Personality Disorders

URL of this page: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/personalitydisorders.html

Personality disorders are a group of mental illnesses. They involve long-term patterns of thoughts and behaviors that are unhealthy and inflexible. The behaviors cause serious problems with relationships and work. People with personality disorders have trouble dealing with everyday stresses and problems. They often have stormy relationships with other people.

The cause of personality disorders is unknown. However, genes and childhood experiences may play a role.

The symptoms of each personality disorder are different. They can mild or severe. People with personality disorders may have trouble realizing that they have a problem. To them, their thoughts are normal, and they often blame others for their problems. They may try to get help because of their problems with relationships and work. Treatment usually includes talk therapy and sometimes medicine.

Start Here


Overviews

- Personality Disorders [http://www.mayoclinic.com/print/personality-disorders/DS00562/METHOD=print&DSECTION=all] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)

Latest News


Treatment

- Suggested Questions to Ask Before Selecting a Treatment Program [http://bpdresourc-center.org/docs/brochures/QUESTION_SR3.pdf] (Borderline Personality Disorder Resource Center) - PDF

Specific Conditions

- Antisocial Personality Disorder [http://www.mayoclinic.com/print/antisocial-personality-disorder/DS00829/DSECTION=all&METHOD=print] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
- Borderline Personality Disorder [http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/borderline-personality-disorder/DS00442/METHOD=print] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
- Narcissistic Personality Disorder [http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/narcissistic-personality-disorder/DS00652/METHOD=print] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
- Paranoid Personality Disorder [http://www.clevelandclinic.org/health/health-info/docs/3700/3796.asp?index=9784] (Cleveland Clinic Foundation)
- Schizoid Personality Disorder [http://www.mayoclinic.com/print/schizoid-personality-
disorder/DS00865/METHOD=print&DSECTION=all] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
• Schizotypal Personality Disorder [http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/schizotypal-personality-disorder/DS00830/METHOD=print&DSECTION=all] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)

Related Issues
• Co-Occurring Disorders [http://bpdresourcecenter.org/occurringDisorders.html] (Borderline Personality Disorder Resource Center)

Videos
• Outlook for Borderline Personality Disorder [http://www.nimh.nih.gov/media/video/bpd1.shtml] NIH (National Institute of Mental Health)

Clinical Trials
• ClinicalTrials.gov: Antisocial Personality Disorder
  [http://clinicaltrials.gov/search/open/condition=%22Antisocial+Personality+Disorder%22] NIH (National Institutes of Health)
• ClinicalTrials.gov: Borderline Personality Disorder
  [http://clinicaltrials.gov/search/open/condition=%22Borderline+Personality+Disorder%22] NIH (National Institutes of Health)
• ClinicalTrials.gov: Personality Disorders
  [http://clinicaltrials.gov/search/open/condition=%22Personality+Disorders%22] NIH (National Institutes of Health)

Journal Articles
References and abstracts from MEDLINE/PubMed (National Library of Medicine)
• Article: The backstabber. Do you have a sociopath in your workplace?
• Article: Assessing empathy in antisocial youth: factor analytic and validation findings.
• Article: Hint, hint: theory of mind performance in schizotypal individuals.

Dictionaries/Glossaries
• Glossary of Terms (Borderline Personality Disorder) [http://bpdresourcecenter.org/glossary.html] (Borderline Personality Disorder Resource Center)

Directories
• APA District Branch / State Association Directory [http://apps.psychiatry.org/dblisting/] (American Psychiatric Association)
• Mental Health Treatment Program Locator

Organizations
• NAMI [http://www.nami.org/]
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.nami.org/template.cfm?section=NAMI_en_espa%F1ol]
• National Institute of Mental Health [http://www.nimh.nih.gov] NIH
Statistics


Patient Handouts


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The primary NIH organization for research on Personality Disorders is the National Institute of Mental Health [http://www.nimh.nih.gov]