

The background of the slide is a complex, abstract pattern of swirling colors. It features a mix of soft blues, purples, pinks, and oranges, creating a sense of movement and depth. The patterns are reminiscent of marbled paper or a microscopic view of certain materials, with some areas appearing more dense and others more ethereal.

Psychosis: The Basics

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Disclosures

None

Objectives

Understand

Understand the definition of psychosis

Understand

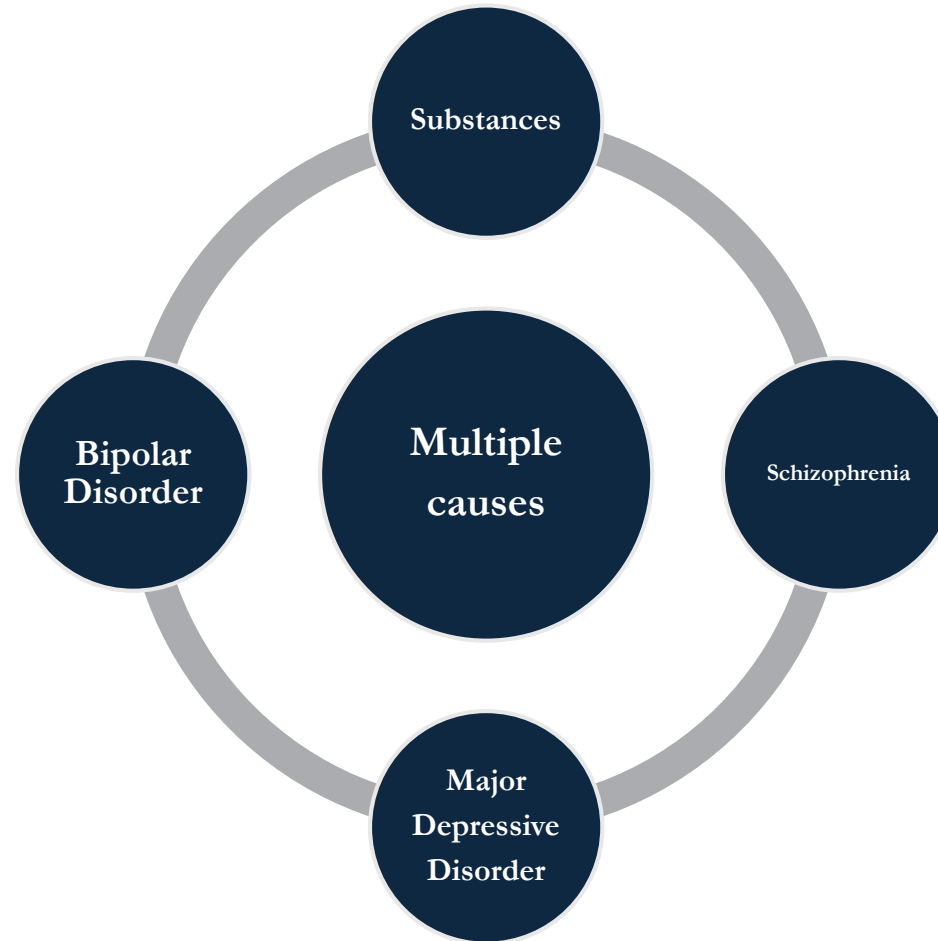
Understand the different presentations of psychosis

Understand

Understand facts about psychosis

Psychosis

Psychosis:
**A state of
altered reality**



Psychosis

Delusions

Hallucinations

Disorganized Speech

Disorganized Behavior

Negative Symptoms



Delusions

**Fixed false belief outside of the cultural
norm**

Types of Delusions

Persecutory

Somatic

Erotomaniac

Jealous

Grandiose

Persecutory Delusions

- Belief that one is being targeted, harmed, or tortured
- Includes paranoia
- Represents 80% of all delusions



Somatic Delusions

- Delusions involving bodily functions and sensations



Erotomaniac Delusions

- A false belief that someone is in love with the individual



Jealous Delusions

- Persistent, unrelenting content-specific delusions of a partner's infidelity
- Low prevalence (<1% world wide)
- Can be highly associated with an organic cause



Ortigue S, Bianchi-Demicheli F. Intention, false beliefs, and delusional jealousy: insights into the right hemisphere from neurological patients and neuroimaging studies. *Med Sci Monit.* 2011 Jan;17(1):RA1-11. doi: 10.12659/msm.881314. PMID: 21169919; PMCID:

PMC3524690.

Grandiose Delusions

- A belief that one has more talent, wealth, worth, or knowledge than others
- Also seen in Bipolar Mania



Hallucinations

- A false sensory perception
- 5 senses so five types of hallucinations:

Sensation	Frequency
Auditory	83.4
Visual	57.2
Tactile	27
Olfactory	27
Gustatory	14.4

Auditory Hallucinations

- Can be voices or nonverbal sounds
- Frequency ranges from once or twice per week or continuously
- Voices are often comprised of commands, personal insults, abuse
- On average, individuals hear 3 different voices



Visual Hallucinations

- Reported in 16-72% of individuals with Schizophrenia
- If present, may relate to a higher severity of disability
- In Schizophrenia, may involve vivid scenes of:
 - Family members
 - Religious figures
 - Animals
- Usually colorful with normal size people



Visual Hallucinations

Table 1

Features of Visual Hallucinations Indicative of Etiology

Features of Visual Hallucination	Most Likely Etiologies
Simple patterns, spots, shapes, or lines; unilateral distribution; associated with headache	Migraine, seizure, tumor
Macropsia, micropsia, metamorphopsia	Seizure, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease
Associated with going to, or waking from, sleep	Hypnagogic or hypnopompic hallucinations
Confabulation of all vision	Anton's syndrome
Frightening content	Psychotic disorder, delirium, hallucinogenic drug
Good insight	Charles Bonnet syndrome, migraine, peduncular hallucinosis

[Open in a separate window](#)

Tactile Hallucinations

Sensations of being
touched

Correlated with child sexual
abuse

Rarely a presenting
symptom of schizophrenia

Olfactory Hallucinations



- Reported in 4.2-14.5% of the general population
- In more than half of individuals, occur with auditory, visual, or tactile hallucinations
- May have an association with panic attacks
- No consistent effective treatment

Gustatory Hallucinations

- Distortions which occur spontaneously in the oral cavity in the absence of any food or beverage
- Occur in most patients who suffer a loss of taste acuity following several common events such as a viral-type illness, systemic allergic rhinitis or head injury
- Can also occur in mental illness

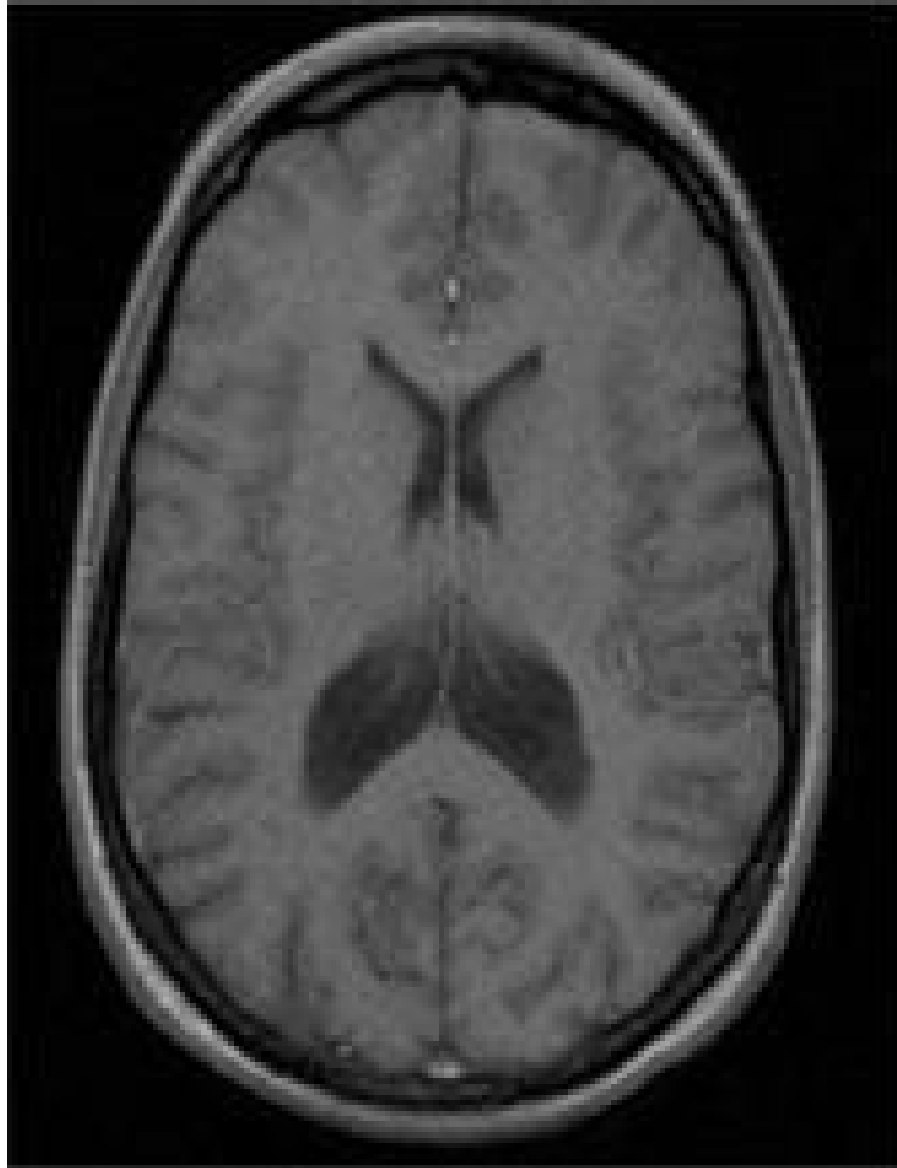
Frequency of Gustatory Hallucinations In Mental Disorders

Condition	Frequency
Schizophrenia	6.8%
Schizoaffective Disorder	2.0
Bipolar Disorder	2.2



Disorganized Speech

- Schizophrenia is a thought disorder
- Individuals lose the ability to connect and communicate thoughts in a rational manner
 - Can present in a variety of different ways



Categories of Disorganized Speech

Category	Description
Symbolism	Pairing of thoughts with the correct meaning.
Tempo	The fluidity of words and conversation.
Processing	Quality of thought content.
Continuity	Direction of thought and conversation.

Disorganized Speech

Word Choice and Usage

Type	Description
Paralogism	Unusual word choice.
Verbal paraphasia	Incorrect word usage.
Literal paraphasia	Disordered sounds or sound sequence in words.
Neologism	Creation of new words.
Displacement	Citing a similar idea but not the correct one.

Disorganized Speech

Thought and Speech Process

Type	Description
Contamination	Fusing ideas into one another.
Accelerated thinking	Rapid flow and increased volume of speech.
Flight of ideas	Losing track of where a thought is going.
Inhibited thinking	Slow processing of ideas.
Alogia	Restricted speech and/or inadequate relay of information.

Disorganized Speech Conversation Structure

Type	Description
Circumstantial thinking	Inability to determine essential information from unessential.
Desultory thinking	Random topic jumps during conversation.
Derailment	Sudden drop in train of thought.
Omission	Inability to recall a main thought point.
Overinclusive thinking	Conversation limits are never identified.

Disorganized Speech

Repetitive Speech Patterns

Type	Description
Echolalia	Repetition of words or phrases.
Palilalia	Fast repetition of words or phrases with decreasing audibility.
Thought blocking	Sudden gaps in thought for no obvious reason.
Verbigeration	Nonsensical repetition of words.
Incoherence	Complete speech disorganization; “word salad.”

Disorganized Behavior



BEHAVIOR THAT IS ABNORMAL OR INCONSISTENT



TENDS TO MANIFEST ITSELF IN DIFFICULTY
COMPLETING UNDERTAKINGS DUE TO TROUBLE
CREATING AND IMPLEMENTING A PLAN



CAN MANIFEST IN DIFFERENT WAYS

Disorganized Behavior

Category	Description
Child-like Behaviors	Displays irreverence, irritability, energy, and silliness, often acting in an infantile manner with difficulty engaging in serious or focused activities.
Socially Inappropriate Behaviors	Engages in behavior out of touch with social norms, including sexual promiscuity, lewd comments or gestures, inappropriate dress, and rapid shifts in behavior.
Frequent Distractibility	Struggles to stay on topic due to distractions, impacting the ability to follow conversations and perform in academic or professional settings.
Derailment	Links thoughts in unexpected ways, causing subject switches mid-sentence to unrelated topics, leading to difficulty following conversations and miscommunications.
Trouble Communicating	Speaks in incomplete sentences, trails off, or responds with non-sequiturs, related to distractibility and difficulty organizing thoughts, impairing effective communication.
Word Approximations and Clanging	Trouble selecting the correct word, using incomplete or incorrect similar-sounding words, or creating new words, often leading to confusion.
Purposeless Movements	Exhibits aimless actions, such as pacing or making extraneous gestures, due to struggles in developing and executing plans.

Negative Symptoms



Worsens as the brain disease worsens



The absence of functioning where it should be



Can not be used alone to diagnose schizophrenia

The Different Types of Negative Schizophrenia Symptoms

Affective deficits
(lacking facial expression)



Communicative deficits
(lacking in speech)



Relational deficits
(lack of interest in socializing)



Avolition
(lack of motivation)



Psychosis Treatment

- A newly psychotic individual is an emergency
- Could be danger to self or others
- Should be immediately evaluated



Psychosis Treatment

- Antipsychotic medication
 - Haldol

- Can be pills or long acting injections



Conclusion

- Psychosis has very specific meaning in medicine
- Clinicians should be as specific as possible when describing symptoms
- Psychosis has a multiple etiologies



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