Paranoid Personality Disorder

Paranoid personality disorder is characterized by persistent feelings of suspiciousness and mistrust of other people. Patients with paranoid personality disorder are preoccupied with analyzing social interactions and are constantly suspicious of trusting others without underlying reasons. They are reluctant to confide in others and tend to hold grudges. They misinterpret others' remarks and perceive them as personal insults.

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Personality Functioning

Self Functioning

Preoccupied with Trustworthiness of Friends
Examining Trust-worth of Friend-necklace
Individuals with paranoid personality disorder are preoccupied with unjustified doubts about the loyalty or trustworthiness of friends or associates. Since they are unable to trust others, they are constantly "testing" the honesty and intent of others. This constant suspicion causes others to become frustrated and angry. They may also become engrossed with their hostile feelings and experience brief outbursts of aggression and violence.

Interpersonal Functioning

Pervasive Mistrust of Others
Pear-vase Miss-trust-fall
Individuals with paranoid personality disorder suspect, without sufficient basis, that others are exploiting, harming, or deceiving them. Since they always suspect that other people are trying to take advantage of them, they have difficulty trusting others. They may avoid social interactions in order to maintain a sense of power.

Constant Suspicion
Around-the-clock Suspects
Individuals with paranoid personality disorder have recurrent suspicions, without justification, regarding fidelity of spouse or sexual partner. They are hypervigilant while appearing tense and irritable

Pathological Personality Traits

Reads Threatening Meanings in Benign Remarks
Reading Benign-bunny Remarks as Threatening
Individuals with paranoid personality disorder read hidden, demeaning or threatening meanings into benign remarks or events. They are extremely sensitive and perceive these remarks as threats against their character. They magnify and distort minor cues in their environment into thoughts of deception.

Reluctant to Confide
Won't use Confessional
Individuals with paranoid personality disorder are reluctant to confide in others because of unwarranted fear that the information will be used maliciously against them. They develop insensitivity towards other people's feelings and are always on the defensive.

Perceives Attacks on Character
Sees Character under Attack
Individuals with paranoid personality disorder perceive attacks on their character or reputation that are not apparent to others and are quick to react angrily or to counterattack. Their hostility may lead to aggression and violence.

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Grudges

Grudge-bag

The Individual with paranoid personality disorder persistently bears grudges (ie, is unforgiving of insults, injuries, or slights).In order to maintain their self-esteem, people with paranoid personality disorder blame their shortcomings on others.

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