Medication

Positive Symptoms

- Disturbing experiences of delusions and hallucinations
- 50% to 70% of people with schizophrenia experience delusions and hallucinations, or both

1. Delusions – ‘disorder of thought content’
   - Delusions of grandeur – mistaken belief that the person is famous or powerful
   - Delusions of persecution – belief that others are out to get them
   - Capgras syndrome – person believes that someone they know has been replaced by double
   - Cotard syndrome – person believes that he is dead

Theories

- Motivational view of delusions – attempts to deal with and relieve anxiety and stress
- Deficit view of delusions – beliefs as resulting from brain dysfunction that creates these disordered cognitions or perceptions

2. Hallucinations – experience of sensory events without any input from the surrounding environment
   - Auditory hallucination – common form of hallucination experienced by people with schizophrenia (Broca's area is active during hallucination)

Negative Symptoms

- Absence or insufficiency of normal behavior
- 25% of people with schizophrenia

1. Avolition – inability to initiate and persist in activities
   - People with this symptom show little interest in performing even the most basic day to day functions, including those associated with personal hygiene

2. Alogia – absence of speech

3. Anhedonia – lack or pleasure experience by some people with schizophrenia

4. Affective flattening
   - 25% of people with schizophrenia

Disorganized Symptoms

Inappropriate affect – displaying inappropriate affect

Bizarre Behavior – hoarding objects, acting in unusual ways in public

Catatonia – motor dysfunction that range from wild agitation to immobility

Schizophreniform Disorder – people must exhibit symptoms of schizophrenia for a few months only, and resume normal lives afterwards
   - Prevalence – 0.2%