

**A study of 13 diagnostic systems (criteria) for schizophrenia on an Egyptian sample :
Frequencies, agreements and validity**

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This study aimed to compare 13 systems' frequencies, documented their agreements and analyzed their differences. Also, the validity of these systems was tested as their concordance with the clinical diagnosis through testing their sensitivity and specificity. Two hundred newly admitted psychotic patients at four psychiatric hospitals in Egypt were assessed by the Arabic Version of Landmark's questionnaire. The results showed that the 13 systems varied much in comprehensiveness. The highest agreement was between systems that specify the type of onset and course. The validity study supported the usefulness of DSM-111, VVHO-CSB and Langfeldt's systems for clinical practice. Feighner's criteria were the most specific for biological researches and Schneider's criteria were the least specific, as they are unable to exclude other forms of psychoses.