What is schizophrenia?

>Psychotic disorder that affects 1% (approx.) of the population
>Sufferers cannot distinguish between reality and their perceptions

Symptoms of schizophrenia

Positive	Negative
>an *excess* or *distortion* of normal functions	>where normal functions are *limited*
>e.g. hallucinations (hearing voices, seeing things that aren't there)	>e.g. speech poverty (inability to produce clear and coherent speech)
>e.g. delusions (unrealistic thoughts - often of threats)	>e.g. broadcasting (believing your thoughts are being broadcast to people)
>e.g. psychomotor disturbances (repetitive behaviours)	>e.g. avolition (distinct lack of motivation)
>e.g. catatonia (same position for hours/days)	>e.g. thought disorders (loose associations)

Diagnosis and classification of schizophrenia

>using DSM (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual) or ICD (International Classification of Disease)

>ICD has types of schizophrenia, DSM does not

>DSM at least one positive symptom to be diagnosed, ICD only two negative symptoms

Reliability

>different clinicians using the same system should come to the same diagnosis

>*Jakobson et al (2005)* tested ICD-10 reliability 100 Danish patients with history of psychosis assesses ~ 98% concordance rate

>comorbidity patients can suffer from two or more mental disorders makes it hard to confidently identify schizophrenia

>symptom overlap e.g. major depression and schizophrenia both have low motivation reduces reliability

>gender bias ~ *Loring and Pwell (1988)* found some behaviour was regarded psychotic in males but not in females

Validity

By **melcleary09**

cheatography.com/melcleary09/

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