**Psychosis Lesson** Desmond Meenan

*Paraphrased by   
Ms. Carruth*

* Psychosis affects roughly 3% of the population worldwide
* psychosis has positive and negative symptoms
  + positive refers to the fact that those symptoms are present
  + negative refers to the absence of something

**Positive Symptoms**

* hallucinations (these include all 5 senses, seeing, touching, smell, hearing, and tasting)
* delusions (beliefs that are untrue)
  + persecution (others are out to get me)
  + referential (e.g. songs are talking to me)
  + grandiose
  + nihilistic (nothing exists)
  + somatic (having to do with the body)
* untrusting
* thought disorders
  + insertions (unwanted thoughts)
  + withdrawals (someone is stealing my thoughts)
  + broadcasting (others can hear my thoughts)

**Negative Symptoms**

* loss of pleasure
* lack of drive
* emotionally unresponsive

These can often be   
misinterpreted as depression

* apathy
* avoids eye contact

**What is psychosis?**

Can be part of some of the following DSM disorders

* Schizophrenic disorders
* Personality disorders
* Bipolar disorder
* Depression
* Medical neurological illnesses e.g. Parkinsons

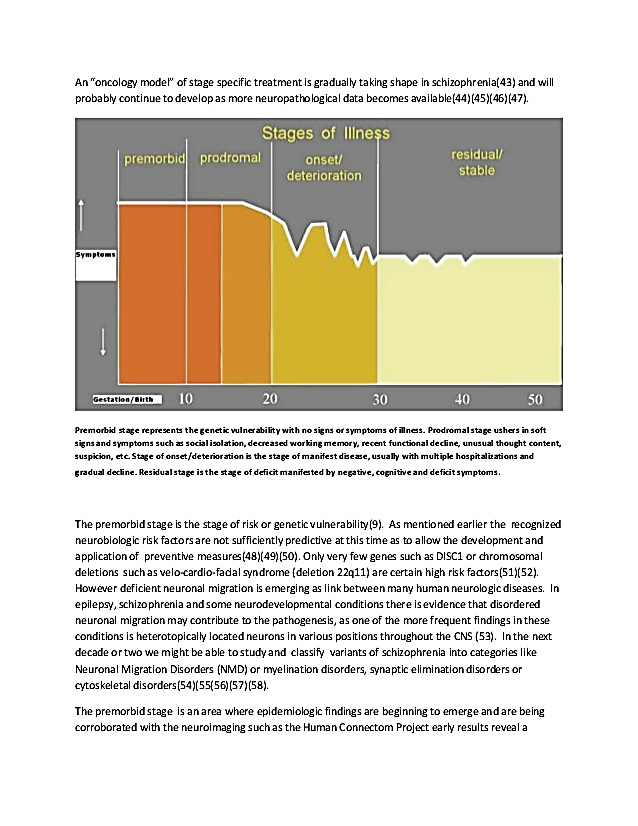
**Stages of Psychosis**

**premorbid** risk or vulnerability stage

**prodromal** symptoms are starting to emerge (can last 5 to 6 years)

**onset** manifest disease stage

**residual** stabilization into deficit – burnout, potential negative effects of disease and medication



**symptoms**

**age**

**Substance Abuse**

* Very common correlation, 40 to 60% of people suffering with psychosis also abuse substances versus 10% of the regular population
* These often include cannabis, hallucinogens and alcohol
* Cannabis has differing effects on individuals and over time
  + Low effect > calm
  + Medium effect > euphoria, impaired concentration
  + Higher effect > paranoia and or psychosis

**Is it Substance Abuse or Psychosis?**

It could be either

* Primary psychotic disorders
* Substance induced psychosis
* Concurrent disorders

*The more you use the more you lose*

**Is a Psychotic Person dangerous?**

* No more than anyone in the regular population, they are rarely violent and are in fact much more likely to be the victim of violence
* BUT they can be unpredictable

**Early Intervention**

* With early intervention there is better prognosis
  + Alternatively, when a person disengages they get further and further away from reality
  + Treatment is often delayed in any case, it might take speaking on average to 5 professionals before getting diagnosed.

**Early Psychosis Intervention can lead to…**

* Early
  + develop relationship with clients
  + Reduce trauma
* Medication
  + look at meds and what can help
* Long term
  + Hopefully self-monitor
  + Maximize quality of life