

## Discuss issues associated with the classification and/or diagnosis of schizophrenia.

### AO1

DSM - IV  
continuous disturbance for a least 6 months

ICD - 10  
2 or more symptoms present for a significant portion of a 1 month period, social/ occupational dysfunction

Social stigma of schizophrenia diagnosis

Schizophrenics are reluctant to see a doctor for diagnosis

Doctors reluctant to diagnose schizophrenia

20% recover completely

10% significant improvement

30% some improvement

40% never recover

(10% commit suicide)

Population validity (cannot be generalised across cultures)

2.1% African Americans diagnosed

1.4% White Americans diagnosed

social norms or cultural biases can be an explanation

### AO2

P: 2 different diagnostic manuals, both have different requirements to diagnose schizophrenia

E: Poor reliability of diagnosis and a lack of concurrent validity

E: Means there may be problems with the diagnostic criteria

L: 1 manual may diagnose schizophrenia and the other doesn't due to different factors measures to diagnose the condition.

P: Kim & Berrios looked into the social stigma of schizophrenia diagnosis

E: Estimated only 20% of schizophrenics have been diagnosed

E: However, this could be culturally specific and so this assumption cannot be generalised to other cultures where the social stigma has a less dramatic effect

L: More cross-cultural research is needed to determine the cultural validity of this findings.

P: Different outcomes dependent on the individuals experience

E: Low predictive validity (cannot predict the future outcome)

E: This reduces the ability to be able to predict how the disorder will develop and the final outcome for the patients

L: More research could be carried out to see if theres any correlation between certain schizophrenic characteristics and the future of the sufferer.

### Golden Nuggets

DSM - IV & ICD - 10

Concurrent Validity

Social Stigma

Cultural Validity

Different Outcomes

Predictive Validity

Population Validity

Social Norms