Illness attributions among ethnic minorities: assessment and clinical relevance
Ghane, S.

Citation for published version (APA):

General rights
It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations
If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: http://uba.uva.nl/en/contact, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.
Acknowledgements
This work would not have been possible without the support and contribution of a number of people, to whom I would like to express my utmost gratitude.

First and foremost, I would like to thank my co-promotor and mentor, Dr. Annemarie Kolk, who awakened my interest in scientific research, inspired me to pursue a PhD, and continuously supported me both personally and professionally. During the ten years of our association, she consistently inspired me by setting an example as a critical thinker and an accurate researcher. I am grateful to her for too many things to mention in a brief acknowledgement, and although she has left us far too soon, I hope that a small amount of her vast knowledge may live through me in my own lifetime.

My promotor, Professor Paul Emmelkamp, has always been an incredible source of inspiration and support to me. I would like to thank him for his patience, valuable guidance and his ingenious solutions to many problems I encountered during this project. I feel honored to have conducted my research under his supervision, and hope to continue our cooperation in the years to come.

I would like to express my gratitude to all patients and therapists who spent hours answering my questions without getting much in return, to Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) for funding this project, and to professor Merel Kindt and professor Gerard Kerkhof for providing additional financial support. The data for this thesis, were almost exclusively collected by my former students who spent countless hours travelling to different locations, and interviewing participants. In no particular order, I would like to thank Mirte van Gaalen, Mirte de Vries, Floor Stitselaar, Lotte van der Maas, Hanae Beghyil, Marianne Louwerse, Anneloes Roos, Jeroen Tien, Kaya Peerdeman, Jurriana de Graaff, Shehzad Raja, Malika Benhija, Els Dannenberg, Josina Ozinga, Celine Melse, Marriette de Jong, Kees van der Mijn, Francine Melman, Sanne Barendse, Nadia Elhanchi, Jantien Brohm, Mirjam Wilting, Chiara Tinselboer, Pien Turel, Carine de Wilde, Michelle Klein Twennaar, Rowan de Jong, Rosanne Anholt, and Jorien Kingma. I am also deeply grateful to all who assisted our team during the data collection, especially Evin Aktar, Ozum Saygi, Yasemin Erbas, Houda Beghyil, and Ismail Beghyil.

The data collection in this project was a lengthy and frustrating process. I would like to thank the management and staff of all participating centers for their patience and efforts to facilitate this project. I would especially like to mention Cemil Bozkir, Carien Pille, Fatima Ahyad and Ajoes jankie at Bavo RNO Groep, Michael van den Boogaard, Dr. Cor Hoffer and Angelina Franken at GGZ Groep.
I would like to acknowledge a number of people who generously supported this project by offering their valuable advices. I am grateful to Hans Rohlof who made me interested in the study of explanatory models of illness, to professor Mitchell Weiss for his advice on the use of the EMIC, and to Dr. Helma van den Berg, Dr. Sonja van Well, Dr. Bram Vervliet, and professor Jan de Houwer whose ideas helped designing the indirect associations task. I would also like to thank Dr. Cor Hoffer, Rob van Dijk, Ronald May, Cemil Bozkir, professor Sjaak van der Geest, and Dr. Els van Dongen whose ideas helped shaping the theoretical basis for this thesis. I am indebted to Dr. Conor Dolan for his statistical advice, to Harrie Vorst for his recommendations on using a social desirability measure, to Julie Visser for her thoughtful comments on the manuscript, and to Bert Molenkamp and Nico Notebaart for technical assistance.

I had a pleasant time working at the Department of Psychology of UvA. I am grateful to all my (former) colleagues for their support and kindness, especially Marieke Effting and Leentje Vervoort, with whom I shared an office (and frustrations) during our PhD projects, Sonja van Well, Gerly de Boo, Katharina Meyerbroeker, Saskia van den Oord, Bram Vervliet, Mark Spiering, Rietta Oberink, Kitty Rolf, Sandra Raabe, Thomas Ehring, Sandra Diets, Herman Vinckers, Christina Nikijuluw, and last but certainly not least, my good friend, Kiki Hohnen.

Finally I would like to express my gratitude to a number of people in my personal life, who never failed to support me during the past few years. I thank Behnaz Taebi who made great sacrifices, offering me much love and encouragement. I am grateful to Zhaleh Forouzan for her kindness and support (as well as designing the fabulous cover), and to my good friends Ali Mesbah, Annet Verdult, Behnam Taebi, Blanka Conze, Floris Muller, Manny Nickpour, Negin Rahanjam, Nicole Sadler, Parham Solaimani, Payman Porraziki, Peyman Jafari, Rahele Mesbah, Samira Farahani, and Ugur Ungor. Finally I thank my great family, my lovely parents, Sarang, Saviz, and Sebnem, who always graced me with their love and encouragement.