

SCHIZOPHRENIA

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What is Schizophrenia?

Schizophrenia is a serious brain disorder that distorts the way a person thinks, acts, expresses emotions, perceives reality, and relates to others.

People with Schizophrenia may hear voices and see things that others can not, believe bizarre concepts are real, be fearful and paranoid, and may have poor self care.

What is Schizophrenia?

- *They may think people are trying to hurt them.*
- *Sometimes they don't make any sense when they talk making it hard for them to communicate.*
- *Schizophrenia often makes it hard for people to keep a job or take care of themselves.*

Positive symptoms of Schizophrenia

Hallucinations

- *When a person sees, hears, smells, tastes, or feels things that no one else can.*

Delusions

- *When a person believes things that are not true. For example, people on the radio or TV are talking directly to him or her (ideas of reference). Or they may believe they are married to someone famous, like Vin Diesel. Or they make think they are famous themselves, or own the hospital, and therefore your boss.*

Positive symptoms of Schizophrenia

Thought disorders

- *Way of thinking that are not useful or helpful, a person may stop talking in the middle of a sentence or make up words that have no meaning (neologisms).*

Movement disorders

- *May appear as agitated body movement, a person may repeat motions over and over.*

Negative symptoms of Schizophrenia

Affective flattening

- *lack of expressed emotion*

Alogia

- *lack of speech*

Avolition

- *lack of motivation*



Treatment for Schizophrenia

- ★ *Although there is no cure for schizophrenia, the treatment success rate with antipsychotic medications and psycho-social therapies can be high*
- ★ *Medications: **Atypical Antipsychotics***
 - Clozaril**
 - *Common SE's include; sedation, weight gain, increased salivation, constipation, seizure, cardiac, agranulocytosis orthostatic hypotension*
 - Abilify**
 - *Common SE's; weight gain, headache somnolence, orthostatic hypotension*

Treatment for Schizophrenia

- *Medications: Atypical Antipsychotics*

Zyprexa

- *Common SE's; weight gain, diabetes, somnolence, constipation, dizziness*

Risperdal

- *Common SE's; extrapyramidal symptoms, postural hypotension, weight gain, hyperglycemia.*

Treatment for Schizophrenia

- Medications: *Typical Antipsychotics*

- *Thorazine*

- *Common SE's; Sedation, postural hypotension, weight gain, sexual dysfunction, tardive dyskinesia, neuroleptic malignant syndrome (rare but FATAL!!)*

- *Haldol*

- *Common SE's; extra pyramidal symptoms, dystonias, restlessness, hypotension, and same SE's as Mellaril*

Treatment for Schizophrenia

- *Therapeutic communication*
- *Be understanding and present*
- *Encourage disclosure*
- *Increase feelings of self-worth*
- *Promote increased understanding (insight)*
- *Encourage problem solving*
- *Facilitate decision making*
- *Watch for cues*
- *Paranoia, agitation*

