

Treatment programs for forensic psychiatric patients

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Introduction

- **Terms and phrasing**
- **Measurement instruments**
- **Dynamic criminogenic needs**
- **Treatment programs**
- **Behavior change in inpatients**
- **Summary**



Terms and phrasing (1)

- **Irritation, (state) anger, and rage:** emotions elicited by an (alleged) provocation.
- **Aggression:** behavior that implies causing mental or physical harm to others. Two types:
 - **Reactive aggression:** emotional, defensive, and hot-tempered;
 - **Proactive aggression:** calculating, offensive, and cold-blooded.
- **Violence:** behavior that involves the infliction of physical harm.
- **Hostility:** propensity to interpret negatively the behavior of others.



Terms and phrasing (2)

- **Personality traits:** Big Five personality domains, trait anger, and psychopathy.
- **DSM-IV classifications:** Oppositional-defiant disorder, conduct disorder, or psychotic disorder on Axis I; Cluster B personality disorder on Axis II.
- **Criminogenic needs:** internal and external features that determine an offender's recidivism risk. Two types:
 - **Static needs:** difficult or even insusceptible to modification;
 - **Dynamic needs:** in principle susceptible to change.



Measurement instruments

- **Checklists:** risk assessment (e.g., SVR-20), psychopathy (e.g., PCL-R).
- **Self-report questionnaires:** personality traits (e.g., NEO-FFI), antisocial behavior (e.g., AQ-SF), and Prosocial behavior (e.g., IIS).
- **Observation scales:** behavior on the ward (e.g., OSAB).
- **Indirect measures:** Implicit Association Test

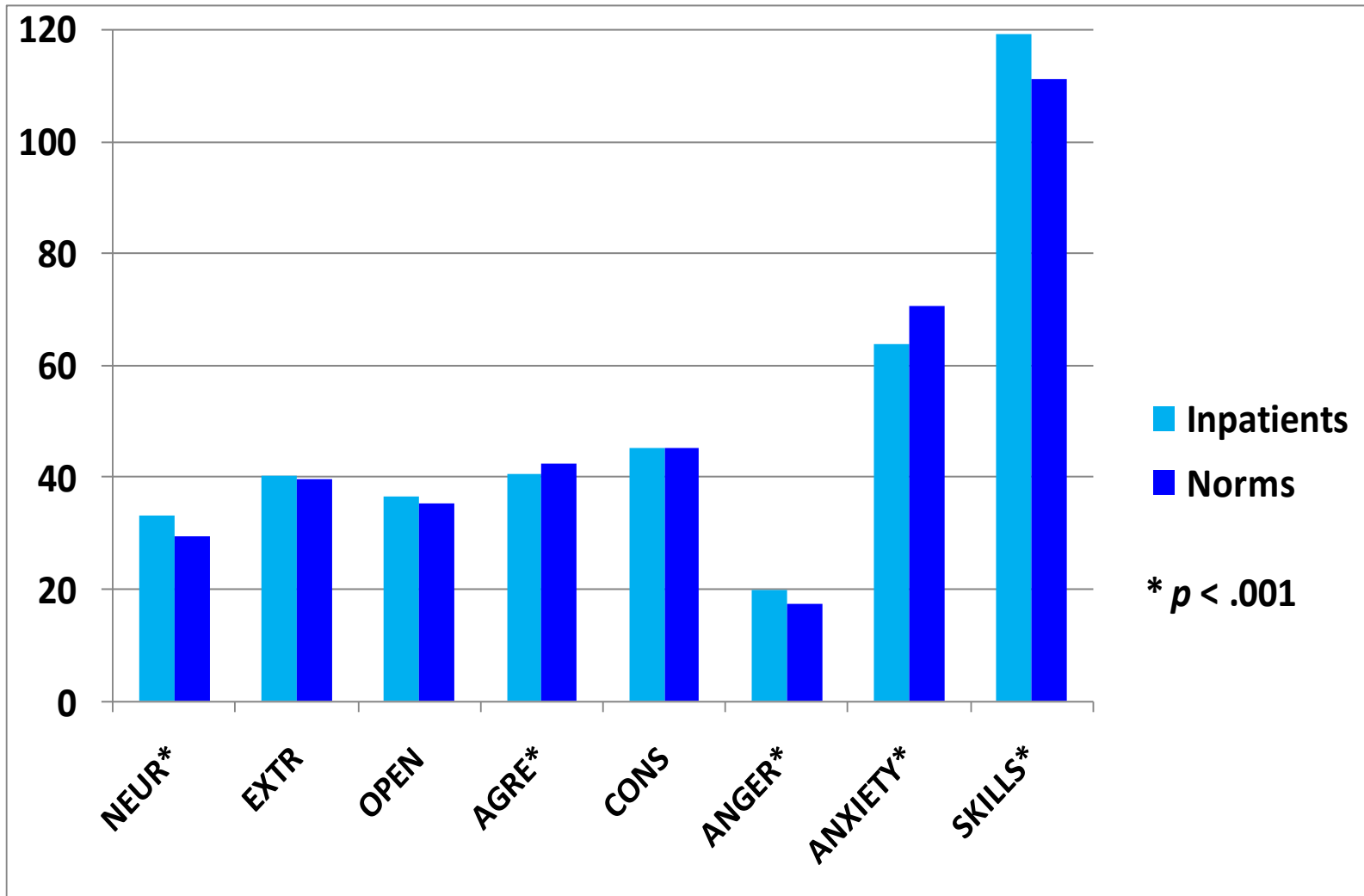
Development and evaluation of new instruments when relevant existing instruments are lacking or have insufficient psychometric properties (e.g. PFS-AV).



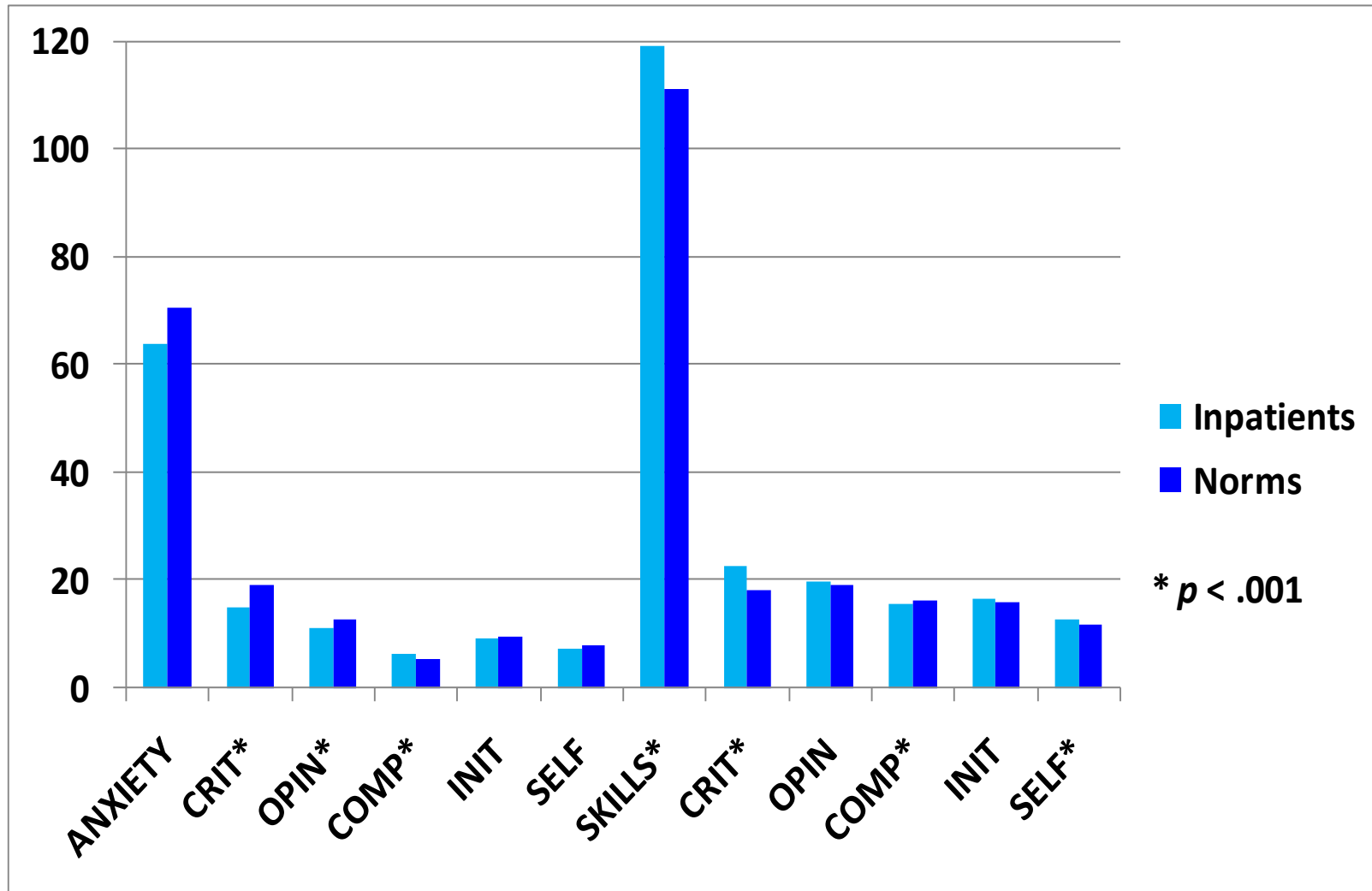
Dynamic criminogenic needs of forensic psychiatric patients



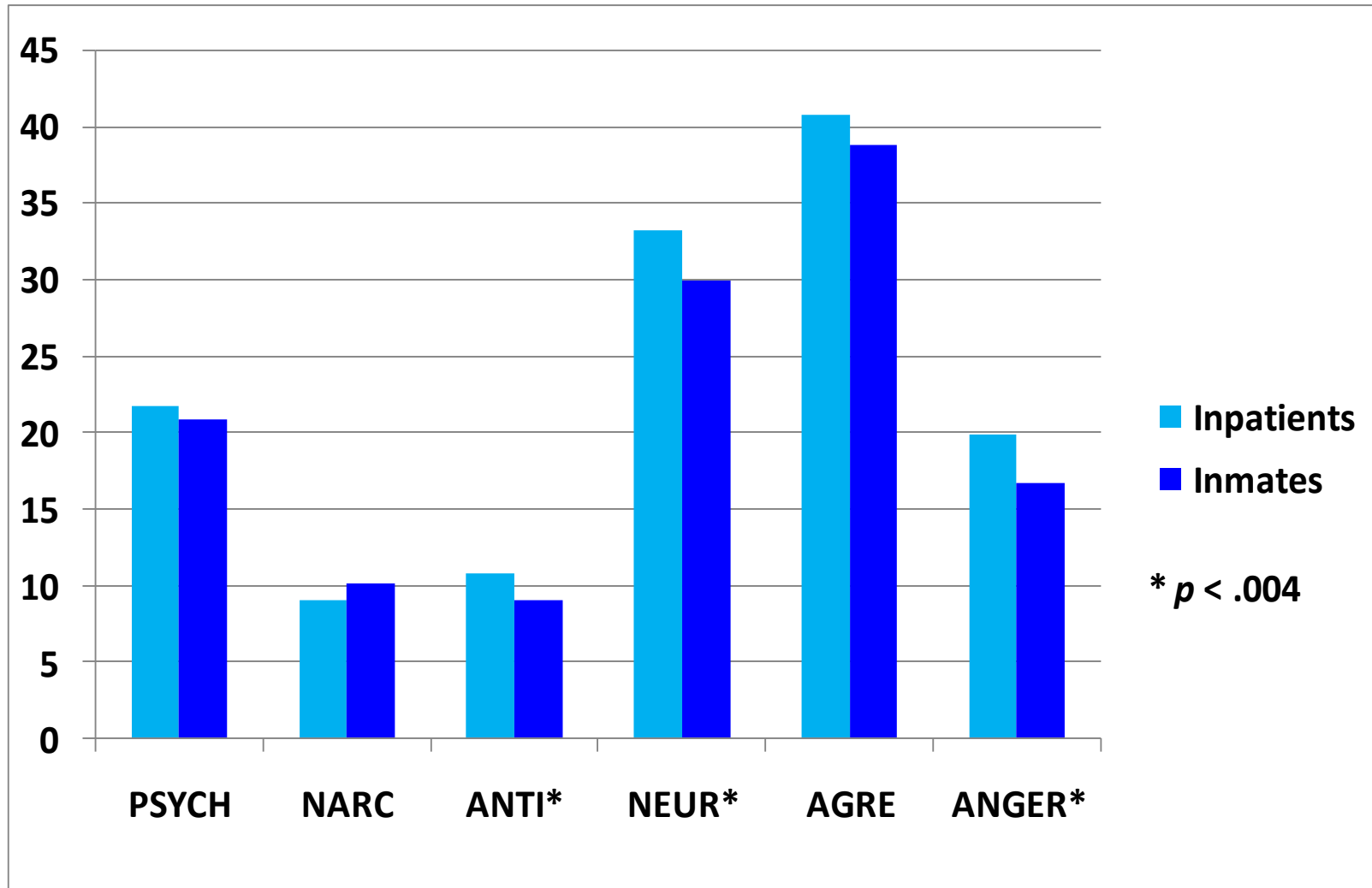
Inpatients versus norms ($N = 136$)



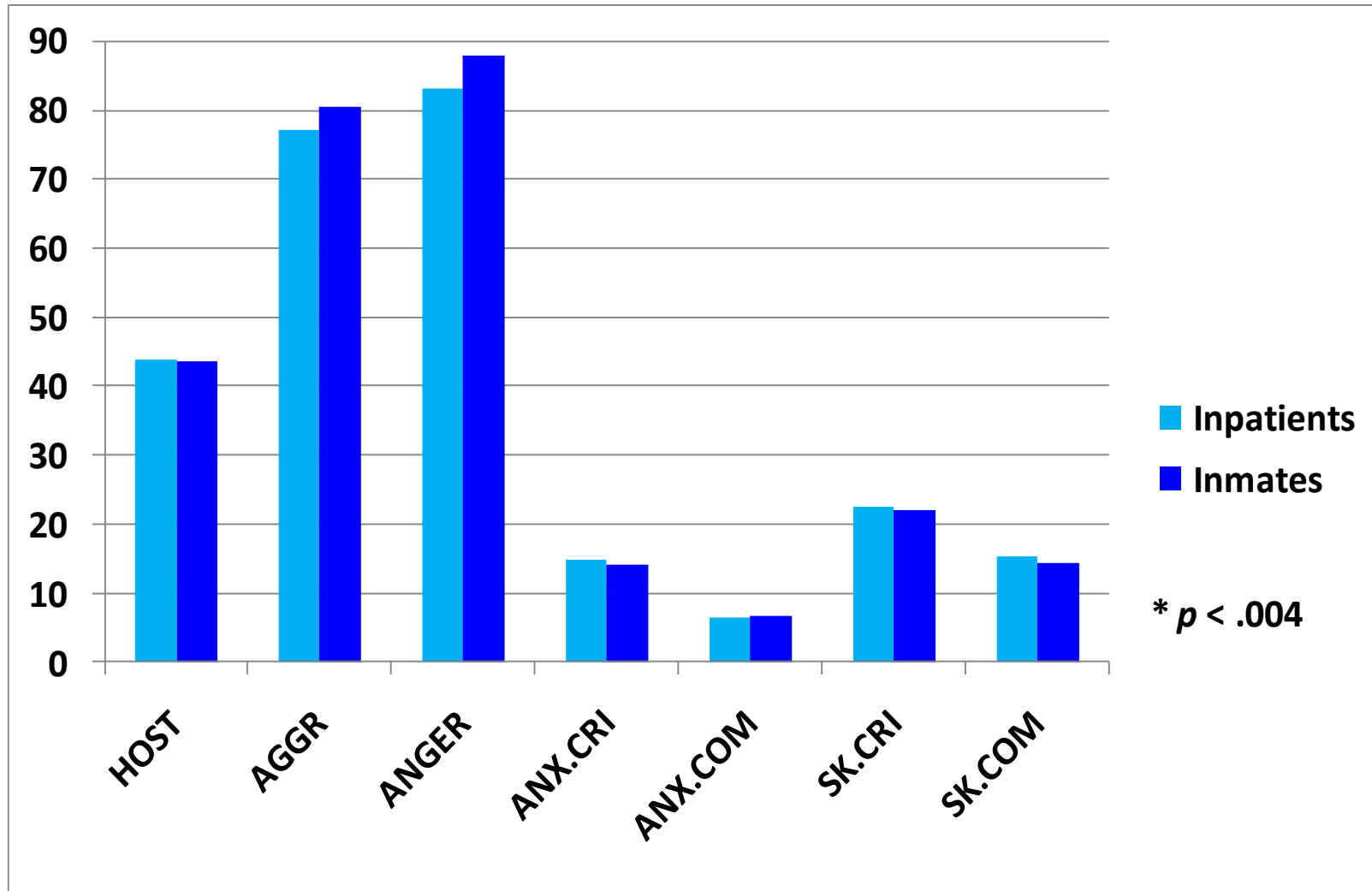
Inpatients versus norms ($N = 136$)



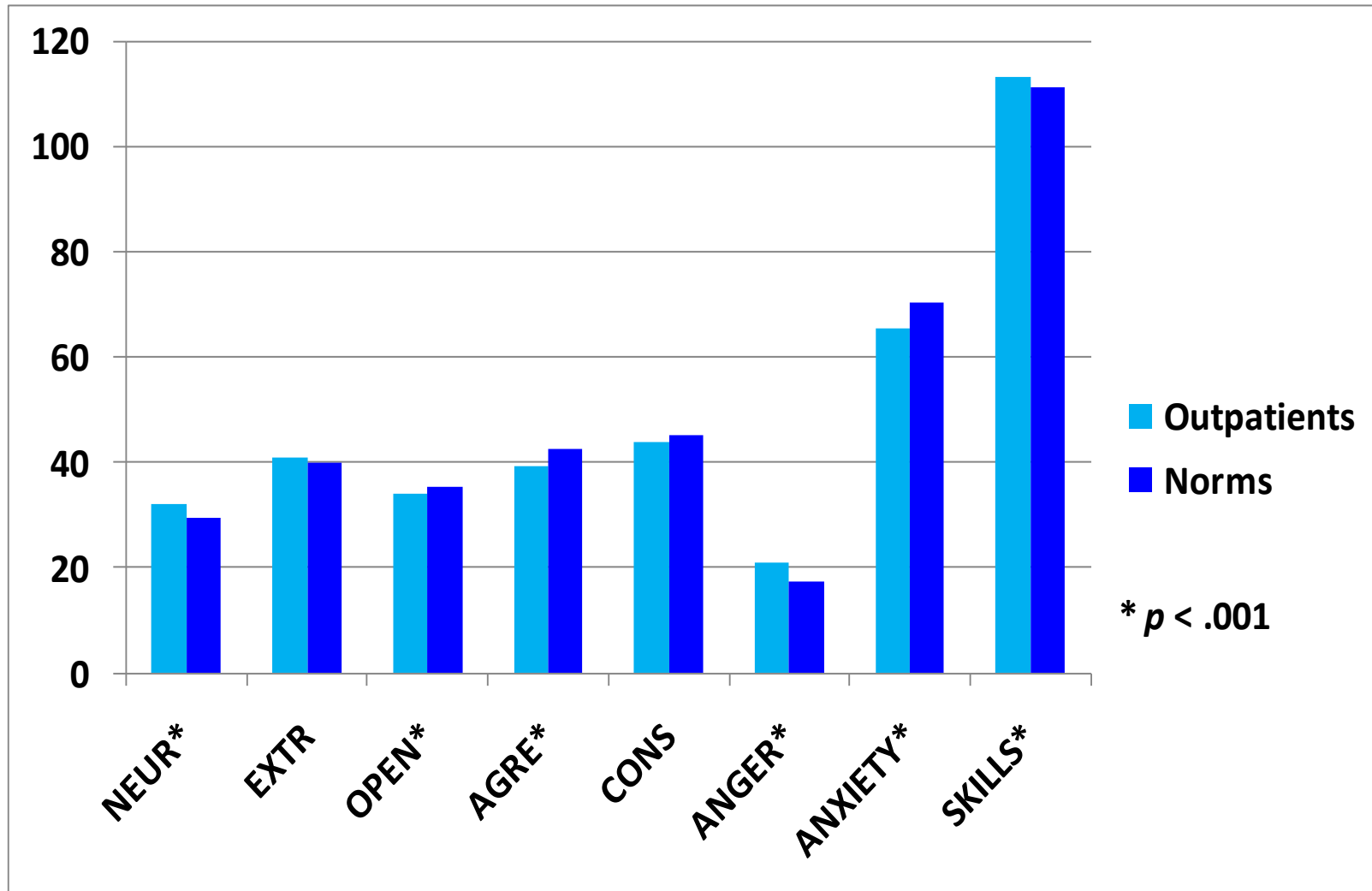
Inpatients ($N = 136$) versus detainees ($N = 100$)



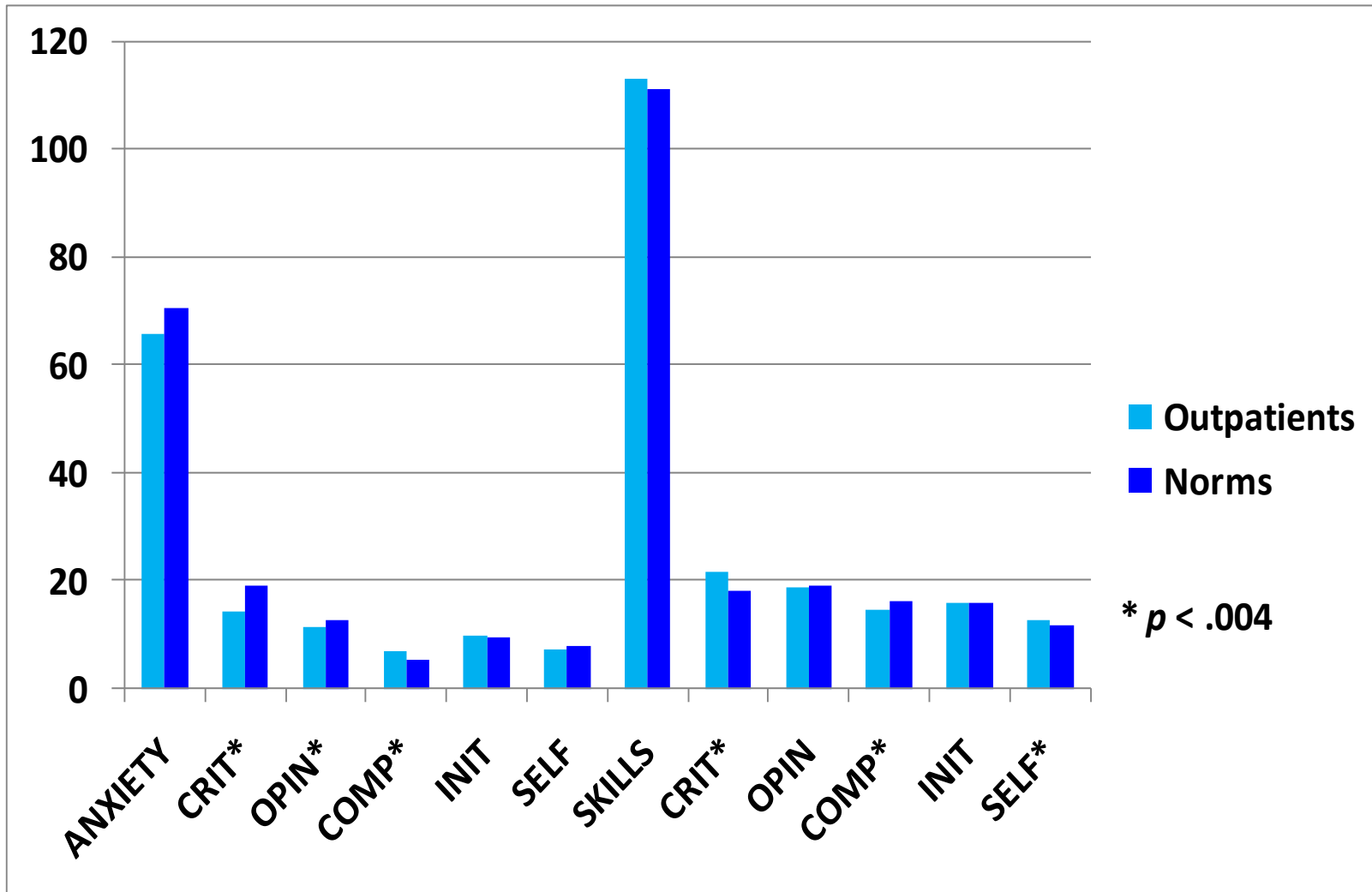
Inpatients ($N = 136$) versus detainees ($N = 100$)



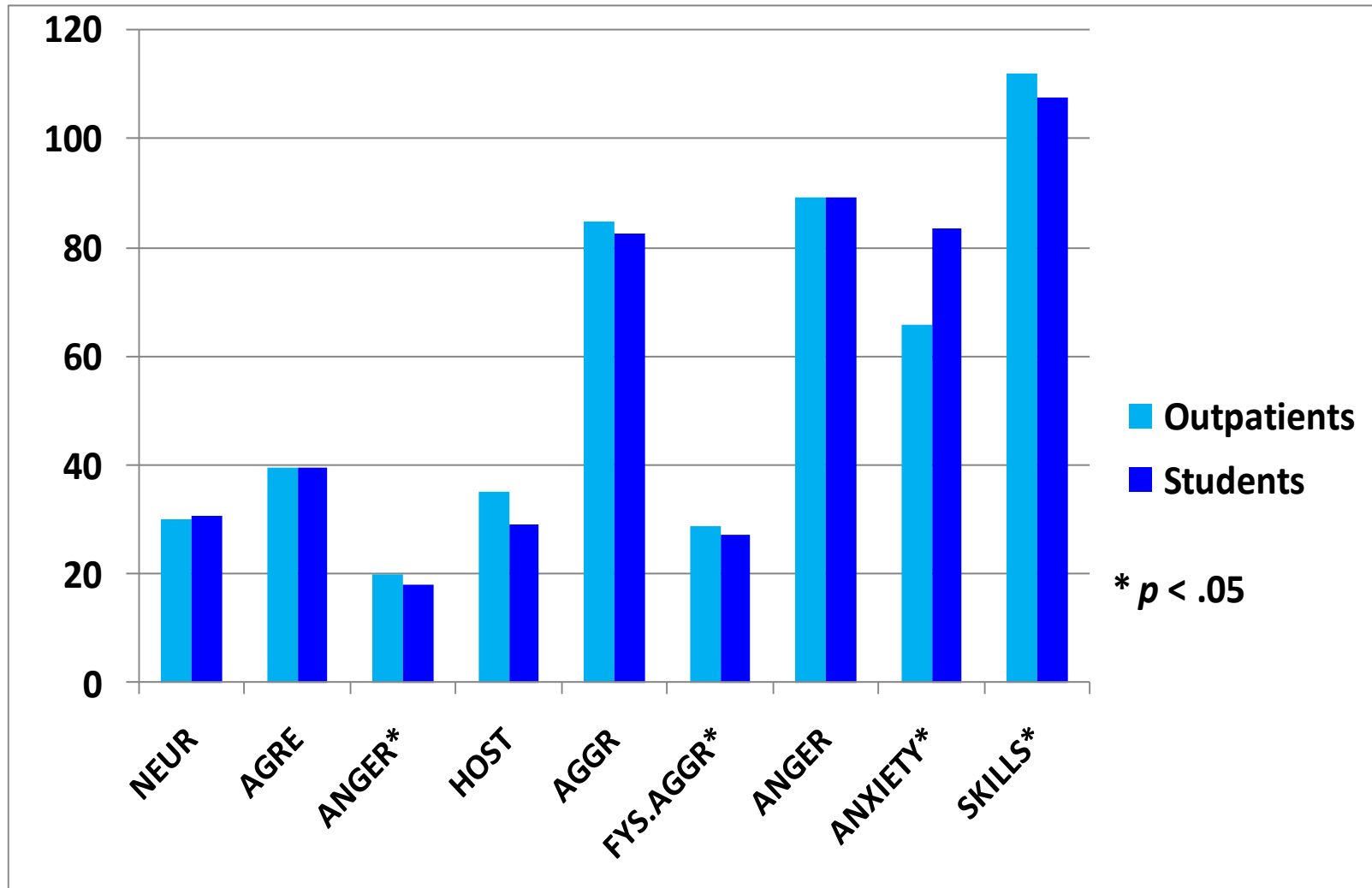
Outpatients versus norms ($N = 200$)



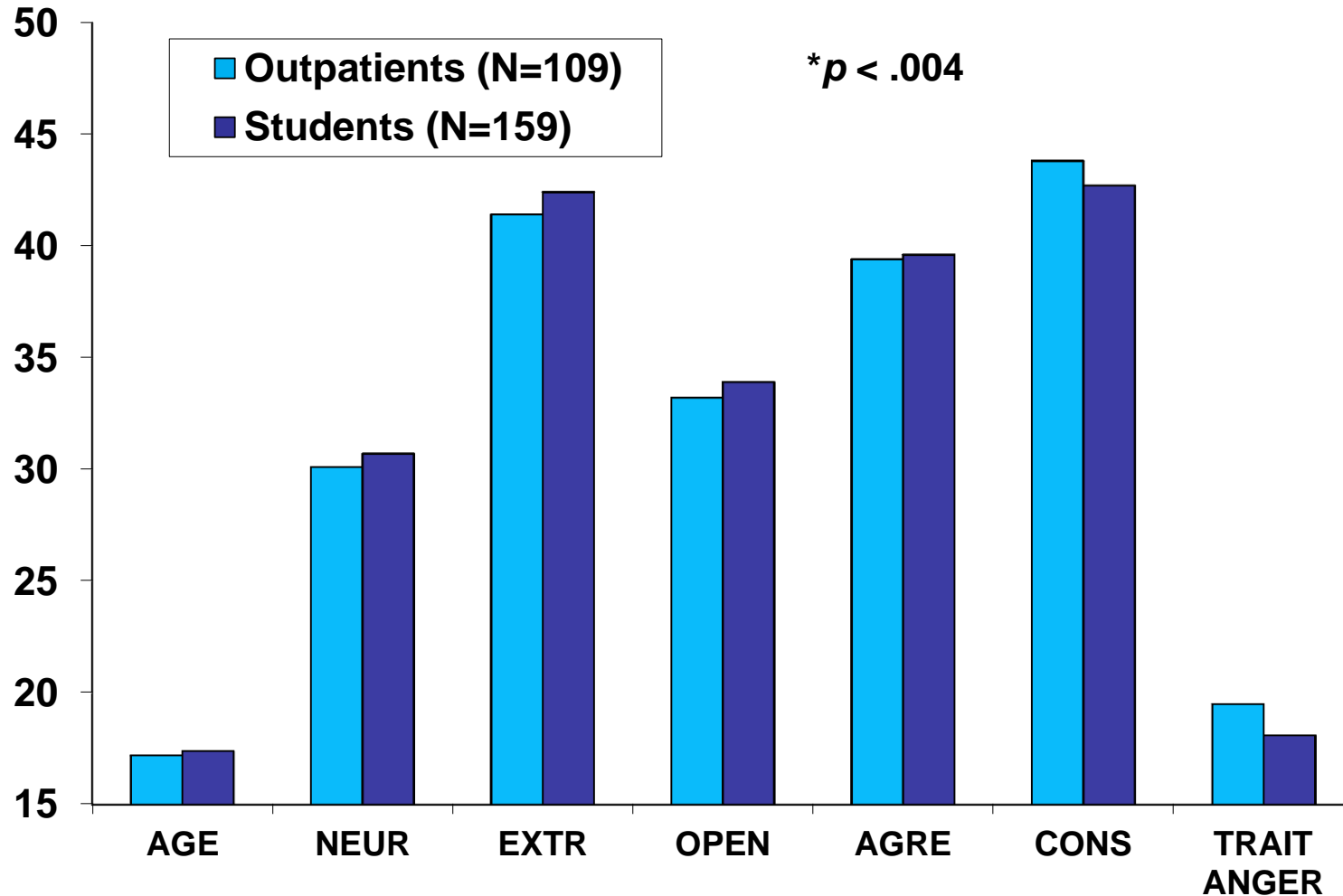
Outpatients versus norms (N = 200)



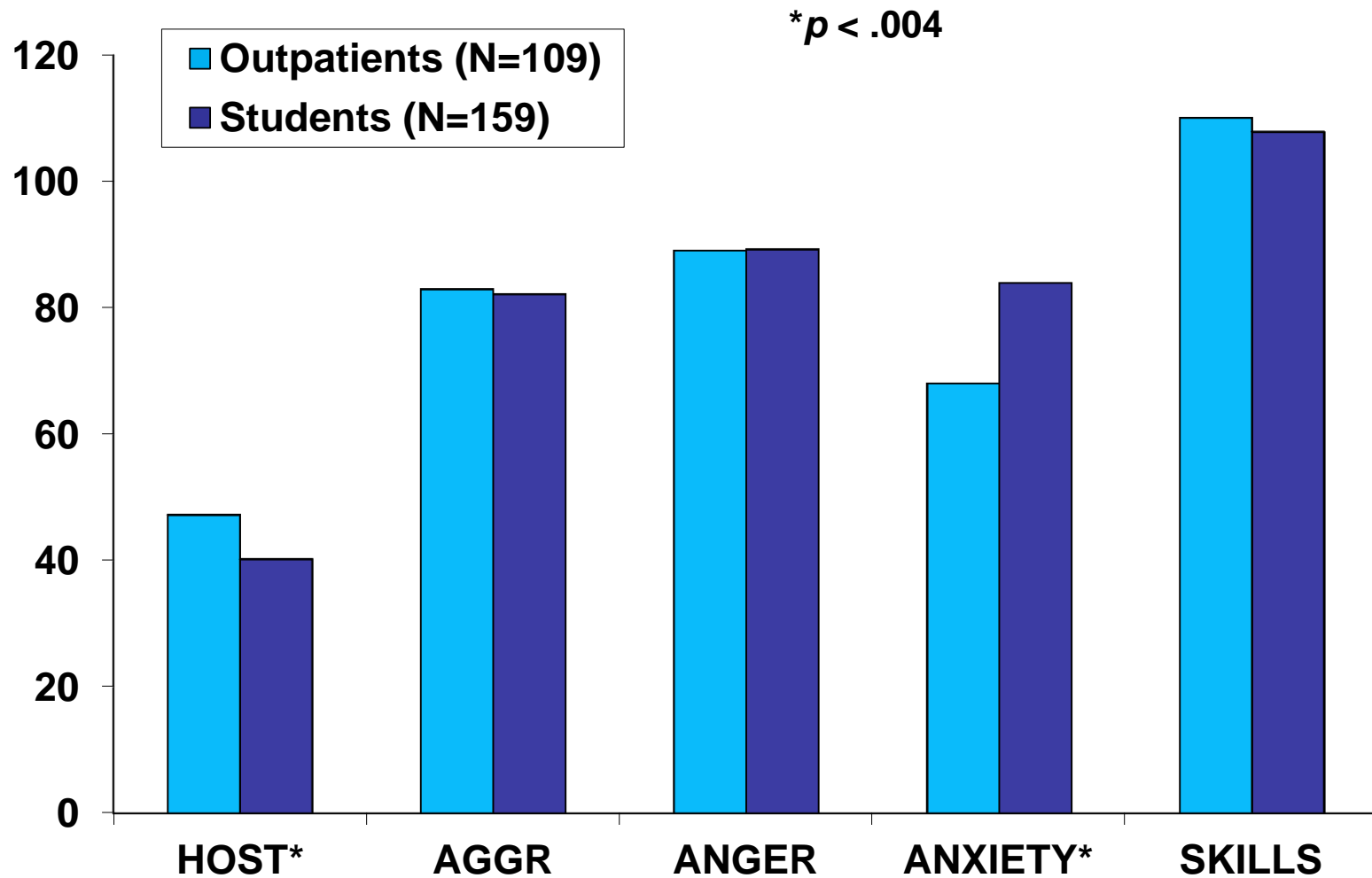
Adolescent outpatients ($N = 123$) versus male students ($N = 160$)



Outpatients vs. students: personality traits



Outpatients vs. students: problem behaviors



Treatment programs

- **Treatment programs for forensic psychiatric patients should focus on the change of dynamic criminogenic needs.**
- **For violent inpatients, cognitive-behavioral treatment programs turned out to be most effective.**
- **For violent outpatients, structured family therapies and cognitive-behavioral treatment programs turned out to be most effective.**
- **In general, effect sizes are small. However, treatment is cost-effective, if performed by well-educated and well-trained therapists/trainers.**
- **In the Netherlands the effect of treatment programs for forensic psychiatric patients has been and is assessed only by the current presenters.**



Behavior change in inpatients



Observation Scale for Aggressive Behavior (OSAB; Hornsveld et al., 2007)

Six subscales:

- Irritation/anger (5 items)
- Anxiety/Gloominess (4 items)
- Aggressive behavior (10 items)
- Prosocial behavior (12 items)
- Antecedents (6 items)
- Sanctions (3 items)

Scoring: Behavior on the ward during last week



Examples of items

- **Irritation/anger:** ‘agitated’, ‘hostile’
- **Anxiety/Gloominess:** ‘anxious’, ‘gloomy’
- **Aggressive behavior:** ‘threats toward staff’, ‘abusive language towards fellow patients’
- **Prosocial behavior:** ‘adequately making contact with staff’, ‘makes good proposals towards fellow patients’
- **Antecedents:** ‘conflict about appointment’, ‘conflict about restrictive measure’
- **Sanctions:** ‘patient has to apologize’, ‘patient is sent to his room’



Scores of subscales

Scoring of items: 'no' = 1, 'seldom' = 2, 'occasionally' = 3, and 'frequently' = 4

Range of subscale scores:

- **Irritation/anger: 5 - 20**
- **Anxiety/Gloominess: 4 - 16**
- **Aggressive behavior: 10 - 40**
- **Prosocial behavior: 12 - 48**
- **Antecedents: 6 - 24**
- **Sanctions: 3 -13**



Table 1. Number of patients.

	Total group		Personality disordered		Chronic psychotic	
	<i>N</i>	<i>M (SD)</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>M(SD)</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>M(SD)</i>
1	253	37.49 (10.38)	159	38.62 (10.64)	94	35.56 (9.69)
2	248	37.40 (10.44)	157	38.58 (10.68)	91	35.37 (9.75)
3	236	37.17 (10.41)	148	38.38 (10.66)	88	35.15 (9.69)
4	213	37.20 (10.34)	134	38.69 (10.88)	79	34.67 (8.86)
5	178	36.97 (10.46)	108	38.69 (11.14)	70	34.30 (8.74)
6	146	37.03 (10.17)	86	38.99 (10.77)	60	34.22 (8.58)
7	115	36.97 (10.27)	70	38.79 (10.75)	45	34.13 (8.85)
8	84	36.68 (9.57)	54	39.09 (10.22)	30	32.33 (6.40)
9	70	37.03 (9.66)	47	39.11 (10.29)	23	32.78 (6.58)
10	48	35.75 (8.91)	30	37.50 (9.90)	18	32.83 (6.17)



Figure 1. Irritation/anger, Aggressive behavior, and Sanctions.

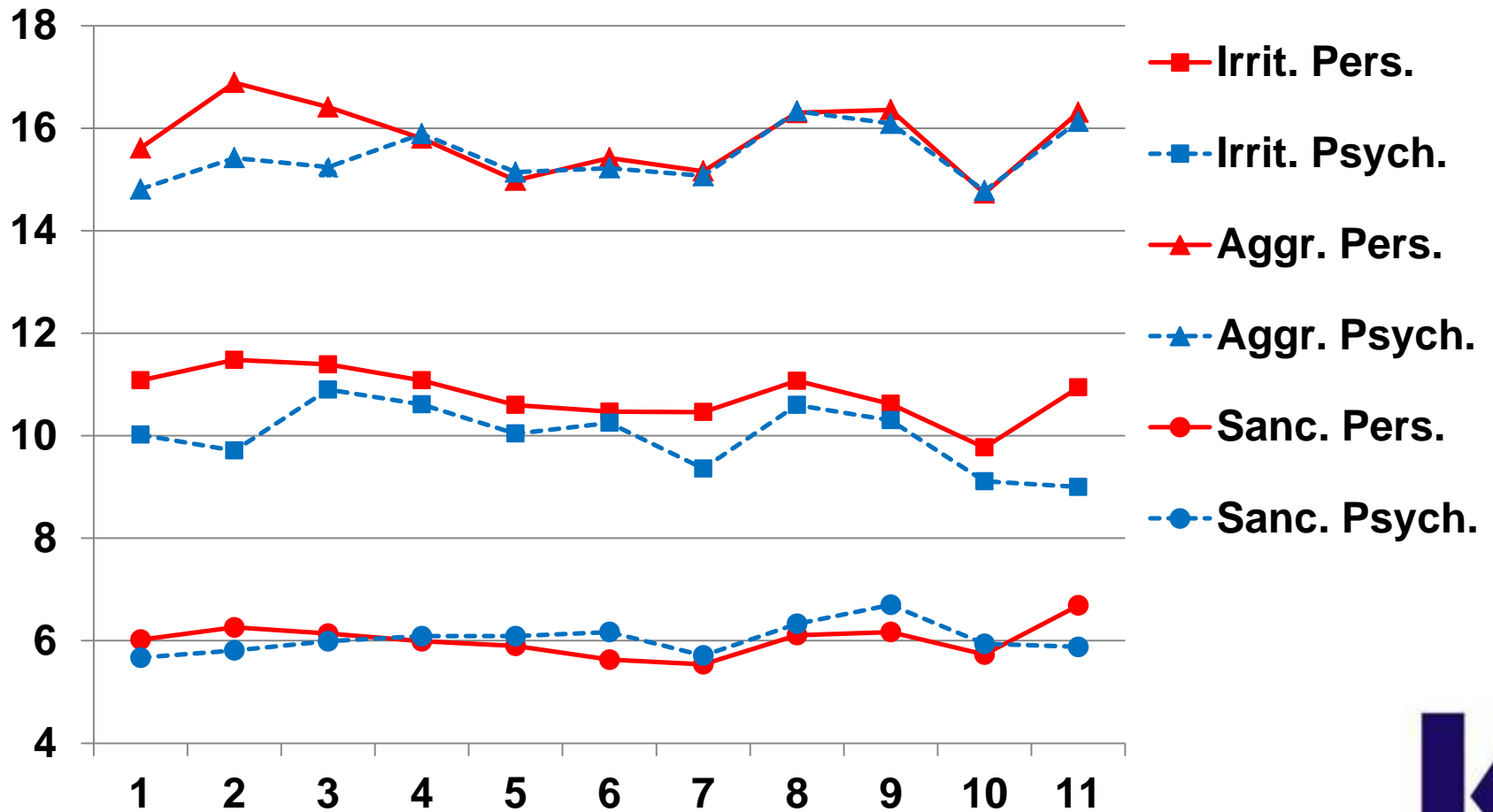


Figure 2. Anxiety/gloominess, Prosocial behavior, and Antecedents.

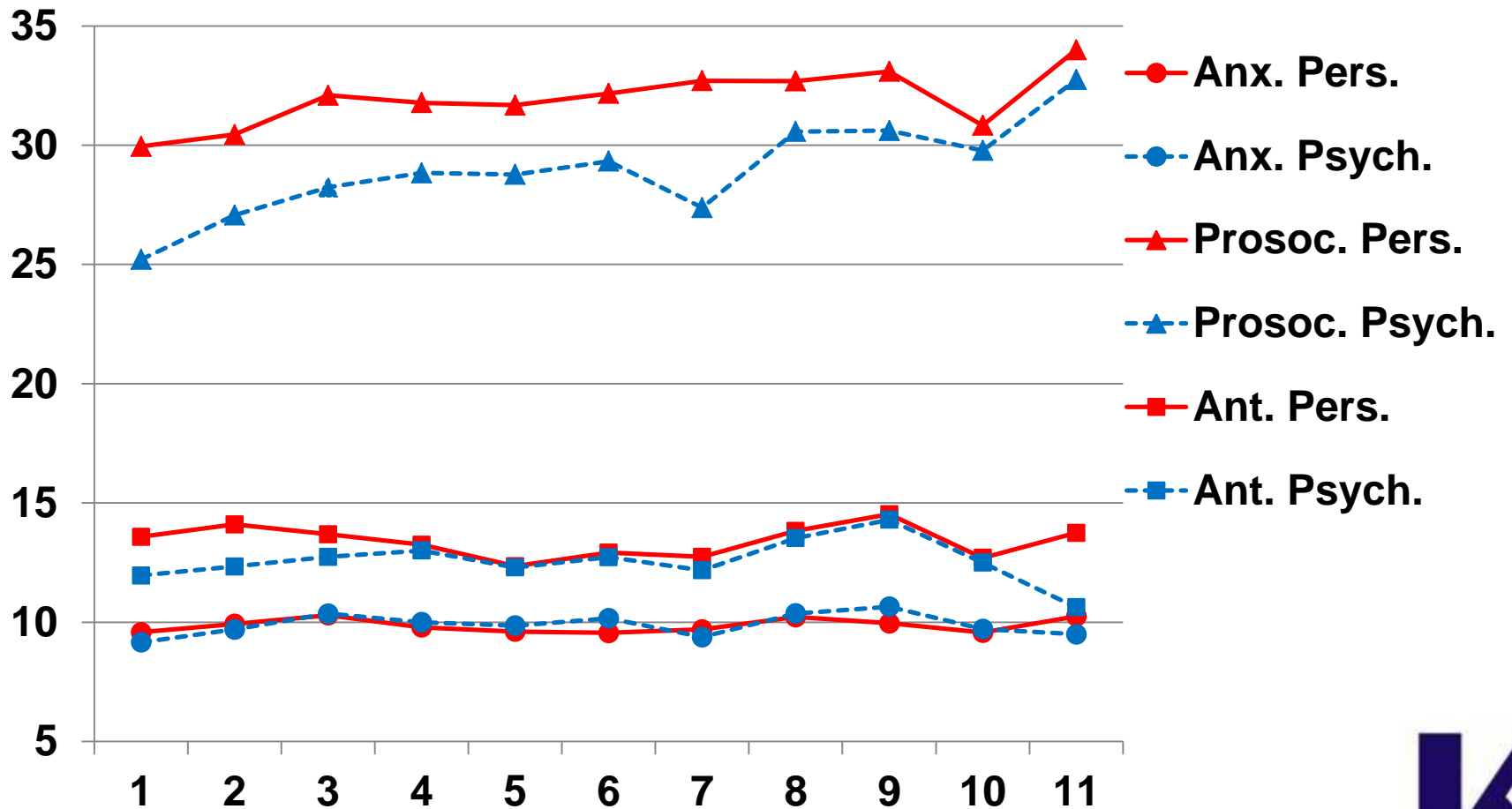


Figure 3. *Psychopathic and nonpsychopathic patients.*

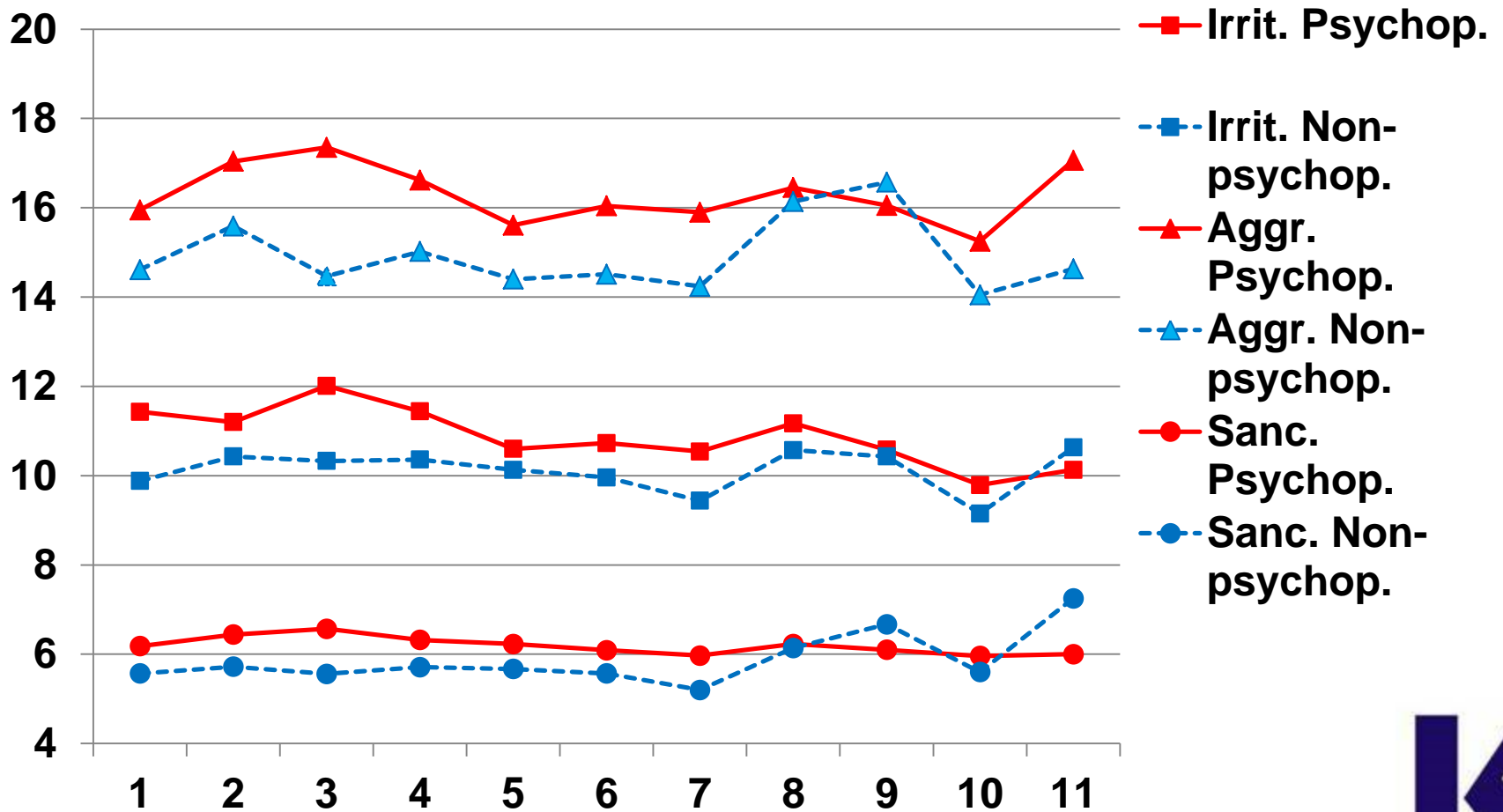


Figure 4. *Psychopathic and nonpsychopathic patients.*

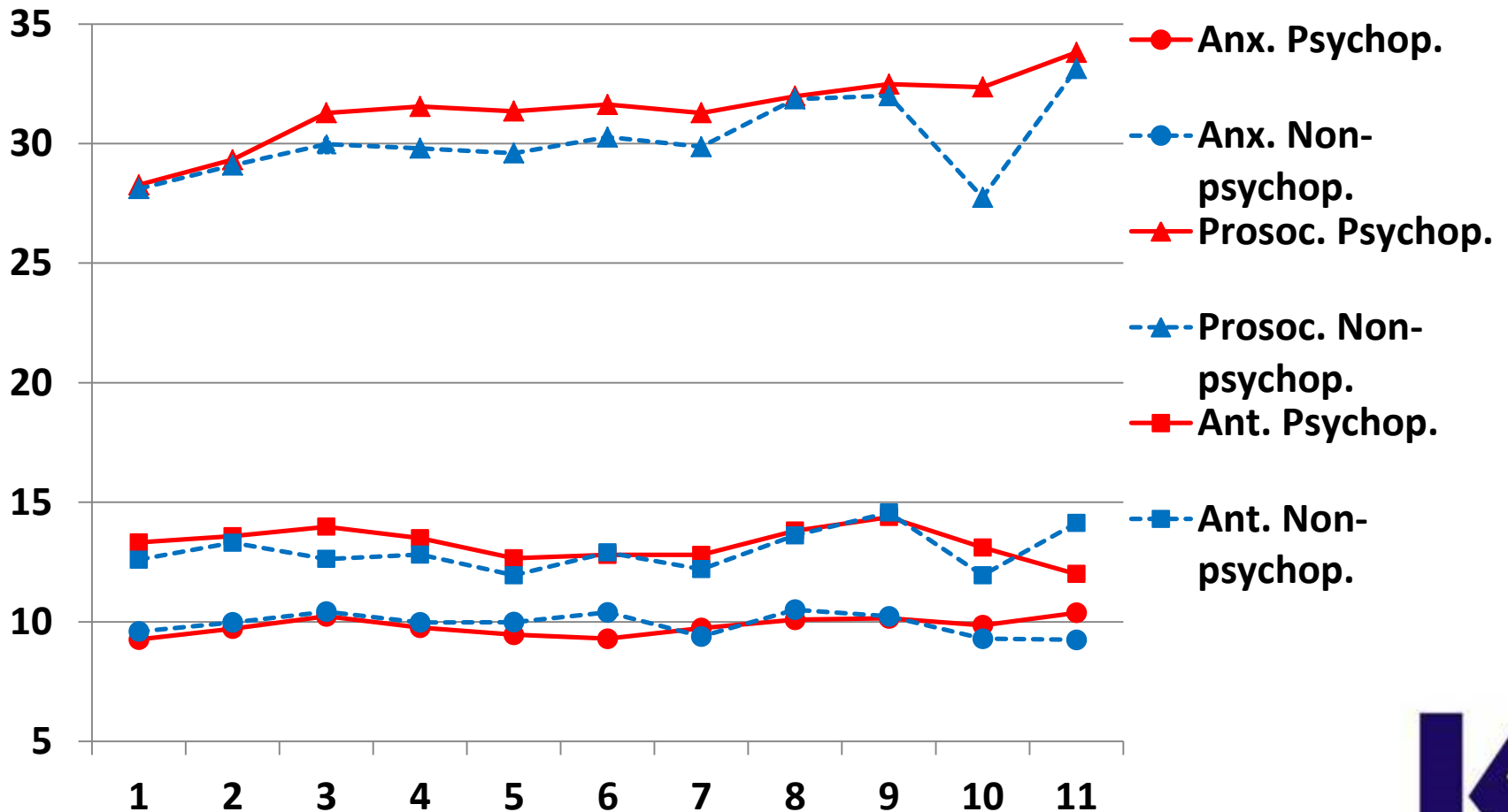


Table 2. Mean scores and standard deviations.

Measure	Factor or sub-scale	Personality disordered		Chronically psychotic		Differences between subsamples
		<i>N</i>	<i>M (SD)</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>M (SD)</i>	
PCL-R	Total	159	22.25 (8.06)	94	17.96 (7.84)	$F(2,250) = 13.13 (p < .001)^{**}$
	Facet 1	159	3.57 (2.47)	94	1.80 (1.88)	$F(2,250) = 18.02 (p < .001)^{**}$
	Facet 2	159	6.13 (1.72)	94	5.64 (1.84)	$F(2,250) = 3.10 (p = .047)^*$
	Facet 3	159	5.94 (2.76)	94	4.98 (2.90)	$F(2,250) = 14.01 (p < .001)^{**}$
	Facet 4	159	5.11 (2.81)	94	4.68 (2.81)	$F(2,250) = 6.58 (p = .002)^{**}$
NEO-FFI	Neuro	97	32.24 (8.49)	48	31.73 (7.92)	$F(2,142) = 0.95 (p = .909)$
	Agree	97	41.59 (5.23)	48	42.52 (4.93)	$F(2,142) = 0.53 (p = .591)$
STAS	Anger	92	17.91 (6.64)	47	15.85 (4.29)	$F(2,136) = 1.94 (p = .148)$

Table 3. Correlations OSAB and personality traits during measurement 1 .

Measure	Factors or sub-scales	OSAB scores					
		Irritation/ Anger	Anxiety/ Gloom- iness	Aggres- sive be- havior	Pro- social behavior	Antece- dents	Sanct- ions
PCL-R	Total	.236**	-.059	.162**	.108*	.143*	.168**
	Facet 1	.168**	-.003	.086	.160**	.109*	.042
	Facet 2	.150**	-.084	.075	.036	.054	.079
	Facet 3	.241**	-.022	.193**	.058	.179**	.224**
	Facet 4	.203**	-.063	.162**	.089	.138*	.180**
NEO-FFI	Neur.	.158*	.183*	.151*	-.013	.118	.165*
	Agree.	-.119	-.012	-.160*	.010	-.120	-.157*
STAS	Anger	.177*	.095	.224**	.074	.198**	.204**



Table 4. Correlations between scores on OSAB subscales and PCL-R total score

Measure- ment	N	OSAB scores		
		Irritation/anger	Aggressive beh.	Sanctions
1	253	.236**	.162**	.168**
2	248	.164**	.205**	.193**
3	236	.226**	.242**	.203**
4	213	.180**	.199**	.201**
5	178	.194**	.183*	.192*
6	146	.169*	.167*	.172*
7	115	.201*	.152	.190*
8	84	.121	.099	.036
9	70	.093	.031	-.004
10	48	.147	.160	.086
11	24	-.039	.308	-.001

* $p < .05$,
** $p < .01$



Preliminary conclusions

- No relation between length of stay and mood, aggressive behavior, and sanctions.
- However, social skills are too limited to be related to length of stay.
- Personality disordered patients exhibit more anger, more aggressive behavior, and more prosocial behavior than chronic psychotic patients.
- Patients with relatively high scores on the PCL-R exhibit more anger, more aggressive behavior, but also more prosocial behavior than patients with relatively low scores on the PCL-R.
- In general, base rates are low.



Discussion

- **What are the consequences of these results for risk assessment?**
- **What are the consequences of these results for treatment evaluation and program evaluation?**
- **Do the results demonstrate that for most patients a hospital stay of three years can be followed by an intensive outpatient treatment?**



Summary

