

**Mental Health Nursing
Class Preparation
Schizophrenia**

1. What are positive symptoms of Schizophrenia? Describe at least three.

Positive symptoms of schizophrenia are those that are added on to normal behavior which are often a disturbance in the content of thought.

- **Delusions:** False personal beliefs in something that is not real or shared by other people which can be persecutory, grandiose, somatic, or paranoid.
- **Magical thinking:** Ideas that one's thoughts or behaviors have control over specific situations.
- **Clang associations:** Choice of words is governed by sound.
- **Hallucinations:** False sensory perceptions not associated with real external stimuli.

2. What are negative symptoms of Schizophrenia? Describe at least three.

Negative symptoms of schizophrenia are those that take away from normal behavior.

- The absence of essential human qualities such as anhedonia, avolition, affective blunting, apathy, alogia
- Affect: the outward expression of a person's internal emotional state... which might be flat, blunted, inappropriate, or bizarre.
- Deterioration in appearance: Impaired personal grooming and self-care activities

3. List three Conventional Antipsychotics and their main side effects.

Three conventional (1st gen) antipsychotics include haloperidol, chlorpromazine, and thioridazine.

Side effects are known as EPS of Extrapyrimal Side Effects...

Acute Dystonia: severe spasms of tongue, neck, face, or back (tongue and jaw first), drooling

Pseudoparkinsons: bradykinesia, rigidity, shuffling gait, drooling, tremors

Tardive dyskinesia (TD) LATE SX - movement disturbance: slip smacking, sucking, puckering, tongue protrusion, worm-like movements in the tongue, and chewing.

Akathisia: internal or external restlessness (pacing or fidgeting)

Agranulocytosis (with clozapine): monitor CBC!

4. List three Atypical Antipsychotics and their main side effects.

Three Atypical (2nd gen) antipsychotics include aripiprazole, olanzapine, and asenapine.

Side effects are mostly metabolic such as weight gain, diabetes, and dyslipidemia.

5. What is the difference between Conventional antipsychotics and atypical antipsychotics?

Conventional (1st gen) antipsychotics treat only the positive symptoms of schizophrenia, but the atypical (2nd gen) antipsychotics treat both the positive and negative symptoms of schizophrenia.