



MENTAL HEALTH TERMS GLOSSARY

Term in English – Target language	Definition
Mental disorder – trastorno mental	A syndrome characterized by clinically significant disturbance in an individual's cognition, emotion regulation or behavior that reflects a dysfunction in the psychological, biological or developmental processes underlying mental functioning. (Ref: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders-5, DSM-5) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=14s9jMf4vR8 (Mental Status Examination)
Organic brain syndrome or neurocognitive disorder – síndrome orgánico cerebral o trastorno neurocognitivo	Decreased mental function due to a medical disease other than a psychiatric illness. Often (but incorrectly) called dementia. Causes: traumatic brain injury, infections, drugs and alcohol, infections, cardiovascular, respiratory, metabolic, and degenerative conditions, etc. Manifestations: agitation, confusion, long-term loss of brain function (dementia), severe, short-term loss of brain function (delirium). Tests: blood, electroencephalogram (EEG), head CT scan, head MRI, lumbar puncture (spinal tap). (Ref: National Institutes of Health NIH. US National Library of Medicine). https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPQQY0NOAFk
Psychotic disorders (also psychoses) – trastorno psicótico (también llamado psicosis)	Severe mental disorders that cause abnormal or disturbed thinking and perceptions. Patient loses touch with reality - difficulty understanding what is real and what is not. <i>Note: Psychotic disorders are particularly common in criminal forensic evaluations, as they are the primary reason for requests for evaluation of competence to stand trial and sanity at the time of the offense (DSM-5).</i> Causes: Not known (genetics, trauma, substance use, physical illness or injury?), hormonal changes in their brain during puberty, mental disorders such as schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder or depression. Manifestations: <i>psychotic episode:</i> delusions, hallucinations, incoherent or nonsense speech, behavior that is inappropriate for the situation; may also experience depression, anxiety, sleep problems, social withdrawal, lack of motivation, and difficulty functioning, overall. Tests: mental health screening (Ref: National Institute of Mental Health).
Schizophrenia - esquizofrenia	Serious mental disorder in which people interpret reality abnormally. Causes: not known (genetics, chemistry, environment?). Manifestations: hallucinations, delusions, disorganized thinking (speech), "word salad", extremely disorganized or abnormal motor behavior, negative symptoms. Tests: psychiatric evaluation, DSM-5 criteria. (Ref: Mayo Clinic) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lehtMYlOulk https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWaFgw8XnpA
Mood disorders (affective disorders)– Trastornos del ánimo	Mood disorders are emotional disturbances consisting of prolonged periods of excessive sadness, excessive joyousness, or both. The DSM-IV section on Mood Disorders has been replaced in DSM-5 with separate sections for the Bipolar Disorders and the Depressive Disorders. Causes: not fully understood but related to imbalance of brain chemicals, life events (such as stressful life changes). Genetics. Manifestations: sadness, decreased interest or pleasure in activities (depressive); episodes of mania and depression, which may alternate, although many patients have a predominance of one or the other (bipolar) Tests: depression screening test, Mood Disorder Questionnaire (MDQ) (Ref: DSM-5, Mayo Clinic, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration SAMHSA).