

Schizoid Personality Disorder

Team 3

Schizoid= adj. Position or “stance” in which the individual withdraws into the self

Cluster A (“odd”) personality disorder

DSM V Diagnosis (Section II)

- A pervasive pattern of detachment from social relationships and a restricted range of expression of emotions in interpersonal settings, beginning by early adulthood and present in a variety of contexts, 4+ of the following:
 1. Neither desires nor enjoys close relationships, including family
 2. Usually chooses solitary activities
 3. Has little if any interest in sexual experiences with another person
 4. Takes pleasure in few activities
 5. Lacks close friends or confidants other than 1st degree relatives
 6. Appears indifferent to the praise or criticism of others
 7. Shows emotional coldness, detachment, or flat affect
- Does not occur exclusively during schizophrenia, bipolar/depressive disorder with psychotic features, another psychotic disorder, or Autism and isn't attributable to another medical condition

Epidemiology

- One of least commonly encountered personality disorders in clinical populations, 2.2%, presumably because affected individuals do not seek treatment
- Appears to be environmental > genetic by twin studies
- Correlations: violent behavior, arthritis, coronary artery disease, obesity, and “asexualism”
- Risk Factors: Childhood MDD is more predictive of ScPD than any other personality disorder
- Prognosis: Chronic, high degree of stability over lifespan

Differential

- Avoidant Personality Disorder
 - Avoidant disorder=want intimacy, sensitive to rejection (difficult to distinguish in practice)
- Schizotypal Personality Disorder
 - Less “magical” thinking
- Residual/Prodromal Schizophrenia
 - Similar “negative” symptoms, but no hallucinations and longer duration

Discussion

- Some psychiatrists believe schizoid is better organized by two subgroups:
 - Affect constricted (ie. Schizotypal)
 - Seclusive (ie. Avoidant)
- IM-SZ: interpersonal measure of schizoid personality disorder. Uses non-verbal and interpersonal behaviors to diagnose. Good reliability and validity
- “Secret Schizoid”: appear socially available but emotionally withdrawn

References

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- First Aid for the Psychiatry Clerkship.