

## **Paranormal Beliefs and Experiences: Indicators of Mental Health or Mental Disorder?**

### **Results:**

Three schizotypy profile groups were identified in this project through cluster analytic procedures; one group with low or average scores on the O-LIFE sub-scales as compared to norm data and the whole group of participants (Low/Average schizotypy), one group with high scores on the positive schizotypy sub-scale and low scores on the other sub-scales (Positive schizotypy), and one group with high scores on the positive and disorganised schizotypy sub-scales (Positive/Disorganised schizotypy).

The Low/Average and Positive schizotypy groups had no worse mental health or cognitive functioning than the general population. Thus, the hypothesis that the schizotypy profile group with a high degree of positive schizotypy together with low degrees of the other schizotypy factors (compared with norms) would not differ from norms regarding cognitive function was confirmed.

The Positive/Disorganised schizotypy group had worse mental health compared to norm data and this group also had cognitive functioning below the average range regarding four sub-tests measuring executive function. However, the results from the cognitive tests were inconclusive since this group had scores within the average range on two other cognitive tests.

These results support the fully dimensional model for schizotypy and indicate that for some people positive schizotypy should not be regarded as a sign of mental ill-health or as a symptom.

### **Published Works:**

### **Area(s) of Interest:**

Paranormal beliefs and experiences, mental health, personality disorders

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