

**MARGARET H. ROLLINS SCHOOL OF NURSING**  
**N-201 Nursing Care of Special Populations**  
**MENTAL HEALTH NURSING**  
**Class Preparation #2**

Compare the three clusters of personality disorders & nursing interventions for each cluster:

Clusters	Defining Characteristics	Nursing Interventions
<p>Cluster A</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. paranoid personality disorder</li> <li>2. schizoid personality disorder</li> <li>3. schizotypal personality disorder</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. - pervasive, persistent, and inappropriate mistrust of others - suspicious of others motives and assume that others intend to exploit, harm or deceive them</li> <li>2. - primarily characterized by profound defect in the ability to form personal relationships - Failure to respond to others in a meaningful emotional way</li> <li>3. - Resembles schizophrenia → may develop into - up to 10% suicide</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish trust</li> <li>- professional demeanor</li> <li>- Be honest</li> <li>- Clear, simple explanations</li> <li>- set limits</li> </ul>
<p>Cluster B</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Antisocial personality disorder</li> <li>2. Borderline personality disorder</li> <li>3. Borderline personality</li> <li>4. Narcissistic personality disorder</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. - Fails to maintain consistent employment, conform to law - manipulates others for personal gain - Absence of remorse for hurting others</li> <li>2. - pattern of intense and chaotic relationships with affective instability - Fluctuating &amp; extreme attitudes towards others - highly impulsive - chronic feelings of emptiness - chronic depression - Abandonment issues</li> <li>3. - Emotionally unstable - Dissociate under stress - difficulty controlling anger - self destructive - spitting defense - High suicide rate</li> <li>4. - sense of entitlement - lack of empathy - Believe they should receive special considerations - Envious of others - tantrums</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- positive reinforcement for unselfish or other-center behavior</li> <li>- keep communication and interactions professional</li> <li>- provide support</li> <li>- help clarify true feelings</li> <li>- Assess for suicidal ideations</li> </ul>
<p>Cluster C</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dependent personality disorder</li> <li>2. Avoidant personality disorder</li> <li>3. Obsessive compulsive disorder</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. - pattern of relying on others for emotional support - common within the population (women) - intense fear of separation and being alone - easily hurt by criticism and disapproval - tolerant of poor, even abusive relationships - support from others - ↑ levels of anxiety</li> <li>2. - Extreme sensitivity to rejection - social withdrawal / awkward &amp; uncomfortable - fear of being rejected - lonely &amp; feel unwanted - view others as critical and betraying</li> <li>3. - inflexibility about the way things are done - Devotion to productivity at the exclusion of personal pleasure - concerned about matters of organization - rigid and unbending - high achievers - socially polite and formal</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- teach and role model assertiveness</li> <li>- Friendly, gentle reassuring approach</li> <li>- guard against power struggles</li> <li>- provide structure</li> <li>- Assit in developing effective coping techniques</li> </ul>