

SCHIZOPHRENIA

Umbrella term

Causes

POSITIVE SX

Hallucinations

Delusions

Disorganized behavior

Thought disorder

NEGATIVE SX

Doesn't have much to say

Doesn't show emotion (flat affect)

Doesn't get pleasure from favorite activities

Doesn't seem motivated for anything

Isn't able to concentrate

Loss of social interest

Treatment

Medications

Psychoeducation

Remember persons with schizophrenia may experience:

- Low motivation
- Hygiene problems
- Homelessness
- Is unable to follow through with directions
- Building rapport may take longer
- May have difficulty remembering their medicine
- Cigarettes are important

Do's:

- Ask the person if their voices ever tell them to do things (you are assessing for danger towards self and/or others)
- Speak slowly
- Use shorter sentences
- Be concrete
- Understand client may be fearful
- Understand clients are doing the best they can
- Remember symptoms can improve
- Remember just because the subject may not show emotion they may still be having emotional experiences

DON'T:

- Speak quickly
- Give laundry lists of instructions
- Move quickly
- Forget to ask what their voices are saying to them

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MOOD DISORDERS

Causes

MANIA

Elated, happy mood
Irritable, angry, unpleasant
Increased energy
Decreased sleep without fatigue
Racing thoughts
Flight of ideas
Increased talking
Rapid Speech
Grandiose
Increased risk taking
Impulsive
Psychosis

DEPRESSION

Loss of energy
Prolonged sadness
Decreased energy
Restless, irritable, angry
Difficulty concentrating
Increase or decrease in appetite and sleep
Less interested in activities, little enjoyment
Increased feelings of worry, anxiety, guilt
Feelings of hopelessness, helplessness
Thoughts of suicide
Decrease in libido
Psychosis

Treatment

Medications
Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy
Psychoeducation

Remember people with a mood disorder may:

- Have trouble remembering
- Have trouble concentrating on what you are saying
- May not be able to follow through with your instructions
- Be having thoughts of killing themselves
- May not be able to sit still (mania) or may have slow motor behavior (depression)
- May be hearing voices (auditory hallucinations)

Do's:

- Ask the person what meds they are taking and if they are taking them
- Ask the name and location of their doctor or service coordinator or case manager
- Ask about suicidal thoughts- Have they ever tried to kill themselves before?
- Remember it may be very difficult for a severely depressed person to talk
- Be concrete in your language
- Understand person is doing the best they can in that particular circumstance
- Remember symptoms can improve

Don't:

- Not attempt to reason with a person who is manic
- Don't give laundry lists of instructions
- Forget to ask if they are hearing voices

Psychosis

- Loss of contact with reality
- Perceptions and interpretations of the world are vastly different than other people
- Concealment
- Hallucinations- false sensory perceptions (hearing, seeing, feeling, smelling, etc.)
- Delusions- fixed false beliefs
- Disorganized speech and behavior

Various explanations

- General medical conditions
- Schizophrenia
- Drugs

Treatment

Medications- antipsychotics

Thorazine, Prolixin, Trilafon, Stelazine, Serentil, Haldol, Loxitane, Zyprexa, Risperdal, Seroquel, Navane, Clozaril, Geodone, Abilify

When you are communicating with a psychotic person:

- Speak slowly
- Use simple language
- Don't give a laundry list of instructions or directions
- Reduce external stimuli
- Don't make quick, unexpected motions

What to look for....

- Speech content doesn't make sense, bizarre behavior
- Darting eyes
- Talking to themselves or acting as if they are talking to someone else
- Appears to be listening to a conversation that you can't hear
- Looking around as if they are fearful
- Is the person having current thoughts of suicide? (If so, get a clinical assessment)

When interacting with a person with psychosis remember they may experience the following issues:

- Difficulty remembering
- Confusion
- Unable to follow complex directions
- Not likely to show up on time for next appointment
- May not remember to take their medications or remember their doctor's appointments
- May be fearful of you