

# Somatic Symptom Disorders

## Chapter 17

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# Clinical Picture

- Somatic symptom disorder (SSD)
- Illness anxiety disorder (previously...)
- Conversion disorder
- Factitious disorder



# Somatic Symptom Disorder

- Distressing symptoms
- Maladaptive response
- Without significant physical findings...
- Suffering is authentic
- High level of functional impairment



# Illness Anxiety Disorder

- Misinterpretation of physical sensations
- Overconcerned for health & preoccupied with...
- Extreme worry and fear
- Course of illness chronic and relapsing



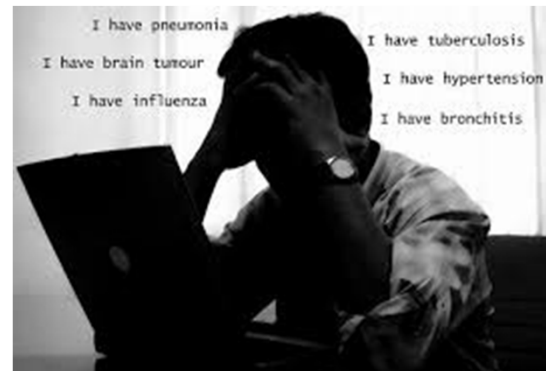
# Conversion Disorder

- Neurological symptoms in the absence of...
- Presence of deficits in...
- Common symptoms—
- “La belle indifférence” versus distress



# Psychological Factors Affecting Medical Condition

- Psychological factors present risk for...
- Depression
  - Cardiovascular diseases and cancer



# Etiology

- Biological factors
  - Genetic
- Psychological factors
  - Psychodynamic theories
  - Behavioral theories
  - Cognitive theories
- Environmental factors
- Cultural considerations



# Application of the Nursing Process

- Assessment

- Psychosocial factors
- Coping skills
- Spirituality and religion
- Secondary gains
- Cognitive style





# Application of the Nursing Process (Cont.)

- Assessment (cont.)

- Ability to communicate feelings and emotional needs
- Dependence on medication
- Self-assessment



# Application of the Nursing Process (Cont.)

- Nursing diagnosis
  - Ineffective coping
- Outcomes identification
- Interventions
  - Psychosocial interventions
    - Promotion of self-care activities
    - Assertiveness training



# Application of the Nursing Process (Cont.)

- Interventions (cont.)
  - Psychobiological interventions
    - Pharmacological interventions
  - Health teaching and health promotion
- Case management
- Advanced nursing practice interventions



# Factitious Disorders

- Fabricate symptoms or self-inflict injury
- Goal of assuming a sick role



# Examples of Factitious Disorders

- Self-directed
- Other-directed
- Malingering



# Audience Response Questions

1. Which problem does NOT fit the group?
  - A. Conversion disorder (functional neurological disorder)
  - B. Illness anxiety disorder (hypochondriasis)
  - C. Munchausen syndrome by proxy
  - D. Somatic symptom disorder