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INTERNAL ENCODING STYLE AND SCHIZOTYPY IN A SUB-CLINICAL SAMPLE R.V. Valérie, S. Belavachi, M. Van der Linden

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Introduction: This study examined the relation between schizotypy and the encoding style in a sub-clinical sample. We evaluated, first, the level of schizotypy with the Schizotypal Personality Questionnaire (SPQB) (Raine and al, 1995). Three factors are evaluated a) cognitive-perceptual factor,

b) interpersonal factor and disorganisation.

For the encoding style, we use the Encoding Style Questionnaire (ESQ) (Lewicki, 2005). Two type of encoding process exist, the "hasty" (or internal, based on internal encoding schemata) versus conservative (or external, base on data from external stimuli) (Lewicki, 2005). Internal encoding style may contribute to the development of different

psychopathological symptoms, like Paranoia, Anxiety disorders and Depression (Hill, Lewiski and Neubauer, 1991), because of the self-perpetuation of dysfunctional schemata.

Participants and procedure: A total of 184 students (113 women and 71 men) participated at this study. The mean age of the sample was 22,58 years (SD= 1,96). They were test using a French version of the ESQ, the brief SPQB, State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI), The Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression (CES-D) Scale.

Results: The results demonstrated that we have a positive correlation between internal encoding style, schizotypy, depression and anxiety. Secondly, a high level of internal encoding style means a high level of congnitivo-perceptual and for interpersonal factors with an impact of depression and anxiety.

Conclusion: An internal encoding style is link with a high score in schizotypy.