

Schizophrenia

A brain disorder in which people interpret reality abnormally.

Common

More than 1 million cases per year (India)



Can't be cured, but treatment may help



Chronic: can last for years or be lifelong



Requires a medical diagnosis



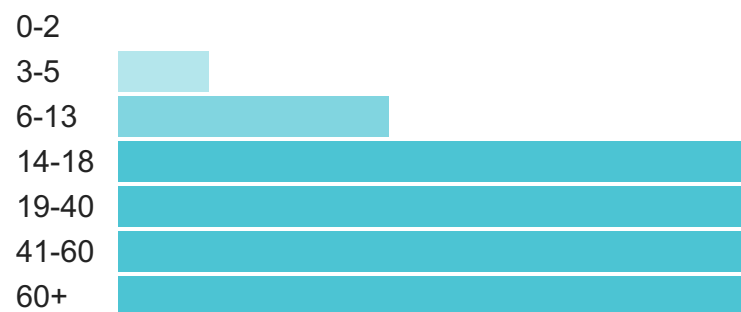
Lab tests or imaging often required

The exact cause of schizophrenia isn't known, but genetics, environment, and imbalanced brain chemicals may play a role.

Schizophrenia is characterised by abnormal social behaviour. In severe cases, patients may see or hear things that aren't real.

Treatment is usually lifelong and often involves a combination of medications and psychological and social therapy.

Ages affected



Symptoms

Requires a medical diagnosis

Schizophrenia is characterised by abnormal social behaviour. In severe cases, patients may see or hear things that aren't real.

People may experience:

Behavioural: aggression, agitation, compulsive behaviour, excitability, hostility, hyperactivity, nonsense word repetition, repetitive movements, self-harm, social isolation, disorganised behaviour, or lack of restraint

Psychological: visual hallucinations, depression, fear, grandiosity, hallucination, paranoia, persecutory delusion, religious delusion, hearing voices, or mistrust

Cognitive: belief that an ordinary event has special and personal meaning, belief that thoughts aren't one's own, delusion, making things up, mental confusion, slowness in activity and thought, thought disorder, thoughts of suicide, or false belief of superiority

Mood: anger, anxiety, apathy, excitement, feeling detached from self, general discontent, inability to feel pleasure, elevated mood, or inappropriate emotional response

Speech: circumstantial speech, incoherent speech, or rapid and frenzied speaking

Also common: verbal auditory hallucinations, fatigue, impaired motor coordination, or lack of emotional response

Consult a doctor for medical advice

Note: The information you see describes what usually happens with a medical condition, but doesn't apply to everyone. This information isn't medical advice, so make sure that you contact a health care provider if you have a medical problem. If you think you may have a medical emergency, call your doctor or a emergency number immediately.