sup> Compared to symptomatic persistence. \*P<0.05, \*\*P<0.005, \*\*\*P<0.001



# SGAs can successfully treat bipolar disorder even in the setting of CD comorbidity (and CD remits for many subjects only when BPD remits)

**Figure 1.** (A) Antimanic response to SGA monotherapy and (B) YMRS scores over the course of the 8-week trials in youth with bipolar disorder with and without comorbid conduct disorder.



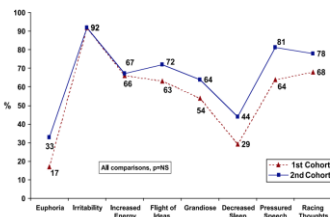
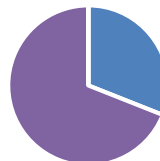
Of the 57 BP + CD with antimanic response to SGA treatment,  
**18 (32%) had CGI-CD-I scores ≤ 2 at endpoint (very much or much improved)**  
 Of the 32 BP + CD with no antimanic response to SGA treatment,  
**3 (9%) had CGI-CD-I scores ≤ 3 at endpoint (very much or much or improved)**



**Overview: Switch from pediatric depression to bipolar disorder is common. Pediatric-onset bipolar disorder is a severely impairing disorder which persists into late adolescence.**

Antipsychotic medications are most effective for pediatric mania, and comorbid conditions must be addressed. Natural treatments hold promise

**Children with MDD often switch:** Early depression is a predictor of bipolar disorder



**Pediatric Bipolar disorder** is a highly morbid condition that affects a significant minority of young children, is familial and persists over time

**Treatment:** Pharmacologic treatment with SGAs is generally required for pediatric bipolar disorder and comorbidities need separate treatment: use antidepressants with caution

Natural Treatments hold promise in the treatment of pediatric bipolar disorder

**QUESTIONS?**