

Multimodal speech and facial digital assessment to assess negative symptoms

Measuring for Expressive Negative Symptoms

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Negative Symptoms Distinction Primary and Secondary Expressive Negative Symptoms

Туре	Description
Primary Expressive Negative Symptoms	Primary expressive negative symptoms are intrinsic to the underlying pathophysiology of schizophrenia.
Secondary Expressive Negative Symptoms	Can be due to positive symptoms, depression, pharmacological effects of the antipsychotic treatment causing extrapyramidal (EPS) side effects.
	These EPS are also referred to as pseudo-parkinsonism symptoms as they share their clinical presentation with Parkinson's disease (PD)



Facial Expressions and Acoustic Features Expressive Negative Symptoms

- In recent years, progress has been made in audiovisual data processing
- Advances in this technology could play a pivotal role in supporting automated methods of collecting objective adjunctive patient data to inform negative symptom identification and monitoring
- Speech analysis: Has demonstrated that participants with schizophrenia tend to exhibit less total time talking, reduced speech rate, and higher pause duration than healthy participants
- Facial feature analysis: Alterations in facial expressivity are hallmarks of blunted affect in schizophrenia and includes flat or inappropriate affect in individuals with schizophrenia



The multi-modal facial and vocal systems using Deep Neural Network (DNN) approach. Video frames and audio spectral segments get independent embeddings that produce separate features and can be fused by a multi-modal network

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How does the multimodal system work? For Expressive Negative Symptoms Measurement





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Computer-based negative symptom measure: Participants interact with an avatar that provides a series of emotionally-ambiguous, valence-neutral tasks including a series of reading aloud tasks composed of sentences and a passage; an eyebrow raising task, an image description task, and a free speech task related to a topic of interest from the list provided.

Speech and Facial Action Units include:

Phonation

Cepstral Peak Prominence (level of noise in vocal signal, measures dysphonia) Speech Intelligibility (SIT), Duration, and Rate (with and without pauses) Articulation Rate and Loudness

DDK - also known as syllable alternating motion rate (AMR), assesses repetitive movements of oral articulators

Internal Silence (pauses)

Syllable Rate and Count

Lip Aperture

Mouth Surface Area

Jaw Velocity and acceleration

Lower Lip Velocity and Acceleration

Eye Opening and Eyebrow vertical position

Head Tilt

Video Presentation Facial and Acoustic Expressions

- Transdiagnostic phenomenon of reduced facial and vocal features in:
 - 1. Parkinson's disease
 - 2. Schizophrenia
 - 3. Depression
 - 4. Apathy in dementia
- The multimodal software could be used to differentiate these illness specific "negative symptoms"
- Using the multimodal software for assessment of expressive negative symptoms is a step in this direction.

7 Talk with Tina

This is Tina. She will be guiding you through your session.

When the "Start Conversation" button below turns orange, you can use it to start your conversation. If your call does not go through, or you hear only a short tone, please end the call and try again after a few minutes.



AIMS of our Study Expressive Negative Symptoms

Aim 1

To investigate whether facial and voice features from the AI-enabled vocal and facial program could discriminate between individuals with schizophrenia and negative symptoms (SZ) and healthy controls (HC)

Aim 2

Investigate whether negative symptoms can be meaningfully measured using AI-enabled vocal and facial analysis software by comparing speech metrics (e.g., prosody, rate, intelligibility, pausing duration etc.) and video metrics (e.g., specific facial and head movements) and compared to clinician-rated psychometric assessments measuring expressive negative symptoms





Design and Methods Expressive Negative Symptoms

Inpatients with schizophrenia (n = 42) and demographically matched healthy controls (n = 44) completed a brief 8-minute assessment using the multimodal software at Time 1 and Time 2 (4-7 days apart)

Inclusion for SZ: Inpatients with diagnosis of schizophrenia, age 18 - 65, English speaking, WRAT-IV Reading Score \geq 8th grade, Negative symptoms as evidenced by score of \geq 18 on PANSS NSF

Exclusion for SZ: A score >3 on the sum of the first eight items of the Simpson-Angus Scale (SAS)

Inclusion for HC: Individuals with no prior history of mental illness, age 18 - 65, English speaking.

SZ Group	HC Group	
Visit 1 Positive and Negative Symptoms Scale Clinical Global Impression - Severity Brief Negative Symptoms Scale Calgary Depression Scale EPS Scales (BARS, AIMS, SAS) Multimodal Software	Visit 1 Multimodal Software	
🦊 4 - 7 days	🦊 4 - 7 days	
Visit 2 Positive and Negative Symptoms Scale Clinical Global Impression – Improve Brief Negative Symptoms Scale Calgary Depression Scale EPS Scales (BARS, AIMS, SAS) Multimodal Software	Visit 2 Multimodal Software	

All assessments were completed by trained raters > 20 year experience



- Random Forest (RF) classifiers were built to discriminate between classes (Breiman, 2001).
 - All classifications were binary (e.g., SZ versus HC). Data for Time 1 and Time 2 during the study period were included in the analyses. We evaluated RF models on the resulting data set through a five-fold participant-based cross-validation.
- Each unit from the multimodal software were compared to negative symptom severity overall using the PANSS Negative Symptoms Factor Score (PANSS NSFS) and using Pearson's correlation
- Digital measurements that demonstrated significance in relation to specific subscales or items on the BNSS and PANSS were then further explored in relation to the specific symptoms that derive from those subscales, correcting for multiple comparisons using a Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted p-value (Li & Barber, 2019) ((i/20)*0.2 where i = rank of p-value)



Characteristics	Schizophrenia		Healthy Controls		PANSS	n	Mean	SD
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Positive Subscale	42	19.22	4.56
Age (in years)	39.96	11.60	42.18	12.23				
	n	%	n	%	Negative Subscale	42	25.46	3.12
Sex					General Psychopathology	42	39.11	. 5.66
Male	31	73.81	28	63.63				
Female	11	26.19	16	36.37	PANSS Total	42	85.12	10.45
Race					Marder Positive Symptom	42	21.45	4.01
Black	28	66.67	25	56.82	Marder Negative	42	25.46	2.66
White	14	33.33	19	43.18				
Asian	0	0	0	0	Symptom			
Other	0	0	2	6.45	Marder	10	00.40	2.00
					Disorganized	42	20.12	3.99
Ethnicity					Symptom			
Hispanic	20	47.62	20	45.45	Marder Hostility Symptom	42	2 7.90	2.37
Non-Hispanic	22	52.38	23	52.27				
Not reported	0	0	1	2.27	Marder Anxiety Symptom	42	6.12	2.34



- The sensitivity and specificity for classifying patients with SZ versus HC was 0.78 (SD 0.10) and 0.56 (SD 0.21), respectively and with an AUC of 0.77 (SD 0.13).
- The figure presents the generated nulldistribution of AUC scores from permuted class labels as generated from the randomized permutation model. The lighter area shows the critical level for a one-tail test with a significance level of 0.05
- The observed AUC for participants: SZ versus HC (p < 0.001)



Results Expressive Negative Symptoms: Acoustic Features



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Results Expressive Negative Symptoms: Facial Features



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Results Validity: Comparison with Clinician-Administered Assessments

Comparisons	Significant Findings				
Acoustic Features with PANSS Negative Factor Score	 Articulation rate (words/minute) (r = -0.62; adjusted p = .03) Average fundamental frequency (r=-0.61; adjusted p = 0.04) Percent pause time (r = 0.60; adjusted p = .02) Speaking rate (words/minute) (r = -0.64; adjusted p = .05) Increased negative symptom severity was reflected in decreased Articulation rate, decreased Speaking rate, and increased Percent pause time. 				
Acoustic Features with BNSS and PANSS Items	 Significant negative correlations with multiple vocal measures (i.e., Articulation rate (words/minute), Average fundamental frequency, and Speaking rate (words/minute)) and: Quantity of speech (r = -0.63; p = .02) Spontaneous elaboration (r = -0.62; p = .02) PANSS Motor Retardation (r = -0.53; p = .04) 				
Facial Features with BNSS and PANSS Items	 PANSS Blunted Affect (r = -0.49; p = .04) PANSS Social Withdrawal (r = -0.63; p = .005) PANSS Motor Retardation (r = -0.45; p = .06) BNSS Facial expression and BNSS Expressive Gestures and average number of eye blinks in blinks per second for both eyes, Mean and maximum speed of the jaw (center, or tip of the chin) and average and maximum lip aperture/opening. 				

Results Reliability: Multimodal software and Clinician-Administered Scales



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Conclusions

Multimodal Software for Expressive Negative Symptoms

- Utilizing an AI-based program that is also being studied in PD can help better identify which metrics are reliable predictors of expressive negative symptoms
- Preliminary data shows a large separation between SZ and HC and good reliability and internal consistency of the NEMSI digital assessment instrument
- Test-retest shows greater reliability across all metrics compared to clinician-administered scales
- Although the multimodal digital program cannot capture all aspects of negative symptoms, these tools can serve as a supplement to clinician assessments and may provide more precise measurement of symptoms
- The differentiation between primary expressive negative symptoms and secondary expressive negative symptoms may allow for better understanding of the underlying pathophysiology and for treatment of negative symptoms

Future Steps Multimodal Software for Expressive Negative Symptoms

- Continued enrollment to increase the sample size to develop more robust analysis models and to
 potentially develop factor structures that may be able to identify composite scores for multimodal
 software that map on to key negative symptom constructs:
 - Decreased thought and speech productivity
 - Speech with little or no change to their tone
 - Little or no change in their facial expression
- Examine sensitivity to change
 - Difficult due to lack of efficacious treatment
- Compare scores for facial and acoustic metrics between primary negative symptoms and secondary expressive symptoms due to EPS
 - Disentangling the primary from the secondary sources of negative symptoms is important for a number of reasons, including implementing appropriate treatment strategies



Multimodal Software Modality Al



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