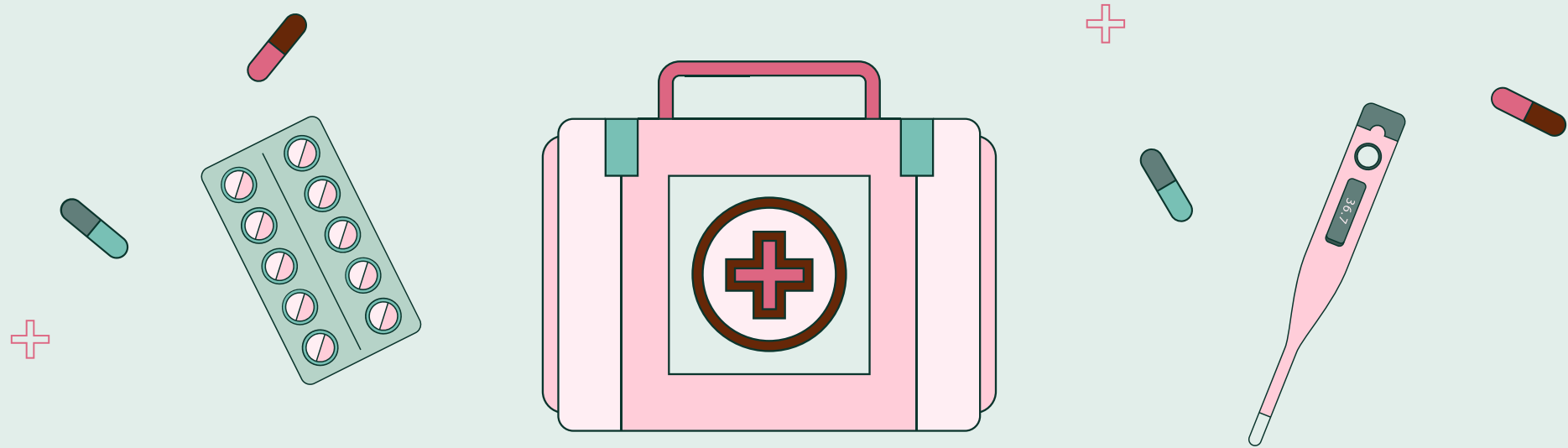


The background is a light teal color decorated with various medical icons: a pink plus sign in the top left, a blister pack of eight pink and white capsules, a pink digital thermometer showing 36.7, a teal and pink capsule, a pink plus sign in the top right, a clipboard with a stethoscope and a grid chart, a pink and brown capsule, a pink plus sign in the middle right, a pink and brown capsule, a pink plus sign in the bottom right, a pink and brown capsule, a pink plus sign in the bottom left, and a teal and pink capsule.

Cotard's Syndrome in a Pat with Schizophrenia

Mania Hataminezhad
Master:Mr.Gharebaghi



What is schizophrenia?

Schizophrenia is a psychiatric condition that has severe effects on your physical and mental well-being. It disrupts how your brain works, interfering with things like your thoughts, memory, senses and behaviors. As a result, you may struggle in many parts of your day-to-day life. Untreated schizophrenia often disrupts your relationships (professional, social, romantic and otherwise). It can also cause you to have trouble organizing your thoughts, and you might behave in ways that put you at risk for injuries or other illnesses

Schizophrenia Symptoms



Unusual or extremely slowed movements.



Incoherent or disorganized speaking.



Hallucinations, usually related to hearing voices or strange sounds.



Delusions: false beliefs that remain unchanged despite contradicting evidence.



Isolating behavior or emotionless facial expressions or speech.

Because of these symptoms, you may:



Feel suspicious, paranoid or afraid frequently.



Not care about hygiene and appearance.



Have depression, anxiety and suicidal thoughts.



Use alcohol, nicotine, prescription medications or recreational drugs to "self-medicate" symptoms.

How is schizophrenia treated?

01

First- and second-generation
antipsychotics

03

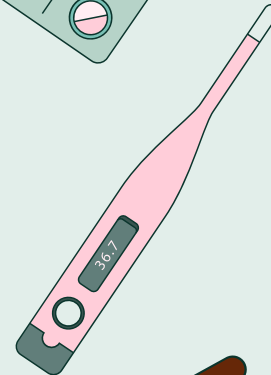
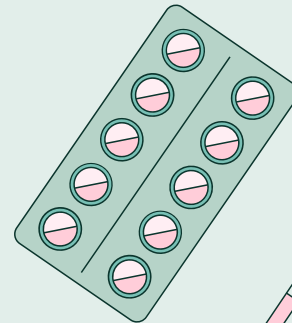
Psychotherapy

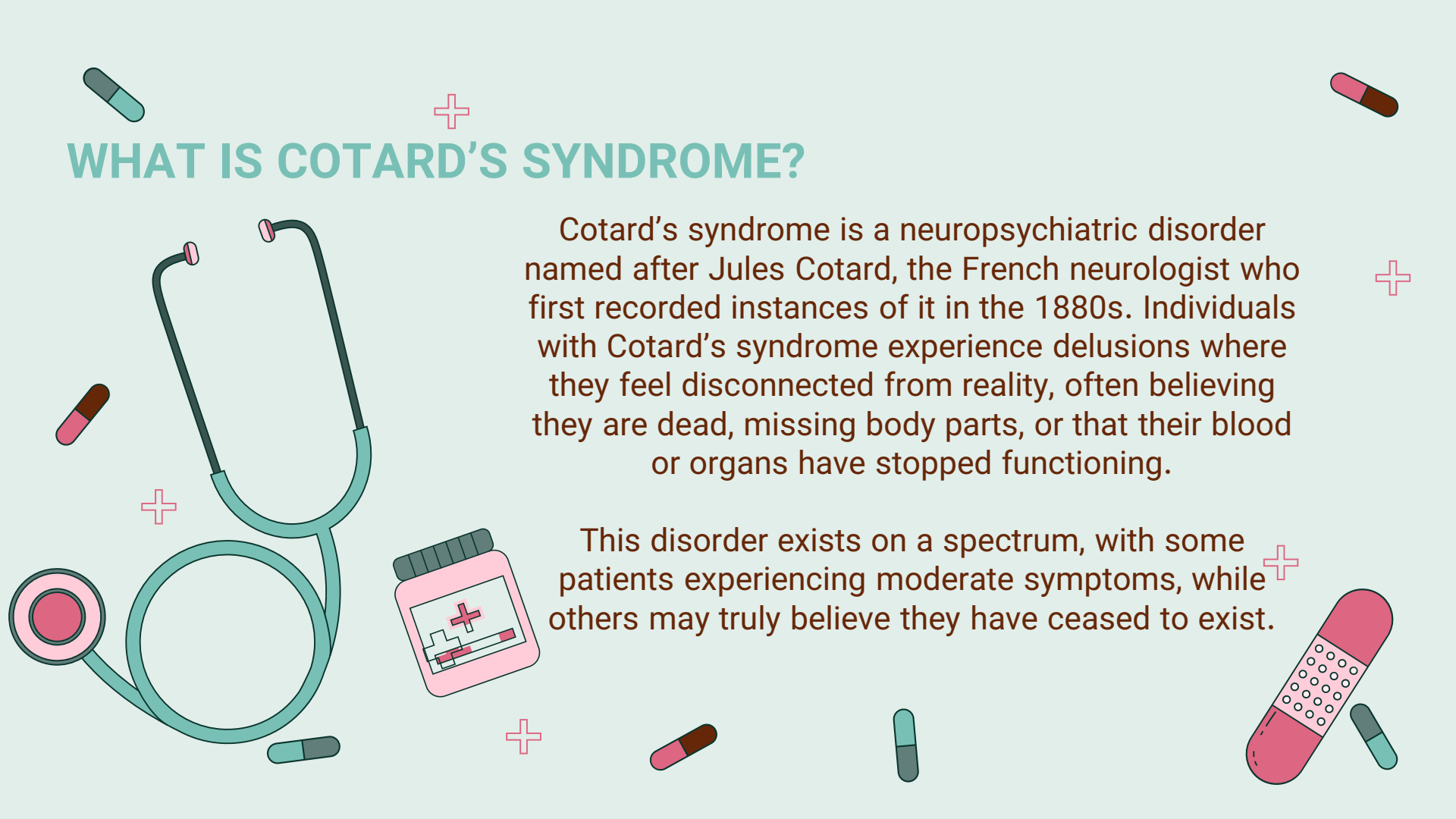
02

Next-generation
antipsychotics

04

Electroconvulsive therapy
(ECT)





WHAT IS COTARD'S SYNDROME?

Cotard's syndrome is a neuropsychiatric disorder named after Jules Cotard, the French neurologist who first recorded instances of it in the 1880s. Individuals with Cotard's syndrome experience delusions where they feel disconnected from reality, often believing they are dead, missing body parts, or that their blood or organs have stopped functioning.

This disorder exists on a spectrum, with some patients experiencing moderate symptoms, while others may truly believe they have ceased to exist.

Symptoms of Cotard's Syndrome

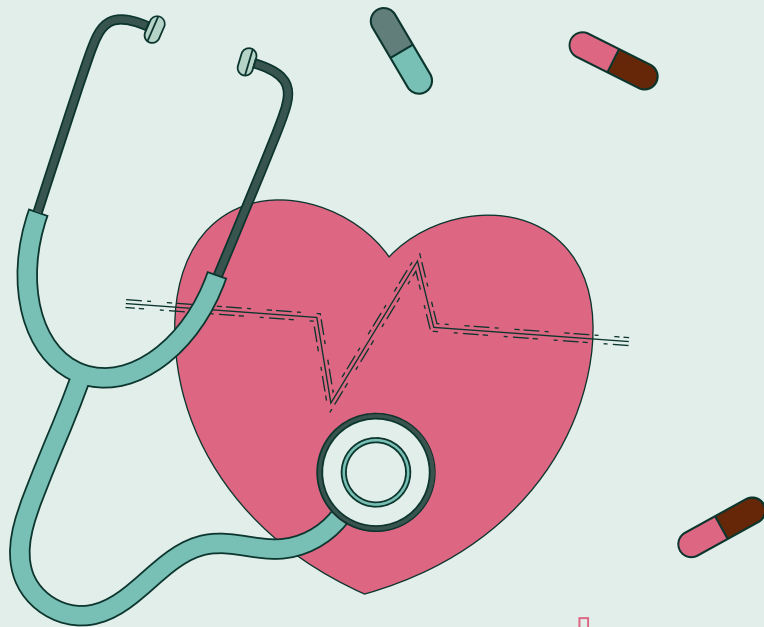
Cotard's syndrome symptoms revolve around intense feelings of emptiness, non-existence, and delusions. Some of the most common symptoms include:

Belief of Death or Non-Existence: Many individuals with Cotard's syndrome firmly believe they're dead, even if they're physically walking around and interacting with the world.

Delusions of Physical Emptiness: Some patients may believe they lack specific body parts or organs, feel hollow, or believe they are decomposing.

Social Withdrawal: Feelings of detachment often lead to isolation and difficulty relating to others.

Severe Depression: Depression often presents along with a strong sense of hopelessness, guilt, or worthlessness.





CAUSES OF COTARD'S SYNDROME

The exact cause of Cotard's syndrome remains unclear, though several factors can contribute to its development. For example:



Underlying Mental Health Disorders: Cotard's is often associated with severe depression, schizophrenia, and bipolar disorder.



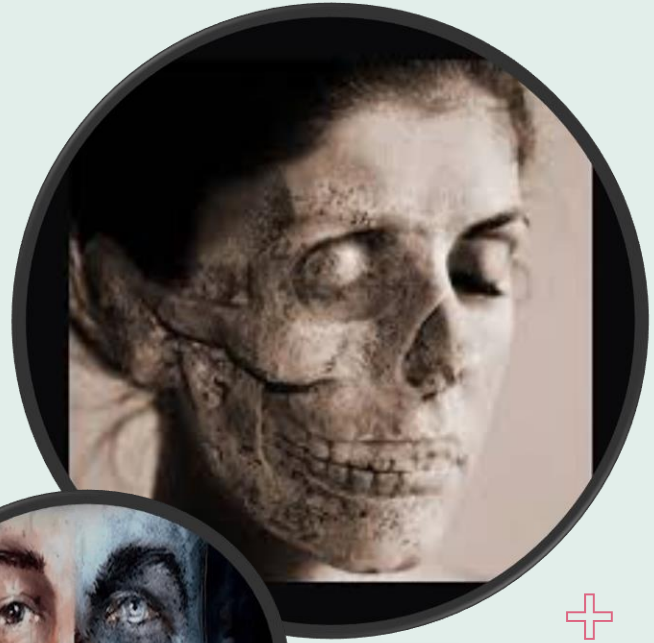
Neurological Conditions: Brain injuries, dementia, and other neurodegenerative disorders have been linked to Cotard's syndrome.



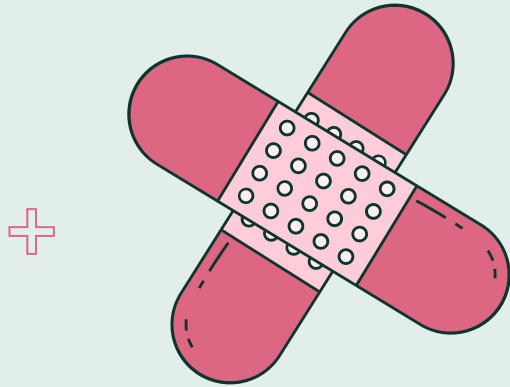
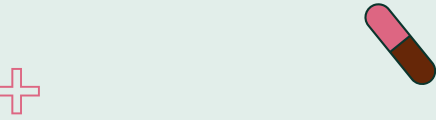
Substance Use: In some cases, substance misuse, such as drug or alcohol abuse, has been associated with episodes of Cotard's syndrome.



Cultural and Environmental Triggers: Extreme stress or traumatic events can sometimes trigger delusional episodes.

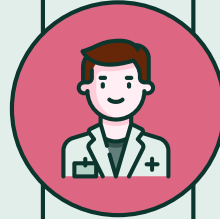


TREATMENT OPTIONS



Medication

Antidepressants, antipsychotics, and mood stabilizers are commonly prescribed to help manage delusions, depression, and other symptoms.



Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT)

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)

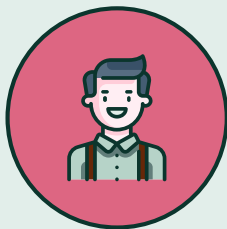
CBT can help individuals recognize and challenge their beliefs and thought patterns, which may help them reconnect with reality.

Hospitalization

In severe cases, inpatient treatment may be necessary. Hospitalization provides a safe environment for intensive therapeutic support.

Who Gets It?





Depression



Anxiety

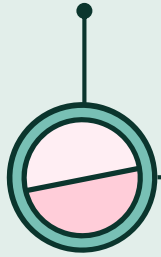


Schizophrenia

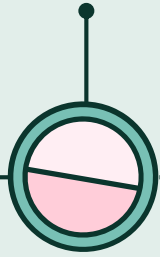
Substance abuse

Bipolar disorder

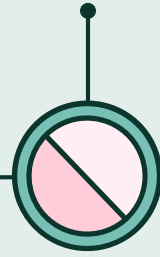
Most have some kind of brain damage that shows up on imaging tests.
The harm may come from:



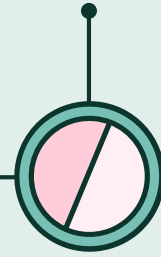
A stroke



A tumor

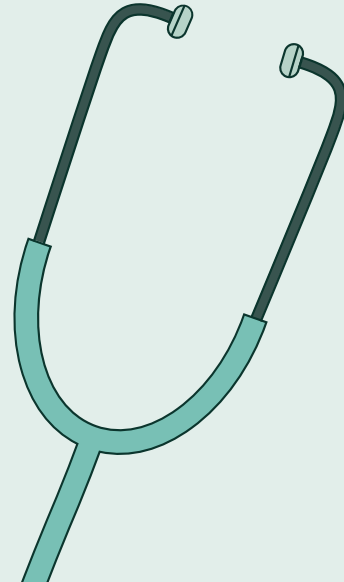


A blood clot



An injury

Diagnosis

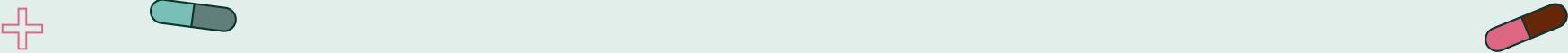




Cotard's syndrome or delusion is a symptom of another condition, not a disease. It's not listed in the DSM, the handbook used to diagnose mental health problems. The fact it's not in there means there are no firm rules to guide doctors.

It's usually diagnosed after doctors rule out other conditions that look like it. One such disorder is Capgras syndrome, when a person believes a friend or family member has been replaced by an identical fake. Capgras syndrome is also called "imposter syndrome."





intervention



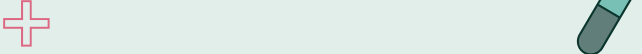
Avoid commanding
behavior that intensifies
the patient's aggression.



Do not judge the patient's
delusions and
hallucinations in any way.



Avoid touching the patient
without prior notice.



Thank you

