

Schizophrenic Disorder

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Abstract

In 1908 Eugen Bleuler coined the term "Schizophrenia". Schizomeans split and phren means mind. It means disorganised personality. Schizophrenia is a debilitating mental illness that affects 1% of the population in all cultures. It effects equal number of men and women but the onset is often later in women than in men. Schizophrenia is characterized by positive and negative symptoms. Positive symptoms include hallucinations, voices that Converse with or about the patient and delusions that are often paranoid. Negative symptoms include flattened effect, loss of sense of pleasure, loss of will or drive and social withdrawal. Both type of symptoms effects patient's families therefore, it is important for physician to provide guidance to all persons affected by the disease. Psychosocial and family interventions can improve outcomes. Medications can control symptoms but virtually all antipsychotics have neurologic or physical side effects (example weight gain, hypercholesterolemia, diabetes). There is 10% lifetime risk of suicide in patients with schizophrenia.

Keywords: Schizophrenia; Hallucinations; Religiosity; Waxy flexibility.

Introduction

Schizophrenia is a psychotic condition characterized by a disturbance in thinking, emotions, violations, and faculties in the presence of clear consciousness which usually leads to social withdrawal. About 3-4/1000 in every community suffer from schizophrenia.

Causes of schizophrenia are both genetic factors and environmental factors. This is common in both men and women. Peak age of onset in men is 15-25 and the peak age of onset in women is 25-35. Onset is often later in women than in men. There are 6 different types of schizophrenia (i.e. catatonic, residual, paranoid, disorganised, undifferentiated, schizoaffective.) There are both positive and

negative symptoms of schizophrenia.

Causes

- Genetically
- Biochemical influences the dopamine hypothesis.
- Physiological influences anatomical abnormalities, physical conditions.
- Family theories- dysfunctional family system, over protectiveness.

Signs and Symptoms

Positive symptoms

- Hallucinations
- Delusions
- Paranoia
- Religiosity

Negative symptoms

- Flat affect

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- Apathy
- Waxy flexibility
- Deteriorated appearance

Magnitude and Impact

Schizophrenia affects approximately 24 million people or 1 in 300 people worldwide. This rate is 1 in 222 people among adults. It is not as common as many other mental disorders. Onset is most often during late adolescence and the twenties, and onset tends to happen earlier among men than among women. Schizophrenia is frequently associated with significant distress and impairment in personal, family, social, educational, occupational, and other important areas of life. People with schizophrenia often experience human rights violations both inside mental health institution and in community settings. Stigma against people with this condition is intense and widespread, causing social exclusion, and impacting their relationships with others, including family and friends. This contributes to discrimination, which in turn can limit access to general health care, education, housing and employment.

Management

There is no objective diagnostic test, the diagnosis is used to describe observed behaviour that may stem from numerous different causes. Besides observed behaviour, doctors will also take.

History that includes the person's reported experiences, and reports of others familiar with the person. Treatment modalities is we can give atypical of typical antipsychotics. Typical antipsychotics are clorpromazine, fluphenazine, haloperidol, loxapine. Atypical antipsychotics are clozapine, risperidone, paliperidone, olanzapine, aripiprazole. But typical antipsychotics have more side effects than atypical antipsychotics. Precautions while taking antipsychotics are avoid alcohol, avoid driving, don't use heavy machinery because this

makes you feel more dizzy and drowsy.

About half of those diagnosed with schizophrenia will have a significant improvement over the long term with no further relapses, and a small portion of these will recover completely. The other half will have a lifelong impairment. In some cases, people may be repeatedly admitted to hospitals.

Conclusion

Schizophrenia is a psychotic condition characterized by a disturbance in thinking, emotions, volitions and faculties in presence of clear consciousness, which usually leads to social withdrawal. As we know prevention is better than cure. If we have seen any of these symptoms in any person we have to immediately visit to the hospital and contact to doctors without any delay. We have to take proper care and proper medications for this condition so that we will manage this illness.

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