

PSYCHOSIS FACT SHEET

1. **Hallucinations and delusions are common in dementia.**
2. **Auditory hallucinations are when patients hear voices or sounds when none exist.**
3. **Visual hallucinations are when patients see animals, people or images when nothing is there.**
4. **Auditory or visual impairment worsens hallucinations.**
5. **Hallucinations are caused by brain regions misfiring and the patient cannot distinguish misconceptions from reality.**
6. **Delusions are fixed false beliefs with no basis in fact.**
7. **Many dementia patients have delusions.**
8. **Delusions frequently cause patients to accuse family or caregivers of misconduct.**
9. **Delusions are not a reflection of past beliefs.**
10. **Patients can be terrified by hallucinations and delusions.**
11. **Antipsychotic medication improve hallucinations and delusions.**
12. **Arguing or reasoning with psychotic patients doesn't help.**
13. **Ignore hallucinations or delusions, distract the patient, and focus on pleasant topics.**
14. **Some delusions and hallucinations are quite convincing, but all come from brain malfunction.**



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For additional information or inquiries, please call 1-800-457-5679