

### SCHIZOPHRENIA - A MAJOR MENTAL PROBLEM & HOMOEOPATHY SEARCH ON INTERNET

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*"The things we have to learn before we can do them, we learn by doing them."*

---- Aristotle

The word schizophrenia originated from Greek word Schiz(o) - means division, divided. phrenia - means mental disorder. Schizophrenia is a common and serious mental disorder characterised by loss of contact with reality (Psychosis). Symptoms and signs of schizophrenia include auditory and visual hallucinations (false perceptions), delusions (false beliefs), abnormal thinking, restricted range of emotions, diminished motivation, and disturbed work and social functioning. People with schizophrenia may also engage in speech that does not make sense, exhibit silly or childlike facial expressions, and experience poor memory or confusion.

Approximately 1 percent of the population develops schizophrenia during their lifetime - more than 2 million Americans suffer from the illness. Although schizophrenia affects men and women with equal frequency, the disorder often appears earlier in men, usually in the late teens or early twenties, than in women, who are generally affected in the twenties to early thirties. People with schizophrenia often suffer terrifying symptoms such as hearing internal voices not heard by others, or believing that other people are reading their minds, controlling their thoughts, or plotting to harm them. These symptoms may leave them fearful and withdrawn. Their speech and behavior can be so disorganized that they may be incomprehensible or frightening to others. Available treatments can relieve many symptoms, but most people with schizophrenia continue to suffer some symptoms throughout their lives; it has been estimated that no more than one in five individuals recovers completely.

Schizophrenia is found all over the world. The severity of the symptoms and long-lasting, chronic pattern of schizophrenia often cause a high degree of disability.

**This article is intended for busy scientists engaged in research work in the field of schizophrenia to help them reap the benefits of the Internet without surfing too much for locating the resources.**

- <http://www.schizophrenia.com/>

This website covers all types of schizophrenia, including paranoid schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder. This is a non-profit web community providing in-depth information, support and education related to schizophrenia, a disease of the brain.

- [www.schizophreniaresearch.net](http://www.schizophreniaresearch.net)

This is one of the largest schizophrenia study ever attempted - and it needs participants who have schizophrenia, as well as their brothers and sisters. The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) has joined forces with medical schools across the country including UCSD, Harvard, UCLA, Mount Sinai, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Univ. of Washington, and the Univ. of Colorado. Through this collaborative research project it is hoped to learn more about the basis of schizophrenia. Understanding the gene-related components of schizophrenia is crucial to finding out about the risk factors, and heritability of this illness. It may also help us to create more effective treatments, and hopefully, someday, find a cure.

- [www.web4health.info/en/answers/psychizo-drug-treatment.htm](http://www.web4health.info/en/answers/psychizo-drug-treatment.htm)

This is a free on line medical advice on Psychology. This site answers to more than 900 questions about psychology, mental health and relationships, written by a team of experts appointed

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by the Commission of the European communities.

The aim of this site is to give good and useful free medical advice, help and self help in the areas of mental health, psychology, personality disorders, relationships, stress, anxiety, depression, emotional abuse, substance abuse, sexual abuse, types of mental illness, etc.

- [www.alternativementalhealth.com/articles/default.htm](http://www.alternativementalhealth.com/articles/default.htm)

Welcome to the world's largest site on non-drug approaches for mental health. Thousands of people around the world have recovered from mental disorders and now enjoy the simple pleasures of a drug-free life. Most were told this was impossible. Many others have been able to significantly reduce their dependency on psychiatric medication. Commonly these people find that underlying their "mental" disorders are medical problems, allergies, toxic conditions, nutritional imbalances, poor diets, lack of exercise, or other treatable physical conditions. This site has testimonials, over 100 articles, and the Web's only directory of alternative mental health practitioners.

- [www.nmrc.ca/schizophrenia.htm](http://www.nmrc.ca/schizophrenia.htm)

People with schizophrenia have peculiar nutritional profiles. Schizophrenia may be caused by genetic predisposing factors or environmental influences. Nutritional methods and clinical findings discussed here are derived by the principles of evidence-based-medicine.

The NMRC is an outpatient clinic that serves patients with schizophrenia nutrition in Toronto Ontario Canada. Depression, autism, and behavior disorders such as ADHD, dyslexia, learning disability, anxiety nutrition, and criminal behavior are all addressed by the NMRC's nutrition therapy programs. The NMRC implements nutritional medicine by obtaining detailed clinical histories and by obtaining blood, urine, and hair samples for diagnostic testing in the Toronto and surrounding areas. Along with each nutritional prescription, the Nmrc incorporates dietary advice. For each patient the NMRC provides a nutritional profile booklet outlining the patient's nutritional imbalances.

- [www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk)

Mind is the leading mental health charity in England and Wales. They work to create a better life for everyone with experience of mental distress by:

- advancing the views, needs and ambitions of people with mental health problems

- challenging discrimination and promoting inclusion
- influencing policy through campaigning and education
- inspiring the development of quality services which reflect expressed need and diversity
- achieving equal rights through campaigning and education.

Their vision is of a society that promotes and protects good mental health for all, and that treats people with experience of mental distress fairly, positively, and with respect. They provide information and support, campaign to improve policy and attitudes and, in partnership with independent local Mind associations, develop local services.

- [www.rethink.org](http://www.rethink.org)

Rethink is the largest severe mental illness charity in the UK. As of 2nd July 2002 'Rethink' is the new operating name for the 'National Schizophrenia Fellowship'. They are dedicated to improving the lives of everyone affected by severe mental illness, whether they have a condition themselves, care for others who do, or are professionals or volunteers working in the mental health field

- [www.hpathy.com/diseases/schizophrenia-symptoms-treatment-cause.asp](http://www.hpathy.com/diseases/schizophrenia-symptoms-treatment-cause.asp)

Hpathy.com is the world's No. 1 Homeopathy Portal. It is an open project in which homeopaths, homeopathic doctors, veterinary homeopaths & health community from across the globe are participating. Homeopathic medicines are selected on the basis of symptoms, cause, family history and constitution of the person affected. Considering all these factors any of the above (or some other) homeopathic medicine may be indicated and helpful in a case of schizophrenia.

- [www.abchomeopathy.com/forum2.php/31213](http://www.abchomeopathy.com/forum2.php/31213)

Information given in this forum is given by way of exchange of views only. It is not to be treated as a medical diagnosis, and should not be used as a substitute for seeing a qualified homeopath or physician.

- <http://www.doctorbhatia.com/>

This website offers homeopathic treatment for various functional and organic disorders including psychological & neurological diseases, respiratory &

gastrointestinal diseases, male & female sexual health problems, skin diseases, hormonal disorders, urinary diseases, chronic or recurring infections, drug-induced problems, developmental & growth disorders etc. The homeopathic treatment is given as per the individuality of the patient and the effort is to offer the best possible homeopathic guidance using personal or online consultation.

- [www.multikulti.org.uk/en/health/understanding-schizophrenia](http://www.multikulti.org.uk/en/health/understanding-schizophrenia)

There is much disagreement about the psychiatric diagnosis of schizophrenia. This booklet introduces the various different theories and ideas about its diagnosis, cause and treatment. It also offers practical advice to anyone told they have this problem, and to their family and friends.

- [www.mentalhealth.org.uk/page.cfm?pagecode=PMSTCO](http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/page.cfm?pagecode=PMSTCO)

Research carried out by the Mental Health Foundation shows that mental health service users want greater access to complementary therapies and that where these are provided they are found to be well-received and helpful. However, given the current demand from the NHS Executive for evidence-based medicine, more investment is in good quality research, service development and training is needed if there is to be progress towards an integrated and holistic mental health service that provides real choice for service users.

- [www.classicalhomoeopathy.com/inter.htm](http://www.classicalhomoeopathy.com/inter.htm)

The organization is involved into the areas of global practice, international promotion of homoeopathy, education and research. The HIPL has been actively involved in promoting homoeopathy all over the world. People from over 170 countries have been reported to receive scientific information on the role of homoeopathy for various diseases, through 20+ web sites launched by the HIPL giving insights into homoeopathy.

- [www.healthy.net/scr/Author.asp?Peold=502](http://www.healthy.net/scr/Author.asp?Peold=502)

HealthWorld Online is a 24-hour health resource center--a virtual health village where you can access information, products, and services to help create your wellness-based lifestyle.

As you navigate through our Internet health network, you will meet many of the leaders in natural health, wellness, self-care and alternative medicine. These

experts have dedicated their lives to educating consumers and professionals in the health care of the future--Integrative Medicine--blending the best of conventional and alternative/complementary medicine.

- [www.ccrhindia.org/magzin1/L1.htm](http://www.ccrhindia.org/magzin1/L1.htm)

50 cases of Schizophrenia (37 males, 13 females) spread into 4 sub groups which were treated in C.R.I. (H), Kottayam during the year 1988-90 have been analysed for their improvement index. The overall improvement noted in these cases are (i) Excellent 6 cases, (ii) Moderate 20 cases, (iii) Mild 6 cases. Group wise improvement is as (a) simple Schizophrenia (2/3), (b) Heberphrenic Schizophrenia (8/16), (c) Catatonic Schizophrenia 13/19) and (d) Paranoid Schizophrenia (9/12). The improvement is highly encouraging and it is suggested that further study including follow-up for a large number of cases treated in this hospital for so many years may be analysed.

- [www.schizophrenia.org.in/newsletter04\\_05.pdf](http://www.schizophrenia.org.in/newsletter04_05.pdf)

This is the official web site of Schizophrenia Awareness Association. They are in the process of developing this web site, hence they are just adding the content as they create it. So till such time please bear with them.

- [www.ehealthforum.com/health/topic32452.html](http://www.ehealthforum.com/health/topic32452.html)

The site is not a replacement for professional medical opinion, examination, diagnosis or treatment. Always seek the advice of your medical doctor or other qualified health professional before starting any new treatment or making any changes to existing treatment. Do not delay seeking or disregard medical advice based on information written by any author on this site. No health information on eHealthForum is regulated or evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration and therefore the information should not be used to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease without the supervision of a medical doctor. Posts made to these forums express the views and opinions of the author, and not the administrators, moderators, or editorial staff and hence eHealthForum and its principals will accept no liabilities or responsibilities for the statements made.

- <http://www.zipvit.com/cgi-bin>

The behaviours, described herein, must be present for six months or longer to establish a diagnosis. Approximately 1% of the world's population is affected

by this condition. Schizophrenia is more common among lower socioeconomic classes in urban areas, perhaps because its disabling effects lead to unemployment and poverty. In the United States, 25% of all hospital beds are occupied by people with schizophrenia.

#### **Related Resources**

##### ***Living with Schizophrenia Community***

Welcome to NAMI's Living with Schizophrenia community. Here you will find support, get targeted information and connect with people who understand.

##### ***Find Support***

Learn more about the full spectrum of programs and services that NAMI provides across the country for people living with mental illnesses, and their families and loved ones.

#### **Online Discussion**

##### ***Living with Schizophrenia***

Find support, share knowledge, ask questions and meet people who've been there.

##### ***Mental Illness Discussion Groups***

Dozens of online groups for consumers, parents, spouses, siblings, teens and more. Get connected and find support.

#### **Related Links**

##### ***Clinical Antipsychotic Trials of Intervention Effectiveness (CATIE)***

NIMH sponsored multi-center clinical trial and information resource.

##### ***Clinicaltrials.gov***

Schizophrenia research studies identified through the U.S. National Library of Medicine's link to federally and privately funded studies worldwide.

##### ***NAMI Translation of Schizophrenia PORT***

Consumer and family member guide to PORT treatment recommendations.

##### ***National Institute of Mental Health***

Information from the NIH institute on schizophrenia.

##### ***Texas Medication Algorithm Project (TMAP)***

Guide to treatment decision-making for schizophrenia, major depression, and bipolar disorder.

##### ***The Schizophrenia Patient Outcomes Research Team (PORT) Treatment Recommendations***

On-line listing of authoritative treatment recommendations for schizophrenia.