

# Psychotic Disorder- Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorder Complications in Childhood

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# DESCRIPTION

Schizophrenia is a severe mental disorder in which reality is considered by patients abnormally. Schizophrenia may include hallucinations, delusions, and extremely irrational thoughts and behaviour, which can be difficult to perform daily functioning and be disabling. Schizophrenia patients require long term treatment. Early treatment may help maintain symptoms under control before severe complications arise and may improve the diagnosis in the long term. Childhood schizophrenia is a rare but serious mental disorder in which children and adolescents have abnormal perceptions of reality. A wide range of problems with behaviour, emotions, or thinking (cognitive) are present in schizophrenia. Hallucinations, delusions, extremely irrational thoughts and behaviour may occur, impairing child's ability to function. Although it usually begins in adolescence, childhood schizophrenia is essentially similar to adult schizophrenia and has a significant negative effect on a child's behaviour and development. Early age of onset for schizophrenia in children causes difficulties for diagnosis, treatment, education, and emotional and social development. Schizophrenia is a chronic disorder that needs long term treatment. Early diagnosis and initiation of therapy for childhood schizophrenia may significantly improve child's long-term health. Symptoms can vary in type and severity, with moments whenever they improve and times when they disappear, some symptoms may be present at all times. Early phase schizophrenia can be difficult to diagnose.

Delusions are false assumptions that are not confirmed by reality. For example, the child may think that are being harmed or harassed, that certain actions or statements are being performed, the majority of people with schizophrenia experience delusions. Most of the time, Hallucinations involve hearing or seeing things that do not exist. However, schizophrenia sufferers experience hallucinations with all the force and impact of normal experiences. Any sense can be involved in hallucinations, but the most common one is hearing voices. Disorganized speech suggests disorganized thinking. Effective correspondence can be impaired and replies to questions might be too partially or totally inconsequential. A rare form of speech is word salad, in which meaningless, unintelligible words are thrown together. Extremely disorganized may manifest in a variety of ways, from childlike hilarity to unpredictable agitation. Because there is no goal in mind, it is hard to complete tasks. Resistance to instructions, bizarre or inappropriate posture, a complete lack of response, or excessive and pointless movement are all examples of behavior. Schizophrenia in childhood can lead to serious mental, emotional, and physical health issues if left untreated.

#### Complications of schizophrenia

- Anxiety disorders, panic disorders and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD)
- Depression
- Suicidal thoughts and suicide attempts
- Self-injury
- Abuse of alcohol or other drugs, such as nicotine
- Family disputes
- Inability to live independently, attend school, or work
- Social isolation
- Health and medical issues
- Aggressive behavior, although uncommon

## CONCLUSION

Schizophrenia is a common chronic mental disorder that is associated with significant disability and has a suicide risk. Positive symptoms, negative symptoms, cognitive impairments and affective dysregulation are among the various clusters of symptoms. Conventional antipsychotic medications are effective against positive symptoms. Schizophrenia is a risk factor that is influenced by both genetics and the surrounding environment. The neurotransmitter dopamine assumes a basic part in a few parts of the pathophysiology of schizophrenia, including psychosis and cognitive impairments.

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