Stanford



Maria Lee

Postdoctoral Scholar, Psychiatry

Bio

BIO

I am a clinical psychologist from Sweden, currently doing my postdoctoral fellowship at the Department of Psychiatry. With over 10 years of clinical experience in Sweden, I specialize in working with patients with severe mental illness, primarily psychotic disorders such as schizophrenia. The majority of my clinical work has been done in outpatient clinics for individuals with recent onset of psychosis and I have extensive experience doing cognitive and diagnostic assessments, as well as delivering cognitive behavioral therapy in this population.

My current research focuses specifically on the menopause transition and severe mental illness. The aim of my project is to assess how this period affects risk of developing severe mental illness, as well as how menopause affects the clinical course for those already diagnosed with severe mental illness.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Wallenberg - Bienenstock Postdoctoral Fellow, Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation (2025-2027)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Master of Science, Stockholm University , Psychology (2013)
- PhD, Karolinska Institutet , Medical Sciences - Clinical Neuroscience (2024)

STANFORD ADVISORS

- Alison Hwong, Postdoctoral Faculty Sponsor

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **COGNITIVE TRAJECTORIES IN AGING ADULTS WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA: A 13-YEAR STUDY ACCOUNTING FOR SELECTIVE ATTRITION**
  Lee, M., Matheson, G. J., Hwong, A., Lee, E., Agartz, I., Jonsson, E.
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- **Generalizability of findings from neurobiological studies of individuals with first-episode psychosis: a cohort study** *SCHIZOPHRENIA*
  Cullen, A. E., Lee, M., Josefsson, P., Sellgren, C. M., Erhardt, S., Mittendorfer-Rutz, E., Cervenka, S.
  2026; 12 (1)
- **Cognition before and after psychosis onset: A naturalistic study of change, heterogeneity, and prognosis.** *Schizophrenia research. Cognition*
  Lee, M., Cullen, A. E., Matheson, G. J., Lu, Z. A., Bergen, S. E., Sellgren, C. M., Erhardt, S., Fatouros-Bergman, H., Cervenka, S.
  2025; 42: 100387

- **Pain threshold and pain tolerance in young people with self-injurious behavior: A systematic review and meta-analysis.** *Psychiatry research*
  Pontén, M., Lee, M., Khoo, S., Nilsson, G., Nevin, E., Walldén, Y., Ougrin, D., Cummins, T. M., Flygare, O., Bjureberg, J.
  2025; 351: 116638
- **Cognitive Function and Variability in Antipsychotic Drug-Naive Patients With First-Episode Psychosis: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.** *JAMA psychiatry*
  Lee, M., Cernvall, M., Borg, J., Plavén-Sigray, P., Larsson, C., Erhardt, S., Sellgren, C. M., Fatouros-Bergman, H., Cervenka, S.
  2024; 81 (5): 468-476
- **Facial affect recognition in first-episode psychosis is impaired but not associated with psychotic symptoms.** *Heliyon*
  Larsson, C., Lee, M., Lundgren, T., Erhardt, S., Sellgren, C. M., Cervenka, S., Borg, J., Bölte, S., Fatouros-Bergman, H.
  2022; 8 (9): e10424
- **Thalamic dopamine D2-receptor availability in schizophrenia: a study on antipsychotic-naive patients with first-episode psychosis and a meta-analysis.** *Molecular psychiatry*
  Plavén-Sigray, P., Ikonen Victorsson, P., Santillo, A., Matheson, G. J., Lee, M., Collste, K., Fatouros-Bergman, H., Sellgren, C. M., Erhardt, S., Agartz, I., Halldin, C., Farde, L., Cervenka, et al
  2022; 27 (2): 1233-1240
- **No association between cortical dopamine D2 receptor availability and cognition in antipsychotic-naive first-episode psychosis.** *NPJ schizophrenia*
  Lee, M., Fatouros-Bergman, H., Plavén-Sigray, P., Ikonen Victorsson, P., Sellgren, C. M., Erhardt, S., Flyckt, L., Farde, L., Cervenka, S.
  2021; 7 (1): 46