

CME COURSE TITLE	Recognizing and assessing negative symptoms in patients with schizophrenia
COURSE DIRECTOR AND CO-DIRECTOR	Silvana Galderisi, ITALY Armida Mucci, ITALY Institute(s): University of Naples SUN, Naples, Italy
COURSE LEVEL	Advanced
EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES	Upon completion of the course participants should be able to: 1) recognize and describe main domains of negative symptoms in schizophrenia; 2) discuss the issue of heterogeneity of negative symptoms in schizophrenia; 3) differentiate primary from secondary negative symptoms; 4) assess negative symptoms using a recently developed instrument
COURSE DESCRIPTION	Persistent negative symptoms have been consistently found in association with impaired social functioning in patients with schizophrenia. It is increasingly acknowledged that although negative symptoms are often regarded as a unitary construct, their clinical presentation, pathophysiology and functional correlates are heterogeneous. Interventions targeting these symptoms are being developed and the training of clinicians in their recognition and assessment cannot be postponed. The course 1) will describe main domains of negative symptoms; 2) will review recent conceptualizations of negative symptoms aimed to reduce their heterogeneity, according to both categorical and dimensional perspectives; 3) will illustrate new assessment instruments introduced to overcome past methodological limitations and reduce overlap with recovery measures; 4) will train participants in the use of recently developed instruments for the assessment of negative symptoms. The course is a proposal of the Schizophrenia Section. Participants should be fluent in English; in particular, they should be able to understand taped interviews and to complete rating scales in English. The maximum number of participants suggested is 25.
COURSE METHODS AND MATERIAL	Vignette;video;slides;handouts
TARGET AUDIENCE	Psychiatrists, psychologists and trainees in Psychiatry
RECOMMENDED READINGS	1) Galderisi et al. Categorical and dimensional approaches to negative symptoms of schizophrenia: Focus on long-term stability and functional outcome. Schizophr Res.2013;147:157-62 2) Galderisi et al. Persistent negative symptoms in first episode patients with schizophrenia:results from the European First Episode Schizophrenia Trial. Eur Neuropsychopharmacol.2013;23:196-204. 3) Strauss et al. Next-generation negative symptom assessment for clinical trials:validation of the Brief Negative Symptom Scale. Schizophr Res.2012;142:88-92 4) Kirkpatrick et al. The brief negative symptom scale:psychometric properties. Schizophr Bull.2011;37:300-5 5) Galderisi & Maj. Deficit schizophrenia:an overview of clinical, biological and treatment aspects. Eur Psychiatry.2009;24:493-500. 6) Buchanan. Persistent negative symptoms in schizophrenia:an overview. Schizophr Bull.2007;33:1013-22.
LANGUAGE	English and Italian
EARLY CAREER PSYCHIATRISTS	Yes