

## WORKING WITH THE MENTALLY ILL CLIENT

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## SYMPTOMS OF MENTAL ILLNESS

- Irritability
- Hostility
- Suspiciousness
- Paranoia
- Noncommunicative
- Anxious
- Unable to connect thoughts rationally
- Appears not to care
- Aggressiveness

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## DIFFERENT TYPES OF MENTAL ILLNESS

- Schizophrenia
- Mood Disorders
- Cognitive Disorders
- Developmental Disorders
- Trauma and Other Stressor
- Intellectual Disability
- Personality Disorders

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### SCHIZOPHRENIA AND OTHER PSYCHOTIC DISORDERS

- Disorganized thinking
- Bizarre behaviors
- Delusions
- Hallucinations
- Agitated or flat affect
- Deterioration in function
- Paranoia
- No insight

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### MOOD DISORDERS

- Depressed or irritable mood
- Suicidal ideation
- Not self protective
- Apathetic
- Anergic
- Impaired judgment
- Some insight

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### COGNITIVE DISORDERS

- Inattentive
- Easily distracted
- Disinhibited
- Inappropriate affect
- Problems with memory
- Impulsivity
- May have insight

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### DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS

- Poor eye contact
- Stereotyped motor movements
- Lack of empathy
- Difficulty understanding seriousness of situation
- Does not seem to attach
- May have some insight

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### TRAUMA AND OTHER STRESSOR

- Anxious
- Attempts to stop or places limits on inquiry
- Difficulty with trust issues
- Isolates affect
- Minimizes symptoms
- Likely abusing substances as well
- Avoidant

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### INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

- Agreeable
- Attempts to hide deficits
- Not self protective
- May have some insight but cant apply

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PERSONALITY DISORDERS

- Pushes boundaries
- Threatens and manipulates
- Self protective
- Has limited insight

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NECESSARY SKILLS

- Keep anxiety levels low
- Do your homework
- Consistently visit
- Keep your word
- Give expert plenty of time
- Interview collateral sources
- Get proof

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