

Schizophrenia

What is Schizophrenia?

Schizophrenia is a persistent and often disabling mental illness affecting how a person thinks, feels, and behaves. While the exact cause is unknown, research indicates a combination of genetics, psychosocial stressors, and environment contribute to the development of schizophrenia and individual variation of symptoms.¹



Symptoms

It is characterized by three main symptom domains:¹



Positive
Hallucinations and delusions



Negative
Difficulty enjoying life and social withdrawal from others



Cognitive impairment
Deficits in memory, concentration, and decision making

These symptoms can affect all areas of people's lives and is one of the **top 15 leading causes of disability worldwide**.² The estimated **potential life lost is almost 30 years** compared with the general population, which is largely attributed to comorbidities such as heart disease, diabetes, and liver disease, which often remain undetected and undertreated.³

Prevalence

Schizophrenia affects approximately **24 million people worldwide**, including 2.8 million in the United States.^{1,4}

Signs and symptoms of schizophrenia usually first appear in teenage years or early adulthood.⁵ As such, people living with schizophrenia often struggle to maintain employment, live independently, and manage relationships.^{6,7} This can have a detrimental impact, with an increased likelihood of homelessness, poverty, and inadequate self-care.¹

Treatment

While there is no cure, there are treatments available that focus on **managing schizophrenia symptoms and navigating challenges related to day-to-day functioning, such as medications and psychosocial support.**



~75% of patients discontinue treatment in the first 18 months due to many failing to find an effective and/or tolerable treatment.⁸

30-60%

of patients with schizophrenia experience a partial or inadequate improvement or unacceptable side effects during therapy.⁹

Although many people with schizophrenia have difficulty finding a tolerable and effective treatment, with the help of a dedicated care team, it is possible for people with schizophrenia to lead full lives.

Bristol Myers Squibb is committed to identifying and pursuing potential new treatment options with the goal of delivering life-changing medicines for patients with schizophrenia and other neuropsychiatric conditions.

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