Diagnostic research in psychology

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Class objectives

• By the end of this class, you will be able to:
  • Find articles to apply understanding to the diagnosis of psychological disorders and treatments
  • Use diagnostic manuals to define a mental condition
  • Investigate and evaluate the information found.
Research statement

- Psychological disorders are contagious

- Could you consider that instead of being contagious, psychological disorders are hereditary?
Questions

• Can you inherit a psychological disorder?

Keywords genetics heredity biological basis

Choose a mental condition for example schizophrenia
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Getting Started

Before you begin searching for information, make sure you understand your topic and what you don’t know.

1. Write down what you already know about the topic and what you need to find out.
2. Find dictionaries, encyclopedias for an overview of your topic.
3. Find textbooks to broaden your knowledge of your topic and to identify keywords.
4. Find academic journal articles for detailed arguments about specific points.

- Write down what you know and need to know
- Find dictionaries and encyclopedias
- Find textbooks
- Find academic journal articles

• Gives you a starting point for your research
• Provide an overview of the topic
• Broaden your knowledge of the topic
• Detailed arguments on specific points
Topic

• Can you be born with schizophrenia?

• Schizophrenia biological psychology genetics family heredity
Research claims:

1. Psychological disorders are contagious
2. Diagnosis is always right
3. Aetiology should determine treatment
Searching skills

- Keywords
- Synonyms <and maybe antonyms>
- Phrase searching “keep it together”
- Boolean searching
  - AND   Schizophrenia AND genetics
  - OR
  - NOT
- Truncation or Stem psycholog*
Background reading

- Books provide solid grounding
- Need to learn terminology
- Search catalogue for books
- Genetics AND schizophrenia AND biological psychology
Search for: 
- Discover 
- Catalogue 
- Journal Articles 
- Course Reserve

Search Scope: All Locations

Search Criteria:
- **Any field contains genetics**
- **AND Any field contains schizophrenia**
- **AND Any field contains biological psychology**

**Search**
Understanding abnormal psychology: clinical and biological perspectives/Ramsden, Pamilla author.
Los Angeles : SAGE, 2013

Full text available at: SAGE ebooks EBS
Chapter 9: Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders

By: Pamilla Ramsden

In: Understanding Abnormal Psychology: Clinical and Biological Perspectives
DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.4135/9781526402427.n9
Subject: Clinical Psychology (general)

Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders

Learning aims

At the end of this chapter you should:

- Understand schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders
- Be familiar with the various types of schizophrenia
- Comprehend the psychosocial and biopsychological models of schizophrenia
- Be able to identify the various treatments used in schizophrenia
How can you diagnose? Use the manual

• Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (5th ed 2013)

• International Classification of Diseases (10th revision, 2016)
  https://icd.who.int/browse10/2016/en
Databases

Find databases by name

- Databases list A - Z
- A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W

Find databases by subject

- Arts and humanities
- Business
- Criminology
- Education
- Engineering
- Environmental sciences
- Health
- Law
- Psychology
Psychology Databases

Find articles

PsycNET (APA)
PsycNET provides access to international literature in psychology and related disciplines by bringing together the PsycINFO index, PsycARTICLES, PsycTEST, APA Books, and APA Handbooks. This database includes literature from an array of disciplines related to psychology such as psychiatry, education, business, medicine, nursing, pharmacology, law, linguistics, and social work.

Psychiatry Online
Full text database provides access to psychiatric textbooks, journals and development tools for psychiatrists and mental health professionals. Includes the Diagnostic Standard Manual of Mental Disorders library including the DSM 5 manual. Produced by the American Psychiatric Association.

Google Scholar
Search tool for full text and citations of scholarly literature across many disciplines and sources: articles, theses, books, abstracts and court opinions, from academic publishers, professional societies, online repositories and universities. To get full-text articles, set your Google Scholar preferences.
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Diagnostic And Statistical Manual Of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition

https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.books.9780890425596

Section II: Diagnostic Criteria and Codes

Section III: Emerging Measures and Models
Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders
Schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorders include schizophrenia, other psychotic disorders, and schizotypal (personality) disorder. They are defined by abnormalities in one or more of the following five domains: delusions, hallucinations, disorganized thinking (speech), grossly disorganized or abnormal motor behavior (including catatonia), and negative symptoms.
International Classification of Diseases (10\textsuperscript{th} revision, 2016)

- International Classification of Diseases (10\textsuperscript{th} revision, 2016)
  \url{https://icd.who.int/browse10/2016/en}

World Health Organisation
Journal articles

• Are academic sources

• Provide case studies

• Are more up to date than books

• Are highly used in psychology
How to find a reference

• If you are given this information how do you find the article?

Distinguishing normal and abnormal behaviour (e.g. environments and behavioural contexts in Rosenhan 1973)

Try Googling Rosenhan 1973 article
Find this

  
  http://dx.doi.org/10.1126/science.179.4070.250

http://dx.doi.org/10.1126/science.179.4070.250
On Being Sane in Insane Places (pp. 250-258)
D. L. Rosenhan
https://www.jstor.org/stable/1735662
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On Being Sane in Insane Places

D. L. Rosenhan

If sanity and insanity exist, how shall we know them?

The question is neither capricious nor itself insane. However much we may be personally convinced that we can tell the normal from the abnormal, the evidence is simply not compelling. It is commonplace, for example, to read about murder trials wherein eminent psychiatrists for the defense are contradicted by equally eminent psychiatrists for the prosecution on the matter of the defendant's sanity. More generally, there are a great deal of conflicting data on the reliability, utility, and meaning of such terms as "sanity," "insanity," "mental illness," and "schizophrenia" (1). Finally, as early as 1934, Benedict suggested that normality and abnormality are not universal (2).

What is viewed as normal in one culture may be seen as quite aberrant in another. Thus, notions of normality and abnormality may not be quite as accurate as people believe they are.

To raise questions regarding normality and abnormality is in no way to question the fact that some behaviors are deviant or odd. Murder is deviant. So, too, are hallucinations. Nor does raising such questions deny the existence of the personal anguish that is often associated with "mental illness." Anxiety and depression exist. Psychological suffering exists. But normality and abnormality, sanity and insanity, and the diagnoses that flow from them...
Where to now?

• Try using Google Scholar

• Search your topic genetics schizophrenia

Neuregulin 1 and schizophrenia genetics, gene expression, and neurobiology

PJ Harrison, AJ Law - Biological psychiatry, 2006 - Elsevier

Neuregulin 1 (NRG1) is a leading schizophrenia susceptibility gene. The NRG1 locus on chromosome 8p shows linkage to the disorder, and genetic association has been found between schizophrenia and various non-coding polymorphisms and haplotypes, especially...

Schizophrenia genetics: where next?

Y Kim, S Zerwas, SE Trace, PF Sullivan - Schizophrenia bulletin, 2011 - academic.oup.com

The purpose of this invited review is to summarize the state of genetic research into the etiology of schizophrenia (SCZ) and to consider options for progress. The fundamental uncertainty in SCZ genetics has always been the nature of the beast, the underlying genetic...
Summary

This class covered:
• Searching strategies
• Locating information on psychology
• Identifying diagnoses of mental disorders
• Evaluating the information found
Thank you!
Research claims:

1. Psychological disorders are contagious
2. Diagnosis is always right
3. Aetiology should determine treatment