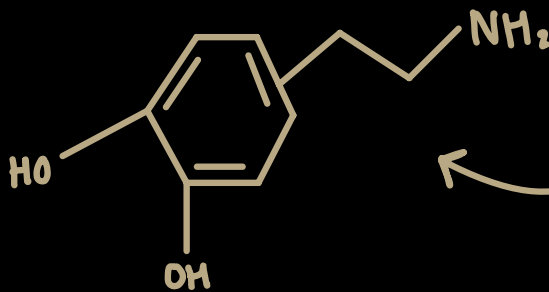


# SCHIZOPHRENIA

The main cause of schizophrenia is genetics, & it is thought to be caused by an excess of Dopamine.



## SIGNS + SYMPTOMS

2. Negative symptoms =  
Negative state



FLAT AFFECT

1. positive symptoms = psychotic

• Hallucinations (visual 👁️, auditory 🗣️)

• Delusions

- grandiose: may believe they are all powerful, tell how accomplished they are.

- persecutory: feels singled out for harm by others, such as being hunted down by the FBI

- referential: believe random occurrences directly relate to them. Ex. patient believes that others who are discussing meal are talking about him.

3. Cognitive symptoms: problems in thinking

- disordered thinking
- inability to make decisions
- poor problem-solving ability
- difficulty concentrating
- short term memory deficits
- impaired abstract thinking

• Thought disturbance

• Neologisms

• Loose association: unconscious inability to focus on a single thought. may progress to flight of ideas

• Echolalia - repetition

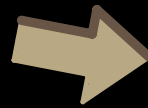
\* attempt to identify with the person who is speaking

• word salad

- Schizophrenia causes disturbances in thought processes, perception, and affect.
- normally appears in late teens & early adulthood.
- severe deterioration of social and occupational functioning.
- schizophrenia has varying degrees.

## ACTIVE · PSYCHOTIC PHASE OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

- Psychotic symptoms prominent
- Delusions & Hallucinations
- Disorganized speech & behaviors
- ★ This is why people w/ schizophrenia get hospitalized.



## RESIDUAL PHASE

- Positive symptoms go away
- Negative symptoms remain
- Flat affect
- DO NOT return to full functioning

### OUTCOMES OF TREATMENT

- recognizes distortions of reality
- perceives self realistically
- no harm to self or others

### TREATMENT OF ACUTE Sx

- meant to stabilize them
- group therapy is ineffective
- individualized therapy
- medications to control Sx
- FAMILY therapy
  - may experience grief

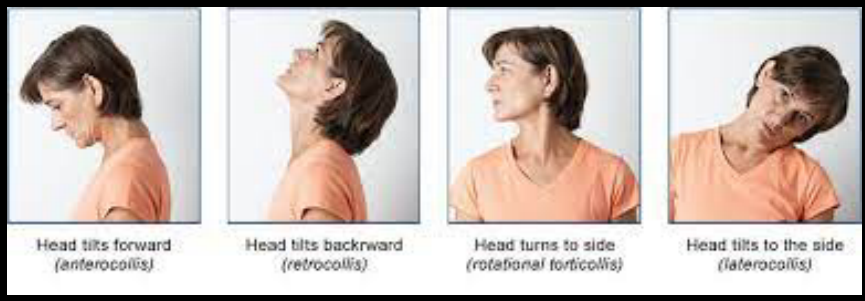
## PHARMACOLOGY

- FIRST GEN TYPICALS: Halodol - good for positive symptoms
  - HIGH risk for side effects.
  - might see Cogentin / Benadryl PRN for treatment of Eps.

## WHAT IS EPS? → EXTRA-PYRAMIDAL SYMPTOMS

these most commonly include:

★ Dystonia: contractions of the neck, face, & tongue



BENADRYL  
COGENTIN

Pseudoparkinsonism: characterized by bradykinesia, rigidity, shuffling gait, drooling & tremors.  
- can be treated with antiparkinsonians such as Benztropine.