The theme of this issue is Prodromal Questionnaire (PQ) which is a well validated screening tool for individuals at risk of developing psychosis. It is a self-report questionnaire, the PQ consists of 16 items that assess various aspects of thought content, such as delusional ideas and paranoia, and two items assess negative symptoms, such as lack of motivation and reduced ability to experience pleasure. The PQ has good concurrent validity as well as high true positive rate. Furthermore, the PQ offers 2 tracks: (1) a psychosis risk calculator (PQ<16) which is a computer-based tool that helps individuals determine their risk of developing psychosis, and (2) a dual diagnosis (mental health and substance abuse) Patient Questionnaire (PQ<16) which is a more comprehensive tool that includes additional questions about social functioning, family history, and recent use of substances.

The Clinical Services for Youth with Comorbid Psychiatric Disorders (CANDO) clinic aims to provide intensive, multidisciplinary treatment for a wide range of behavioral health issues, including substance use disorders, common mental disorders, and school-based mental health. The CANDO clinic services are tailored for neurodevelopmental disorders as well as co-existing psychiatric disorders. The clinic offers a variety of services, including individual and group therapy, family therapy, and case management.

To learn more about the psychosis risk calculator or try it yourself, click here. The CANDO clinic is located at the UMass Medical School in Worcester, Massachusetts, and offers services to patients from all over the United States. If you are interested in participating, please contact us by phone at 1-800-PT1-REF or via email at cando@umassmed.edu.

The UMass Psychotic Disorders Research Program aims to elucidate the etiology of each facet of the triple jeopardy (devastating, disabling, and devastating) of psychosis. The goal of our research is to develop innovative intervention strategies combining prevention and treatment. The CANDO clinic offers 2 tracks: (1) a psychosis risk calculator (PQ<16) which is a computer-based tool that helps individuals determine their risk of developing psychosis, and (2) a dual diagnosis (mental health and substance abuse) Patient Questionnaire (PQ<16) which is a more comprehensive tool that includes additional questions about social functioning, family history, and recent use of substances.

The Early Treatment Study (ETS) is a randomized controlled trial designed to evaluate the efficacy of early intervention for psychosis in reducing negative outcomes and improving functional outcomes. The ETS is currently recruiting participants who are experiencing early symptoms of psychosis and are referred directly from their outpatient providers. Patients meet with their case manager, an LICSW, once per week, and often more frequently if the situation warrants. Alternatively, many patients who are in crisis can be referred to the Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP), which offers 2 tracks: (1) a psychosis risk calculator (PQ<16) which is a computer-based tool that helps individuals determine their risk of developing psychosis, and (2) a dual diagnosis (mental health and substance abuse) Patient Questionnaire (PQ<16) which is a more comprehensive tool that includes additional questions about social functioning, family history, and recent use of substances. The ETS is currently recruiting participants who are experiencing early symptoms of psychosis and are referred directly from their outpatient providers.