Mapping heterogeneity in the early stages of psychosis using anomaly detection

Project summary

Psychosis often begins in adolescence or early adulthood, but young people present very diverse clinical and psychosocial profiles, which may help explain why their illness trajectories differ so markedly. This project applies a new data-driven method—anomaly detection—to better understand this heterogeneity. By comparing each individual to a "normative" clinical and psychosocial profile, similar to growth charts in paediatrics, we can identify who is developing differently and why. We will map these deviations in youth at high risk of psychosis and in patients with a first episode who do not respond to treatment. The goal is to identify meaningful subgroups and support more personalised and effective early clinical care.

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