

Podcast

Topic: Differences between DID and schizophrenia

DID: Dissociative identity disorder.

Previously known as "multiple personality disorder" it's a disorder characterized by having at least 2 personalities. It's caused by childhood trauma, the symptoms presented are:

- Not be able to remember much of your childhood.
- Dissociative episodes. The affected person feels dominated by emotions that seem to make no sense at the time, for example feeling tremendously sad or happy for no apparent reason.
- Auditory hallucinations. The affected person usually hears voices of people who are not really there at that moment.

SCHIZOPHRENIA

It's a disease in which the affected person suffers from delusions and hallucinations, in addition to affecting their some symptoms are:

- Delusions of persecution. That is, for the affected person someone is persecuting him and want to cause him some harm.
- Delusion of grandeur. The affected person believes to be someone important, such a King or a political boss.
- Auditory and visual hallucinations. The affected person can see and hear things that are not really there, but for that person they are completely real.

Sensory hallucinations. The affected person may feel things that are not really happening, for example that person may notice that someone is holding or attacking him when this is not really the case.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SCHIZOPHRENIA AND DID

1. DID has rapidly changing signs and symptoms along with mood swings and memory impairment, while schizophrenia has a continuous phase of disturbing signs lasting at least 6 months.

2. DID has recurrent and persistent dissociative symptoms ranging from moderate to severe depending on the case, while schizophrenia includes isolated symptoms that occur in the context of bizarre delusions.

3. DID doesn't indicate any psychotic symptoms, while schizophrenia presents confusion, catatonic behavior and flat chronic affect, that is, the patient presents no or very few emotions.

4. DID, affected individuals tend to experience consistent and recurring changes in identity, whereas in schizophrenia they experience an awareness of their social identity and role in the community.

5. DID, are more likely to have auditory hallucinations while schizophrenics also have sensory and visual hallucinations.

6. DID involves disruptions of functional capacity that is usually temporary, patients can eventually return to a normal level of functioning, while schizophrenia affects one or more areas of functioning, such as work, interpersonal relationships, personal relationships or the self care, which are notably below the level reached before the start