

Emerging Concept of Psychotic Disorders

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Psychotic Disorders

Psychotic disorders are mental disorders in which a person's personality is severely confused and that person loses touch with reality. When a psychotic episode occurs, a person becomes unsure about what is real and what isn't real and usually experiences hallucinations, delusions, off-the-wall behaviour, chaotic speech and incoherency. A person behaving in this manner is often referred to as being schizophrenic.

Hallucination

A hallucination is an internal sensory perception that isn't actually present and can be either visual or auditory. Smelling odours or having a funny taste in the mouth are other hallucinations that may occur.

Visual hallucinations: Visual hallucinations involve seeing things that aren't there. The hallucinations may be of objects, visual patterns, people, or lights.

Olfactory hallucinations: Olfactory hallucinations involve your sense of smell. You might smell an unpleasant odor when waking up in the middle of the night or feel that your body smells bad when it doesn't.

This type of hallucination can also include scents you find enjoyable, like the smell of flowers.

Gustatory hallucinations: Gustatory hallucinations are similar to olfactory hallucinations, but they involve your sense of taste instead of smell.

Auditory hallucinations: Auditory hallucinations are among the most common type of hallucination. You might hear someone speaking to you or telling you to do certain things. The voice may be angry, neutral, or warm.

Tactile hallucinations: Tactile hallucinations involve the feeling of touch or movement in your body. For example, you might feel that bugs are crawling on your skin or that your internal organs are moving around. You might also feel the imagined touch of someone's hands on your body.

Delusion

A delusion is defined as a false, inaccurate belief that a person holds on to erotomanic. Someone with this type of delusional disorder believes that another person, often someone important or famous, is in love with him or her. The person might attempt to contact the object of the delusion, and stalking behaviour is not uncommon. There are different types of delusions:-

Grandiose: A person with this type of delusional disorder has an over-inflated sense of worth, power, knowledge, or identity. The person might believe he or she has a great talent or has made an important discovery.

Jealous: A person with this type of delusional disorder believes that his or her spouse or sexual partner is unfaithful.

Persecutory: People with this type of delusional disorder believe that they (or someone close to them) are being mistreated, or that someone is spying on them or planning to harm them. It is not uncommon for people with this type of delusional disorder to make repeated complaints to legal authorities.

Somatic: A person with this type of delusional disorder believes that he or she has a physical defect or medical problem.

Mixed: People with this type of delusional disorder have two or more of the types of delusions listed above.

Schizoaffective Disorder

In patients suffering from schizoaffective disorder mood swings are observed such as depression or hyper activeness.

Schizophreniform Disorder

When a patient with schizophrenia has symptoms that last fewer than six months are diagnosed with schizophreniform disorder.

Brief Psychotic Disorder

Some stressful situation can lead to sudden and short episode of Psychotic behaviour.

Substance-Induced Psychotic Disorder

In this type, substances like methamphetamines and alcohol cause delusions and hallucinations. This is known as substance-induced psychotic disorder.

Paraphrenia

It is a type of psychotic disorder seen in elderly patients.

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