

**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   |
|--|---|---|
| Cluster A<br>1. paranoid personality disorder<br>2. Schizoid personality disorder<br>3. Schizotypal personality disorder                                   | 1. pervasive, persistent, inappropriate mistrust of others<br>2. defect in ability to form personal relationships<br>3. resembles schizophrenia   | - be honest<br>- simple explanations<br>- set limits<br>- attempt establishing trust<br>- professional demeanor   |
| Cluster B<br>1. antisocial personality disorder<br>2. borderline personality disorder<br>3. histrionic personality disorder<br>4. narcissistic personality | 1. unstable relationships, violation of others rights, fails to sustain consistent employment<br>2. pattern of intense/chaotic relationships with affective instability<br>3. excitable/emotional, extrovert, colorful/dramatic<br>4. entitlement, special considerations, lack of empathy, envious, tantrums | - positive reinforcement<br>- provide support<br>- clarity true feelings<br>- assess for suicidal ideation<br>- communications should be kept professional              |
| Cluster C<br>1. avoidant personality disorder<br>2. dependent personality disorder<br>3. obsessive-compulsive personality disorder                         | 1. extreme sensitivity to rejection, social withdrawal<br>2. pattern of relying on others for emotional support<br>3. inflexibility about the way in which things must be done  | - provide structure<br>- guard against power struggles<br>- friendly approach<br>- teach/role model assertiveness<br>- assist in developing effective coping techniques |