

Explanations for Schizophrenia

Biological

Schizophrenia is recognised by a physical disease characterised by psychological symptoms. It is not a culture-based syndrome, it occurs throughout all cultures / societies.

- Genetics – is Schizophrenia genetic? All studies say yes, but not conclusive. But not 100% concordance rate, therefore diathesis-stress model is involved. MZ, adoption
- Biochemistry – The Dopamine Hypothesis. Phenothiazines (neuroleptic, anti-psychotic drugs which reduce the symptoms of schizophrenia) work by inhibiting dopamine activity. Studies of drugs like amphetamines and LSD, which are known to have an effect on the dopaminergic system, have provided further support. These drugs can induce states very similar to acute schizophrenia in healthy individuals and can exacerbate symptoms in people who already vulnerable.