Personality Disorders

- A heterogeneous group of disorders that are coded on Axis II of the DSM and are regarded as longstanding, permanent, and inflexible patterns of behavior and mental experience that deviate from the expectations of a person’s culture and that impair social and occupational functioning and may cause emotional distress.

Three Clusters:
- Odd/Eccentric – Cluster A
  - Paranoid
  - Schizoid
  - Schizotypal

- Dramatic/Erratic – Cluster B
  - Borderline
  - Histrionic
  - Narcissistic
  - Antisocial

- Anxious/Fearful – Cluster C
  - Avoidant
  - Dependent
  - Obsessive compulsive
DSM-IV-TR Criteria for Paranoid Personality Disorder

Presence of four or more of the following and not occurring exclusively during a course of schizophrenia, psychotic depression, or as part of a pervasive developmental disorder; also not due to a general medical condition:

- Pervasive suspiciousness of being harmed, deceived, or exploited
- Unwarranted doubts about the loyalty or trustworthiness of friends or associates
- Reluctance to confide in others because of preceding criterion
- Hidden meanings read into the innocuous actions of others
- Grudges for perceived wrongs
- Angry reactions to perceived attacks on character or reputation
- Akin to first two criteria, unwarranted suspiciousness of the fidelity of spouse or other sexual partner

DSM-IV-TR Criteria for Schizoid Personality Disorder

Presence of four or more of the following and not occurring exclusively during a course of schizophrenia, psychotic depression, or as part of a pervasive developmental disorder; also not due to a general medical condition:

- Lack of desire or enjoyment of close relationships
- Almost exclusive preference for solitude
- Little interest in sex with others
- Few if any pleasures
- Lack of friends
- Indifference to praise or criticism from others
- Flat affect, emotional detachment

DSM-IV-TR Criteria for Schizotypal Personality Disorder

Presence of five or more of the following and not occurring exclusively during a course of schizophrenia, psychotic depression, or as part of a pervasive developmental disorder:

- Ideas of reference
- Peculiar beliefs or magical thinking, e.g., belief in extrasensory perception
- Unusual perceptions, e.g., distorted beliefs about one’s body
- Peculiar patterns of speech
- Extreme suspiciousness, paranoia
- Inappropriate affect
- Odd behavior or appearance
- Lack of close friends
- Extreme discomfort and sometimes extreme anxiety around other people
DSM-IV-TR Criteria for Borderline Personality Disorder

Presence of five or more of the following:
- Frantic efforts to avoid abandonment, both real and imagined
- Instability and extreme intensity in interpersonal relationships, marked by splitting, that is, idealizing others in one moment and reviling them the next
- Unstable sense of self
- Impulsive behavior, including reckless spending and sexual promiscuity
- Recurrent suicidal (gestures as well as genuine attempts) and self-mutilating behavior
- Extreme emotional lability
- Chronic feelings of emptiness
- Extreme problems controlling anger
- Paranoid thinking and dissociative symptoms triggered by stress

DSM-IV-TR Criteria for Histrionic Personality Disorder

Presence of five or more of the following:
- Strong need to be the center of attention
- Inappropriately sexually seductive behavior
- Rapidly shifting expression of emotions
- Use of physical appearance to draw attention to self
- Speech excessively impressionistic, passionately held opinions lacking in detail
- Exaggerated, theatrical emotional expression
- Overly suggestible
- Misreads relationships as being more intimate than they actually are

DSM-IV-TR Criteria for Narcissistic Personality Disorder

Presence of five or more of the following:
- Grandiose view of one's importance, arrogance
- Preoccupation with one's success, brilliance, beauty
- Extreme need for admiration
- Strong sense of entitlement
- Tendency to exploit others
- Envy of others

DSM-IV-TR Criteria for Antisocial Personality Disorder

Pervasive pattern of disregard for the rights of others since the age of 15 and at least three of the characteristics 1 through 7 plus 8 through 10:
1. Repeated law-breaking
2. Deceitfulness, lying
3. Impulsivity
4. Irritableness and aggressiveness
5. Reckless disregard for own safety and that of others
6. Irresponsible as seen in unreliable employment history or not meeting financial obligations
7. Lack of remorse
8. Age at least 18
9. Evidence of conduct disorder before the age of 15
10. Antisocial behavior not occurring exclusively during episodes of schizophrenia or mania
DSM-IV-TR Criteria for Avoidant Personality Disorder

Presence of at least four of the following:
- Avoidance of interpersonal contacts because of fears of criticism or rejection
- Unwillingness to get involved with others unless certain of being liked
- Restraint in intimate relationships for fear of being shamed or ridiculed
- Preoccupation about being criticized or rejected
- Feelings of inadequacy
- Feelings of inferiority
- Extreme reluctance to try new things for fear of being embarrassed

DSM-IV-TR Criteria for Dependent Personality Disorder

Presence of at least five of the following:
- Difficulty making decisions without excessive advice and reassurance from others
- Need for others to take responsibility for most major areas of life
- Difficulty disagreeing with others for fear of losing their support
- Difficulty doing things on own because of lack of self-confidence
- Doing unpleasant things as a way to obtain the approval and support of others
- Feelings of helplessness when alone because of lack of confidence in ability to handle things without the intervention of others
- Urgently seeking of new relationship when present one ends
- Preoccupation with fears of having to take care of self

DSM-IV-TR Criteria for Obsessive-Compulsive Personality Disorder

Presence of at least four of the following:
- Preoccupation with rules and details to the extent that the major point of an activity is lost
- Extreme perfectionism to the degree that projects are seldom completed
- Excessive devotion to work to the exclusion of leisure and friendships
- Inflexibility about morals
- Difficulty discarding worthless items
- Reluctance to delegate unless others conform to one's standards
- Miserliness
- Rigidity and stubbornness