

# Schizophrenia

Schizophrenia is one of Lundbeck's focus disease areas, and is a chronic, severe and disabling psychiatric disorder. The disease is characterized by distortions in thinking, perception, emotions, language, sense of self and behaviour. Common experiences include hearing voices and delusions.<sup>1</sup> Schizophrenia affects both men and women, although men tend to develop the condition slightly earlier in life.<sup>2</sup>

The World Health Organization estimates that over

**21**  
million people

suffer from schizophrenia, making it one of the top 10 causes of disability worldwide.<sup>1</sup>



**Schizophrenia**

is among the most financially costly illnesses in the world.<sup>3,4</sup>

Schizophrenia affects people regardless of race, culture or social class. It typically starts in early adulthood around age


**20**



but it can develop at any age.<sup>2</sup>

The risk of an individual developing schizophrenia during his or her lifetime is approximately

**1%**<sup>5</sup>




Schizophrenia is marked by positive symptoms

**hallucinations  
& delusions**

and negative symptoms

**&  
blunted  
emotions  
social  
withdrawal<sup>6</sup>**

1) World Health Organization. Schizophrenia fact sheet. 2016. (<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs397/en/>)

2) Ochoa S, Usall J, Cobo J, Labad X, Kulkarni J. Gender differences in schizophrenia and first-episode psychosis: a comprehensive literature review. Schizophr Res Treatment 2012; 2012: 916198.

3) Lindström E, Eberhard J, Neovius M, Levander S. Costs of schizophrenia during 5 years. Acta Psychiatr Scand Suppl 2007;116 (435):3340.

4) Rössler W, Salize HJ, van Os J, Riecher-Rössler A. Size of burden of schizophrenia and psychotic disorders. Eur Neuropsychopharmacol 2005; 15 (4): 399409.

5) Tsuang MT, Faraone SV. Schizophrenia. Second edition. Oxford University Press Inc., New York: 2005.

6) American Psychiatric Association. Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders, 5th edition (DSM-5). Washington, D.C.: American Psychiatric Association; 2013.