

Quick Study Guide

Topic: Schizophrenia Spectrum – Concepts & Definitions

Related Course(s): Psych 1100, 2400, 3600

Schizophrenia Disorders – Concepts & Definitions

Schizophrenia - a group of psychoses marked by severe distortion of thought (delusions), perception (hallucinations), and mood; and by bizarre behavior; and disturbances in movement and social withdrawal.

Although the DSM-5 has removed the subtypes as a separate clinical disorder, they can still be helpful as specifiers and for treatment planning.

Catatonic Schizophrenia – type of schizophrenia characterized by severe psychomotor disturbances.

Disorganized schizophrenia—a form of schizophrenia characterized by pronounced incoherence of speech, childlike disturbed affect such as giggling wildly and assuming absurd postures, and disorganized behavior, or lack of goal orientation. Also called hebephrenic schizophrenia.

Paranoid schizophrenia - a form of schizophrenia characterized by consistent delusions and/or hallucinations, often related to themes of suspicion, persecution and grandeur.

Undifferentiated schizophrenia - a form of schizophrenia characterized a mix of symptoms and that is not dominated by any one particular symptom.

Residual schizophrenia – a form of schizophrenia in which prominent psychotic type symptoms have subsided however, lingering symptoms of the disorder continue.

Phases of Schizophrenia

Active Phase – period of time when symptoms are prominent

Prodromal Phase – period of time prior to the active phase in which one's level of functioning begins to deteriorate

Residual Phase - period of time after the active phase in which symptoms are present, though subsided

Positive Symptoms – those symptoms that distort thought, emotion and behavior such as hallucinations (hearing voices) paranoid delusions and exaggerated or distorted perceptions, beliefs and behaviors.

Negative Symptoms - those symptoms that demonstrate a lower level of functioning or A loss or a decrease in the ability to initiate plans, speak, express emotion or find pleasure.

Disorganization symptoms – Confused and disordered thinking and speech, trouble with logical thinking and sometimes bizarre behavior or abnormal movements.

Impaired cognition – Problems with attention, concentration, memory and declining educational performance