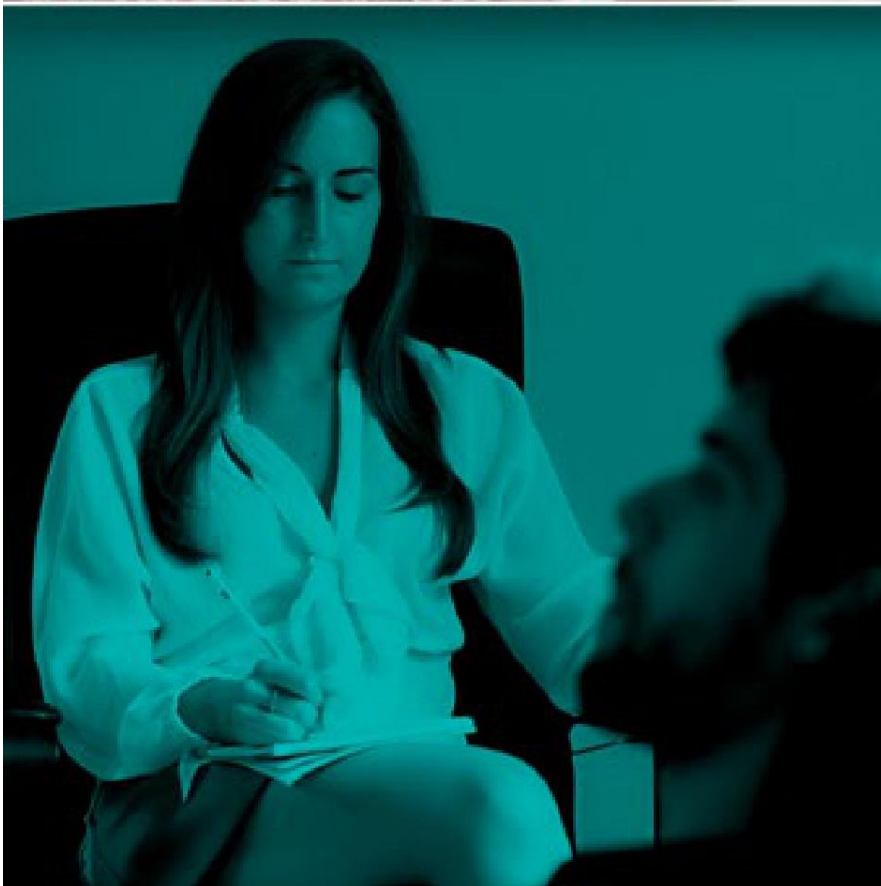




Delusional Disorder



Overview

This is a psychotic disorder. With it, you have trouble recognizing reality. You believe something that isn't true. We call this a "delusion." Even when someone can prove that your belief is false, you continue to firmly believe it.

Causes

We don't understand the exact cause of delusional disorder. It usually first affects people in adulthood. It can develop in middle age or later in life. In some cases it is linked to another mental health disorder, such as schizophrenia. And, it may be linked to a condition that affects your brain, such as Alzheimer's disease.

Symptoms

Different people have different types of delusions. If you have this disorder, you may have a delusion that someone has fallen in love with you, or that your partner is being unfaithful. You may believe you have made an important discovery. You may believe you are being plotted against. You may think someone is trying to poison or infect you. Or, you may believe that something is wrong with your body. Your delusion may come and go. But over time, you may become more and more convinced of your delusion. It may begin to play a large role in your life.

Treatment

Treatment for delusional disorder may involve medications and talk therapy. It's often hard to treat people who have this disorder, because they may refuse help. But you may benefit from some assistance. Your healthcare provider can create a plan that's right for you.

Actor portrayals in photos

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