
SCHIZOPHRENIA

AJITABH KUMAR

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY



Schizophrenia is a chronic, severe mental disorder that affects the way a person thinks, acts, expresses emotions, perceives reality, and relates to others.

Schizophrenia is a serious mental health condition that affects how people think, feel and behave. It may result in a mix of hallucinations, delusions, and disorganized thinking and behavior.

Hallucinations involve seeing things or hearing voices that aren't observed by others.

Delusions involve firm beliefs about things that are not true.

SYMPTOMS OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

- The main symptoms of **schizophrenia** can be categorized as either positive symptoms or negative symptoms.
- **Positive symptoms** are symptoms of addition, meaning they add something atypical or unusual to what other individuals experience, do, or think. Examples include hallucinations, delusions, and disorganized thinking and behaviors.
- **Negative symptoms** are those that result in noticeable decreases or absences in common behaviors, emotions, or drives . Examples include flattened emotional expression, lack of motivation for self-care, or significant social withdrawal.

SCHIZOPHRENIA

Schizophrenia is a severe and chronic mental health disorder that impacts thought processes, perceptions, emotions, and social functioning.

CORE SYMPTOMS:



HALLUCINATIONS:

Sensory experiences without external stimuli (e.g., hearing voices)



DISORGANIZED THINKING:

Incoherent or fragmented speech



NEGATIVE SYMPTOMS:

Reduced emotional expression, social withdrawal



DELUSIONS:

Strongly held false beliefs (e.g., paranoia, grandiosity)



Schizophrenia can severely impact daily life, with varying symptoms and severity. **Early diagnosis and targeted treatment are crucial** for managing symptoms and improving quality of life.



WHITE LIGHT
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

POSITIVE SYMPTOMS (PSYCHOTIC SYMPTOMS)

Positive symptoms reflect things that are present that should not be, namely:

Hallucinations: Seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, or feeling (through touch) things that are not there

Delusions: False beliefs that don't change even when the person is presented with evidence that they are false; these can present as extreme paranoia or irrational fears

Thought disorder: Unusual thinking or disorganized speech.

NEGATIVE SYMPTOMS

- **Negative symptoms**, on the other hand, are characteristics that should be present but are not. These might include:
 - Loss of motivation.
 - Disinterest or lack of enjoyment in daily life.
 - Social withdrawal and reduced speaking.
 - Difficulty showing emotions.
 - Difficulty planning, beginning, and sustaining activities.
 - Displaying a “flat affect” (difficulty expressing emotions using facial expression or voice tone).

COGNITIVE SYMPTOMS

- These include problems with attention, concentration, and memory, such as:
- Problems with processing information to make decisions.
- Difficulty using information immediately after learning it.
- Difficulty focusing or paying attention.

