Psychology Knowledge Organiser – Schizophrenia

Core knowledge

- Classification of schizophrenia. Positive symptoms of schizophrenia, including hallucinations and delusions. Negative symptoms of schizophrenia, including speech poverty and avolition. Reliability and validity in diagnosis and classification of schizophrenia, including reference to co-morbidity, culture and gender bias and symptom overlap.
- Biological explanations for schizophrenia: genetics and neural correlates, including the dopamine hypothesis.
- Psychological explanations for schizophrenia: family dysfunction and cognitive explanations, including dysfunctional thought processing.
- Drug therapy: typical and atypical antipsychotics.
- Cognitive behaviour therapy and family therapy as used in the treatment of schizophrenia. Token economies as used in the management of schizophrenia.
- The importance of an interactionist approach in explaining and treating schizophrenia; the diathesis-stress model.

Key words

Classification of mental disorder Schizophrenia Hallucinations Delusions Genetics Family dysfunction Antipsychotics Cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) Family therapy Interactionist approach Positive and negative symptoms Speech poverty Avolition Co-morbidity Symptom overlap Neural correlates Dopamine Cognitive explanation Dysfunctional thought processing **Typical antipsychotics** Atypical antipsychotics Token economies Diathesis-stress model

Wider reading



https://www.simplypsychology.org/a-level-Schizophrenia.html

https://www.psychologytoday.com /gb/conditions/schizophrenia

https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology/ collections/a-level-psychology-study-notesschizophrenia

Exam Skill	
Analyse	Separate information into components and identify their characteristics.
Calculate	Work out the value of something
Choose	Select from a range of alternatives.
Comment	Present an informed opinion.
Compare	Identify similarities and/or differences.
Complete	Finish a task by adding to given information.
Consider	Review and respond to given information.
Describe	Give an account of.
Design	Set out how something will be done.
Discuss	Present key points about different ideas or strengths and weaknesses of an idea.
Distinguish	Explain ways in which two things differ. Provide detail of characteristic that enable a person to know the difference between
Draw	Produce a diagram.
Evaluate	Judge from available evidence.
Explain	Set out purposes or reasons.
Explain how	Give a detailed account of a process or way of doing something.
Explain why	Give a detailed account of reasons in relation to a particular situation.
Identify	Name or otherwise characterise.
Give	Produce an answer from recall or from given information.
Justify	Provide reasons, reasoned argument to support, possibly provide evidence.
Label	Provide appropriate names on a diagram.
Name	Identify using a recognised technical term.
Outline	Set out main characteristics.
Select	Choose or pick out from alternatives.
State	Express in clear terms.
Suggest	Present a possible case/solution.
Which is	Select from alternatives.
What is meant by	Give a definition.
Write	Provide information in verbatim form.