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dis-or-der (dis-or'dər)

a derangement or abnormality of function; a morbid physical or mental state.

Disorder

acute stress disorder, an anxiety disorder characterized by development of anxiety and dissociative and other symptoms within one month following exposure to an extremely traumatic event; symptoms include reexperiencing the event, avoidance of trauma-related stimuli, anxiety or increased arousal, and some or all of the following: a subjective sense of diminished emotional responsiveness, numbing, or detachment, derealization, depersonalization, and amnesia for aspects of the event. If persistent, it may become [posttraumatic stress disorder](#).

adjustment disorder, a maladaptive reaction to identifiable stressful life events, such as divorce, loss of job, physical illness, or natural disaster; this diagnosis assumes that the condition will remit when the stress ceases or when the patient adapts to the situation.

affective disorders, [mood d's](#).

amnesic disorders, mental disorders characterized by acquired impairment in the ability to learn and recall new information, sometimes accompanied by inability to recall previously learned information, and not coupled to dementia or delirium. The disorders are subclassified on the basis of etiology as amnesic disorder due to a general medical condition, substance-induced persisting amnesic disorder, and amnesic disorder not otherwise specified. DSM-IV eliminates the distinction between this term and [amnesic syndrome](#).

antisocial personality disorder, a personality disorder characterized by continuous and chronic antisocial behavior in which the rights of others or generally accepted social norms are violated; associated personality traits include impulsiveness, egocentricity, inability to tolerate boredom or frustration, irritability and aggressiveness, recklessness, disregard for truth, and inability to maintain consistent, responsible functioning at work, at school, or as a parent.

anxiety disorders, a group of mental disorders in which anxiety and avoidance behavior predominate. Included are [panic disorder](#) with and without agoraphobia, [agoraphobia without history of panic disorder](#), [specific phobia](#), [social phobia](#), [obsessive-compulsive disorder](#), [posttraumatic stress disorder](#), [acute stress disorder](#), [generalized anxiety disorder](#), and [substance-induced anxiety disorder](#).

attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, a childhood mental disorder characterized by inattention (such as distractibility, forgetfulness, not finishing tasks, and not appearing to listen), by hyperactivity and impulsivity (such as fidgeting and squirming, difficulty in remaining seated, excessive running or climbing, feelings of restlessness, difficulty awaiting one's turn, interrupting others, and excessive talking) or by both types of behavior. The disorder is subtyped as predominantly hyperactive-impulsive type, predominantly inattentive type, or combined type, depending on the criteria met. Behavior must interfere with academic, social, or work functioning, with impairment existing in at least two settings. Onset is before age seven but it can persist into adulthood.

autistic disorder, a severe pervasive developmental disorder with onset usually before three years of age and a biological basis related to neurologic or neurophysiologic factors; it is characterized by qualitative impairment in reciprocal social interaction (e.g., lack of awareness of the existence of feelings of others, failure to seek comfort at times of distress, lack of imitation), in verbal and nonverbal communication, and in capacity for symbolic play, and by restricted and unusual repertoire of activities and interests. Other characteristics sometimes include cognitive impairment, hyper- or hyporeactivity to certain stimuli, stereotypic behaviors, neurological abnormalities such as seizures or altered muscle tone, sleeping or eating pattern abnormalities, and severe behavioral problems. It is associated with several genetic conditions and pre- and perinatal risk factors. Called also [autism](#), [infantile autism](#), and [Kanner syndrome](#).

autistic spectrum disorders, [autism spectrum disorders](#), [pervasive developmental d's](#).

avoidant disorder of childhood or adolescence, former name for a disorder that would now be included under the diagnosis of social phobia (DSM-IV).

avoidant personality disorder, a personality disorder characterized by social discomfort, hypersensitivity to criticism, low self-esteem, and an aversion to activities that involve significant interpersonal contact; there is a proclivity to anxiety, an exaggeration of difficulties, a desire for affection and acceptance that is restrained for fear of rejection, and an avoidance of risks or new activities for fear of embarrassment.

behavior disorder, [conduct d.](#)

binge-eating disorder, an eating disorder characterized by repeated episodes of binge eating, as in bulimia nervosa, but not followed by inappropriate compensatory behavior such as purging, fasting, or excessive exercise.

bipolar disorders, mood disorders characterized by a history of manic, mixed, or hypomanic episodes, usually with concurrent or previous history of one or more major depressive episodes, including [bipolar I disorder](#), [bipolar II disorder](#), and [cyclothymic disorder](#). Cf. [depressive d's](#). a term sometimes used in the singular to denote either [bipolar I d.](#) or [bipolar II d.](#), or both.

bipolar I disorder, a type of bipolar disorder characterized by one or more manic or mixed episodes, often with a history of one or more major depressive episodes.

bipolar II disorder, a type of bipolar disorder characterized by one or more major depressive episodes accompanied by at least one hypomanic episode but without any manic or mixed episodes.

bleeding disorder, [coagulopathy](#).

body dysmorphic disorder, a mental disorder in which a normal-appearing person is either preoccupied with some imagined defect in appearance or is overly concerned about some very slight physical anomaly.

borderline personality disorder, a personality disorder marked by a pervasive instability of mood, self-image or sense of self, and interpersonal relationships; impulsive and self-damaging acts are common, as are uncontrolled anger, fears of abandonment, chronic feelings of emptiness, recurrent self-mutilating behavior and suicide threats, and transient, stress-induced periods of paranoia and dissociation.

breathing-related sleep disorder, any of several disorders characterized by sleep disruption due to some sleep-related breathing problem, resulting in excessive sleepiness or insomnia; included are central and obstructive sleep apnea syndromes (see [sleep apnea](#), under apnea) and [primary alveolar hypoventilation](#).

brief psychotic disorder, an episode of psychotic symptoms (incoherence, loosening of associations, delusions, hallucinations, disorganized or catatonic behavior) with sudden onset, lasting less than one month. If it occurs in response to a stressful life event, it may be called [brief reactive psychosis](#).

catatonic disorder, catatonia due to the physiological effects of a general medical condition and neither better accounted for by another mental disorder nor occurring exclusively during delirium.

character disorders, [personality d's](#). See also [character](#).

childhood disintegrative disorder, pervasive developmental disorder characterized by marked regression in a variety of skills, including language, social skills or adaptive behavior, play, bowel or bladder control, and motor skills, after at least two, but less than ten, years of apparently normal development.

circadian rhythm sleep disorder, a [sleep disorder](#) of the dyssomnia group, consisting of a lack of synchrony between the schedule of sleeping and waking required by the external environment and that of a person's own circadian rhythm. It usually has an environmental cause such as rotating shift work or long-distance air travel, although some individuals simply have natural circadian rhythms sharply different from the predominant one of their society.

collagen disorder, any inborn error of metabolism involving abnormal structure or metabolism of collagen; the term includes [Ehlers-Danlos syndrome](#), [Marfan syndrome](#), [cutis laxa](#), [osteogenesis imperfecta](#), and [epidermolysis bullosa](#). Collagen disorder is not to be confused with [collagen disease](#) (q.v.).

communication disorders, mental disorders characterized by difficulties in speech or language, severe enough to be a problem academically, occupationally, or socially; included are [expressive language disorder](#), [mixed receptive-expressive language disorder](#), [phonological disorder](#), and [stuttering](#).

conduct disorder, a type of disruptive behavior disorder of childhood and adolescence characterized by a persistent pattern of conduct in which rights of others or age-appropriate societal norms or rules are violated, with misconduct including aggression to people or animals, destruction of property, deceitfulness or theft, and serious violations of rules; it is classified as childhood-onset or adolescent-onset depending on whether the behavior begins before or after the age of ten.

congenital disorders of glycosylation, a large, genetically heterogeneous group of autosomal recessive multisystemic diseases caused by defects in the synthesis and processing of the carbohydrate moiety of glycoproteins. Disorders are divided into two types: type I disorders result from defects in biosynthesis occurring in the endoplasmic reticulum; type II disorders result from defects in processing in the Golgi complex. Disorders whose molecular defect is not known are designated CDG-x.

type IIc, [leukocyte adhesion deficiency, type II](#).

disorder of consciousness, a state of disordered attention and apperception, e.g., confusion or delirium.

conversion disorder, a mental disorder characterized by conversion symptoms (loss or alteration of voluntary motor or sensory functioning suggesting physical illness, such as seizures, paralysis, dyskinesia, anesthesia, blindness, or aphonia) having no demonstrable physiological basis and whose psychological basis is suggested by (1) exacerbation of symptoms at times of psychological stress, (2) relief from tension or inner conflicts (primary gain) provided by the symptoms, or (3) secondary gains (support, attention, avoidance of unpleasant responsibilities) provided by the symptoms. Many patients exhibit "la belle indifférence," a lack of concern about the impairment caused by the symptoms; histrionic personality traits are also common. Symptoms are neither intentionally produced nor feigned, and are not limited to pain or sexual dysfunction.

cyclothymic disorder, a mood disorder characterized by numerous alternating short cycles of hypomanic and depressive periods with symptoms like those of manic and major depressive episodes but of lesser severity. Called also [cyclothymia](#).

delusional disorder, a mental disorder marked by well-organized, logically consistent delusions but lacking other psychotic symptoms. Most functioning is not markedly impaired, the criteria for schizophrenia have never been satisfied, and symptoms of a major mood disorder have been present only briefly if at all. DSM-IV distinguishes six types on the basis of the predominant delusional theme: persecutory, jealous, erotomanic, somatic, grandiose, and mixed.

dependent personality disorder, a personality disorder marked by an excessive need to be taken care of, with submissiveness and clinging and preoccupation with fears of being abandoned; features include need for advice and reassurance in decision making, yielding of responsibility, initiative, and independence, avoidance of disagreement for fear of loss of support, voluntarily undertaking unpleasant tasks to ensure further care, and discomfort or helpless feelings when alone, with an indiscriminate rush to a new relationship.

depersonalization disorder, a dissociative disorder characterized by one or more severe episodes of depersonalization (feelings of unreality and strangeness in one's perception of the self or one's body image) not due to another mental disorder, such as schizophrenia. The perception of reality remains intact; patients are aware of their incapacitation. Episodes are usually accompanied by dizziness, anxiety, fears of going insane, and derealization.

depressive disorders, [mood disorders](#) in which depression is unaccompanied by manic or hypomanic episodes; e.g., [major depressive disorder](#) and [dysthymic disorder](#). Cf. [bipolar d's](#).

depressive personality disorder, a personality disorder characterized by a persistent and pervasive pattern of depressive cognitions and behaviors, such as chronic unhappiness, low self-esteem, pessimism, critical and derogatory attitudes toward oneself and others, feelings of guilt or remorse, and an inability to relax or feel enjoyment.

developmental disorders, see under [disability](#).

developmental coordination disorder, problematic or delayed development of gross and fine motor coordination skills, not due to a neurological disorder or to general mental retardation; affected children appear to be clumsy rather than grossly impaired. It may persist into adulthood.

disruptive behavior disorders, a group of mental disorders of children and adolescents consisting of behavior that violates social norms, is disruptive, and may be illegal, often distressing others more than it does the person with the disorder. It includes [conduct disorder](#) and [oppositional defiant disorder](#) and is grouped with [attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder](#).

dissociative disorders, mental disorders characterized by sudden, temporary alterations in identity, memory, or consciousness, segregating normally integrated memories or parts of the personality from the dominant identity of the individual. This category includes [dissociative identity disorder](#), [dissociative fugue](#), [dissociative amnesia](#), and [depersonalization disorder](#).

dissociative identity disorder, a dissociative disorder characterized by the existence in an individual of two or more distinct personalities, each having unique memories, characteristic behavior, and social relationships. At least two of the personalities control the patient's behavior in turns, the transition often being abrupt. The host personality usually is totally unaware of the alternate personalities, experiencing only inexplicable gaps of time and inability to recall important personal information. Alternate personalities may or may not have awareness of the others. Called also [multiple personality d.](#)

dissociative trance disorder, a dissociative disorder characterized by an involuntary state of trance that is not a normal function of the person's cultural or religious practice and that causes impairment or distress.

dream anxiety disorder, [nightmare d.](#)

dysthymic disorder, a [mood disorder](#) characterized by depressed feeling (sad, blue, low), loss of interest or pleasure in one's usual activities, and by at least some of the following: altered appetite, disturbed sleep patterns, lack of energy, low self esteem, poor concentration or decision-making skills, and feelings of hopelessness. Symptoms have persisted for more than two years but are not severe enough to meet the criteria for [major depressive disorder](#).

eating disorder, any of several disorders in which abnormal feeding habits are associated with psychological factors; in DSM-IV these include [anorexia nervosa](#), [bulimia nervosa](#), [pica](#), and [rumination disorder](#).

emotional disorder, see under [illness](#).

expressive language disorder, a [communication disorder](#) occurring in children and characterized by problems with the expression of language, either oral or signed. It includes difficulties such as limited speech or vocabulary, vocabulary errors, difficulty or hesitation in word selection, oversimplification of grammatical or sentence structure, omission of parts of sentences, unusual word order, and slowed acquisition of language skills. Two types are recognized, acquired and developmental.

extrapyramidal disorder, see under [syndrome](#).

factitious disorder, a mental disorder characterized by repeated, intentional simulation of physical or psychological signs and symptoms of illness for no apparent purpose other than obtaining treatment. It differs from malingering in that there is no recognizable motive for feigning illness. It is subtyped on the basis of whether the predominant signs and symptoms are physical (called also [Munchausen syndrome](#)), psychological, or both.

factitious disorder by proxy, a form of factitious disorder in which one person intentionally fabricates or induces signs and symptoms of one or more physical ([Munchausen syndrome by proxy](#)) or psychological disorders in another person under their care and subjects that person to needless and sometimes dangerous or disfiguring diagnostic procedures or treatment, without any external incentives for the behavior. The dyad is usually that of mother and child.

female orgasmic disorder, a sexual dysfunction characterized by consistently delayed or absent orgasm in a female, even after a normal phase of sexual excitement and accounting for her age and sexual experience and the amount of stimulation, and causing significant distress or interpersonal difficulty.

female sexual arousal disorder, a sexual dysfunction involving inability of a female either to attain or maintain the lubrication and swelling response of sexual excitement during sexual activity, after adequate stimulation, causing significant distress or interpersonal difficulty. Both physiological and psychological factors may be involved. Formerly called [frigidity](#). Cf. [male erectile d.](#)

formal thought disorder, disturbance in the form, rather than the content, of thought; disruption in the flow of ideas or speech; inability to follow the normal semantic or syntactic rules in someone with adequate intelligence and education and the cultural background to do so.

functional disorder, a disorder of physiological function having no known organic basis. Although not strictly correct, the term is often used in psychiatry as roughly equivalent to "psychogenic disorder"; in other branches of medicine, to "idiopathic disorder."

gender identity disorder, a disturbance of gender identification in which the affected person has an overwhelming desire to change their anatomic sex or insists that they are of the opposite sex, with persistent discomfort about their assigned sex or about filling its usual gender role; the disorder may become apparent in childhood or not appear until adolescence or adulthood. Individuals may attempt to live as members of the opposite sex and may seek hormonal and surgical treatment to bring their anatomy into conformity with their belief. Cf. [transvestism](#).

generalized anxiety disorder, an anxiety disorder characterized by the presence of excessive, uncontrollable anxiety and worry about two or more life circumstances, for six months or longer, accompanied by some combination of restlessness, fatigue, muscle tension, irritability, disturbed concentration or sleep, and somatic symptoms.

genetic disorder, see under [disease](#).

growth disorder, a condition in which growth is at one or the other statistical extreme, either below the 5th percentile or above the 95th percentile. See [gigantism](#) and [dwarfism](#).

histrionic personality disorder, a personality disorder marked by excessive emotionality and attention-seeking behavior; there is overconcern with physical attractiveness, sexual seductiveness, intolerance of delayed gratification, and rapid shifting and shallow expression of emotions.

hypoactive sexual desire disorder, a sexual dysfunction consisting of persistently or recurrently low level or absence of sexual fantasies and desire for sexual activity, causing pronounced distress or interpersonal difficulties.

identity disorder, former name for a disorder of adolescence that was defined as severe subjective distress about inability to reconcile aspects of the self into a relatively coherent whole and acceptable sense of self, with uncertainty about many social, academic, career, and moral choices. Lacking in substantiation, the disorder is no longer officially recognized, but similar uncertainty on multiple issues may be labeled as identity problem.

immunosecretory disorders, a group of disorders characterized by monoclonal proliferation of [immunoglobulin](#)-producing cells that resemble [lymphocytes](#) or [plasma cells](#); the group includes [AL amyloidosis](#), [cryoglobulinemia](#), [heavy chain disease](#), [benign monoclonal gammopathy](#), [multiple myeloma](#), and [plasma cell dyscrasias](#).

impulse control disorders, a group of mental disorders characterized by repeated failure to resist an impulse to perform some act harmful to oneself or to others. The person feels tension or an irresistible urge to perform the act which, even though ego-dystonic, gives pleasure or emotional release upon performance.

induced psychotic disorder, [shared psychotic d.](#)

intermittent explosive disorder, an impulse control disorder characterized by multiple discrete episodes of loss of control of aggressive impulses resulting in serious assault or destruction of property that are out of proportion to any precipitating stressors; behavior in between such episodes lacks impulsiveness or aggressiveness.

ion channel disorders, [ion channelopathies](#).

isolated explosive disorder, a former classification used to denote a single violent catastrophic act performed for no apparent reason and not attributable to any other disorder.

language disorder, any disorder of normal language-based communication, whether psychogenic or neurogenic; see [communication d's](#) and [speech d.](#)

late luteal phase dysphoric disorder, former name for [premenstrual dysphoric d.](#)

LDL-receptor disorder, [familial hypercholesterolemia](#).

learning disorders, a group of disorders characterized by academic functioning that is substantially below the level expected on the basis of the patient's age, intelligence, and education, interfering with academic achievement or other functioning. Included are [reading disorder](#), [mathematics disorder](#), and [disorder of written expression](#).

lymphoproliferative disorders, a general term encompassing a variety of disorders characterized by abnormal proliferation of lymphocytes; they include both malignant and nonmalignant disease. Called also [lymphoproliferative diseases](#) or [syndromes](#).

lymphoreticular disorders, a group of disorders of the lymphoreticular system, characterized by the proliferation of lymphocytes or lymphoid tissues; they may be either benign (e.g., [lymphocytosis](#)) or malignant (e.g., [lymphocytic leukemias](#), [multiple myeloma](#), or [non-Hodgkin lymphomas](#)). See also [lymphoproliferative d's](#). Called also [lymphoreticular diseases](#) or [syndromes](#).

major depressive disorder, a [mood disorder](#) characterized by the occurrence of one or more [major depressive episodes](#) (q.v.) and the absence of any history of manic, mixed, or hypomanic episodes.

major mood disorders, severe, full-blown [mood disorders](#); e.g., [major depressive disorder](#) and [bipolar I and II disorders](#).

male erectile disorder, a sexual dysfunction involving inability of a male to attain or maintain erection until completion of sexual relations, causing significant distress or interpersonal difficulty. Called also [psychogenic](#) or [psychological impotence](#). Cf. [female sexual arousal d.](#)

male orgasmic disorder, a sexual dysfunction characterized by consistently delayed or absent orgasm in a male, even after a normal phase of sexual excitement and stimulation that is adequate for his age in focus, duration, and intensity, and which causes significant distress or interpersonal difficulty.

manic-depressive disorder, former name for [bipolar d.](#); see bipolar d's (def. 2).

mathematics disorder, a [learning disorder](#) (q.v.) in which the skill affected is mathematical calculation or reasoning.

mendelian disorder, a genetic disease, showing a mendelian pattern of inheritance, and caused by a single mutation in the structure of DNA, which causes a single basic defect that has some pathological consequence or consequences. Called also [monogenic](#) or [single-gene d.](#) See also [inborn error of metabolism](#), under error.

mental disorder, any clinically significant behavioral or psychological syndrome characterized by the presence of distressing symptoms, impairment of functioning, or significantly increased risk of suffering death, pain, disability, or loss of freedom. Mental disorders are assumed to be the manifestation of a behavioral, psychological, or biological dysfunction in the individual. The concept does not include deviant behavior, disturbances that are essentially conflicts between the individual and society, or expected and culturally sanctioned responses to particular events.

minor depressive disorder, a [mood disorder](#) closely resembling [major depressive disorder](#) and [dysthymic disorder](#) but with symptoms intermediate in severity between the two and a course less protracted than that of dysthymic disorder.

mixed anxiety-depressive disorder, a mental disorder characterized by symptoms of depression and of anxiety, but not meeting the full

criteria for either a depressive disorder or an anxiety disorder.

mixed receptive-expressive language disorder, a [communication disorder](#) involving both the expression and the comprehension of language, either spoken or signed. Patients have difficulties with language production, such as in the selection of words and the creation of appropriate sentences, and also have trouble understanding words, sentences, or specific types of words.

monogenic disorder, [mendelian d.](#)

mood disorders, mental disorders whose essential feature is a disturbance of mood manifested as one or more episodes of mania, hypomania, depression, or some combination. Functional mood disorders are subclassified as [bipolar disorders](#), including [bipolar I disorder](#), [bipolar II disorder](#), and [cyclothymic disorder](#); [depressive disorders](#), including [major depressive disorder](#) and [dysthymic disorder](#); mood disorder due to a general medical condition; and [substance-induced mood disorder](#).

motor skills disorder, any disorder characterized by inadequate development of motor coordination severe enough to limit locomotion or restrict the ability to perform tasks, schoolwork, or other activities. Included is [developmental coordination d.](#)

movement disorder, any of numerous neurologic disorders characterized by disturbances of muscular movement, distinguished as either [hyperkinetic](#) (conditions such as [chorea](#), [dystonia](#), [hemiballismus](#), [myoclonus](#), [stereotypy](#), [tic](#), and [tremor](#)) or [hypokinetic](#) (conditions such as [akinetetic mutism](#), [psychomotor retardation](#), and the [stiff-man syndrome](#)).

multifactorial disorder, a disorder caused by interaction of genetic factors and perhaps also nongenetic, environmental factors, e.g., some forms of birth defects and diabetes mellitus. See also [genetic disease](#), under disease.

multiple personality disorder, [dissociative identity d.](#)

myeloproliferative disorders, a group of usually neoplastic diseases, which may be related histogenetically by a common multipotential stem cell, that includes among others acute and chronic granulocytic leukemias, acute and chronic myelomonocytic leukemias, polycythemia vera, and myelofibroerythroleukemia. An interrelationship with the [lymphoproliferative disorders](#) is thought to exist. Called also [myeloproliferative diseases](#) or [syndromes](#).

narcissistic personality disorder, a personality disorder characterized by grandiosity (in fantasy or behavior), a lack of social empathy combined with a hypersensitivity to the judgment of others, interpersonal exploitiveness, enviousness, arrogance, a sense of entitlement, and a need for constant signs of admiration.

negativistic personality disorder, [passive-aggressive personality d.](#)

neuropsychologic disorder, any disorder in which brain dysfunction is manifested by disturbances in [behavior](#) or [cognition](#).

neurotic disorder, [neurosis](#).

nightmare disorder, a [sleep disorder](#) of the parasomnia group, consisting of repeated episodes of nightmares that awaken the sleeper, who rapidly becomes fully oriented and alert and can vividly recall the dreams. Onset is usually in childhood or adolescence, and children often outgrow the disorder. Called also [dream anxiety d.](#)

obsessive-compulsive disorder, an [anxiety disorder](#) characterized by recurrent obsessions or compulsions that are severe enough to interfere significantly with personal or social functioning. Performing compulsive rituals may release tension temporarily, and resisting them causes increased tension. This disorder is not the same as [obsessive-compulsive personality disorder](#), which is a personality disorder.

obsessive-compulsive personality disorder, a personality disorder characterized by an emotionally constricted manner that is unduly conventional, serious, rigid, stubborn, and stingy; by preoccupation with trivial details, rules, order, organization, schedules, and lists to the extent that the major point of an activity is lost or task completion is delayed; by reluctance to delegate tasks or work cooperatively unless everything is done one's own way; and by excessive devotion to work and productivity to the detriment of interpersonal relationships. This is not the same as [obsessive-compulsive disorder](#), which is an anxiety disorder.

oppositional defiant disorder, a type of disruptive behavior disorder characterized by a recurrent pattern of defiant, hostile, disobedient, and negativistic behavior directed toward those in authority, including such actions as defying the requests or rules of adults, deliberately annoying others, arguing, spitefulness, and vindictiveness that occur much more frequently than would be expected on the basis of age and developmental stage.

organic anxiety disorder, see under [syndrome](#).

organic mental disorder, a term formerly used to denote any mental disorder with a specifically known or presumed organic etiology; now discouraged because of the implication that other mental disorders do not have an organic basis. The term was also sometimes used to denote an [organic mental syndrome](#) (q.v.). Current classification divides these disorders into [delirium](#), [dementia](#), and [amnesic and other cognitive disorders](#); mental disorders due to a general medical condition; and [substance-related disorders](#).

organic personality disorder, see under [syndrome](#).

orgasmic disorders, sexual dysfunctions characterized by inhibited or premature orgasm; see [female orgasmic d.](#), [male orgasmic d.](#), and [premature ejaculation](#).

overanxious disorder, former name for an anxiety disorder of childhood or adolescence, now subsumed by [generalized anxiety d.](#)

pain disorder, a somatoform disorder characterized by a chief complaint of severe chronic pain that causes substantial distress or impairment in functioning; the pain is neither feigned nor intentionally produced, and psychological factors appear to play a major role in its onset, severity, exacerbation, or maintenance. It is subdivided into pain d. associated with psychological factors and pain d. associated with both psychological factors and a general medical condition. A third subtype, pain d. associated with a general medical condition, is not considered a mental disorder.

panic disorder, an [anxiety disorder](#) characterized by recurrent panic (anxiety) attacks, episodes of intense apprehension, fear, or terror associated with somatic symptoms such as [dyspnea](#), [hyperventilation](#), palpitations, dizziness, vertigo, faintness, or shakiness and with psychological symptoms such as feelings of unreality ([depersonalization](#) or [derealization](#)) or fears of dying, going insane, or losing control; there is usually chronic nervousness and tension between attacks. It is almost always associated with [agoraphobia](#). (DSM-IV recognizes two types, panic d. with agoraphobia and panic d. without agoraphobia.) This disorder does not include panic attacks that may occur in phobias when the patient is exposed to the phobic stimulus.

paranoid disorder, [delusional d.](#)

paranoid personality disorder, a personality disorder marked by a view of other people as hostile, devious, and untrustworthy and a combative response to disappointments or to events experienced as rebuffs or humiliations. Notable are a questioning of the loyalty of friends, the bearing of grudges, a tendency to read threatening meanings into benign remarks, and unfounded suspicions of the fidelity of a partner. Unlike delusional disorder or paranoid schizophrenia, in which delusional or hallucinatory persecution occurs, it is not characterized by psychosis.

passive-aggressive personality disorder, a personality disorder characterized by an indirect resistance to demands for adequate social and occupational performance, such as by obstructionism, procrastination, or forgetfulness, and by negative, defeatist attitudes.

perforating disorders, [acquired perforating dermatosis](#).

periodic leg movement disorder, **periodic limb movement disorder**, [nocturnal myoclonus](#).

persistent genital arousal disorder, intense genital arousal occurring in the absence of subjective sexual interest or desire and persisting despite sexual activity or orgasm. Arousal is perceived as intrusive; it is usually only briefly diminished by orgasm and may even be exacerbated.

personality disorders, a category of mental disorders characterized by enduring, inflexible, and maladaptive personality traits that deviate markedly from cultural expectations, are self-perpetuating, pervade a broad range of situations, and either generate subjective distress or result in significant impairments in social, occupational, or other functioning. Onset is by adolescence or early adulthood.

pervasive developmental disorders, a group of disorders characterized by impairment of development in multiple areas, including the acquisition of reciprocal social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication skills, and imaginative activity and by stereotyped interests

and behaviors; included are [autistic disorder](#), [Rett syndrome](#), [childhood disintegrative disorder](#), and [Asperger syndrome](#).

phagocytic dysfunction disorders, a group of immunodeficiency conditions characterized by disordered phagocytic activity; disorders may be extrinsic (e.g., suppression of the number of phagocytes by immunosuppressive agents, or dysfunction caused by corticosteroids) or intrinsic (related to enzyme deficiencies). They are marked by bacterial or fungal infections that range from mild recurrent skin infection to fatal systemic infection. For a list of disorders of this type, see table at [immunodeficiency](#).

phobic disorders, see [phobia](#).

phonological disorder, a [communication disorder](#) of unknown etiology, characterized by failure to use age- and dialect-appropriate sounds in speaking, with errors occurring in the selection, production, or articulation of sounds. The most common errors are omissions, substitutions, and distortions of speech sounds.

plasma cell disorders, see under [dyscrasia](#).

polyglutamine disorders, polyQ disorders, any of the [triplet repeat disorders](#) in which a CAG triplet repeat sequence is expanded, yielding a large [polyglutamine](#) tract in the protein product. Although the affected protein differs, all have a toxic gain of function, the abnormal protein interfering with the normal protein, and causing damage to specific populations of neurons and neurotoxicity, with clinical onset in adulthood. Called also [polyglutamine diseases](#).

postconcussional disorder, see under [syndrome](#).

posttransplant lymphoproliferative disorder, see under [disease](#).

posttraumatic stress disorder, an [anxiety disorder](#) caused by exposure to an intensely traumatic event; characterized by reexperiencing the traumatic event in recurrent intrusive recollections, nightmares, or flashbacks, by avoidance of trauma-associated stimuli, by generalized numbing of emotional responsiveness, and by hyperalertness and difficulty in sleeping, remembering, or concentrating. The onset of symptoms may be delayed for months to years after the event. Terms formerly used for disorders of this type include gross [stress reaction](#), [shell shock](#), and [combat, battle](#), or war exhaustion or fatigue.

premenstrual dysphoric disorder, premenstrual syndrome viewed as a psychiatric disorder.

primary mental disorder, any of the mental disorders that are neither due to a general medical condition nor substance-induced.

psychoactive substance use disorders, substance use d's.

psychogenic pain disorder, pain d.

psychophysiologic disorder, psychosomatic d.

psychosexual disorders, sexual d's (def. 2).

psychosomatic disorder, a disorder in which the physical symptoms are caused or exacerbated by psychological factors, such as migraine headache, lower back pain, or irritable bowel syndrome. The synonym [psychophysiologic disorders](#), used in previous official nomenclatures and defined as "physical disorders of presumably psychogenic origin," has been replaced in DSM-IV by the more neutral phrase psychological factors affecting physical condition, which may be applied to any physical condition judged to be adversely affected by one or more psychological or behavioral factors, and is subtyped on the basis of the specific factors involved.

psychotic disorder, psychosis (def. 1).

rapid eye movement sleep behavior disorder, REM sleep behavior d.

reactive attachment disorder, a mental disorder of infancy or early childhood, characterized by notably unusual and developmentally inappropriate social relatedness, usually associated with grossly pathological care. It may be the inhibited type, with failure to initiate or respond to social interactions, or the disinhibited type, with indiscriminate sociability or attachment.

reading disorder, a learning disorder (q.v.) in which the skill affected is reading ability, including accuracy, speed, and comprehension.

recurrent brief depressive disorder, short repeated episodes of depressive symptoms severe enough to qualify as [major depressive episodes](#) but of lesser duration, recurring at least once a month and not associated with the menstrual cycle.

REM sleep behavior disorder, a sleep disorder of the [parasomnia](#) group characterized by abnormal electromyographic activity, altered dreams, and violent behaviors, often leading to self-injury, during REM sleep; it is often associated with a-synucleinopathies.

rhythmic movement disorder, repetitive, rhythmic, stereotyped, large-muscle body or head movements occurring during the transition to sleep, such as in *jactatio capitis nocturna*; onset is usually in infancy and the disorder is usually outgrown by the age of five.

rumination disorder, an eating disorder seen in infants under one year of age; after a period of normal eating habits, the child begins excessive regurgitation and rechewing of food, which is then ejected from the mouth or reswallowed; if untreated, death from malnutrition may occur.

sadistic personality disorder, a pervasive pattern of cruel, demeaning, and aggressive behavior; satisfaction is gained in intimidating, coercing, humiliating, and inflicting pain and suffering on others.

schizoaffective disorder, a mental disorder in which a major depressive episode, manic episode, or mixed episode occurs along with prominent psychotic symptoms characteristic of schizophrenia, the symptoms of the mood disorder being present for a substantial portion of the illness, but not for its entirety, and the disturbance not being due to the effects of a psychoactive substance.

schizoid personality disorder, a personality disorder marked by detachment from social relationships and a restricted range of emotional experience and expression. Qualifying characteristics include lack of capacity for, or interest in, social relationships or family life, coldness, aloofness, consistent preference for solitary activities, lack of pleasure in activities, flattened affectivity, and indifference to praise, criticism, or the feelings of others.

schizophreniform disorder, a mental disorder with the signs and symptoms of schizophrenia but duration of less than 6 months.

schizotypal personality disorder, a personality disorder characterized by marked deficits in social and interpersonal competence and eccentricities in ideation, appearance, and behavior; ideas of reference are common, as are odd beliefs or magical thinking, cognitive or perceptual distortions, little capability or desire for close relationships, excessive social anxiety, suspiciousness, and occasional paranoid ideation. It differs from schizophrenia, to which it is related, in having only transient psychotic episodes, if any.

seasonal affective disorder, a cyclically recurring [mood disorder](#) characterized by depression, extreme lethargy, increased need for sleep, hyperphagia, and carbohydrate craving; it intensifies in one or more specific seasons, most commonly the winter months, and is hypothesized to be related to melatonin levels. In DSM-IV terminology called mood disorder with seasonal pattern.

seasonal mood disorder, seasonal affective d.

self-defeating personality disorder, a persistent pattern of behavior detrimental to the self, including being drawn to problematic situations or relationships, failing to accomplish tasks crucial to life objectives, excessive self-sacrifice, inviting criticism and anger, undermining of pleasurable experiences, and inability to enjoy the rewards of success.

separation anxiety disorder, excessive, prolonged, developmentally inappropriate anxiety and apprehension in a child concerning removal from parents, home, or familiar surroundings.

sexual disorders, any disorders involving sexual functioning, desire, or performance. more specifically, any such disorders that are caused at least in part by psychological factors. Those characterized by decrease or other disturbance of sexual desire are called [sexual dysfunctions](#), and those characterized by unusual or bizarre sexual fantasies, urges, or practices are called [paraphilias](#). Called also [psychosexual d's](#).

sexual arousal disorders, sexual dysfunctions characterized by alterations in sexual arousal; see [female sexual arousal d.](#) and [male erectile d.](#)

sexual aversion disorder, feelings of repugnance for and active avoidance of genital sexual contact with a partner, causing substantial distress or interpersonal difficulty.

sexual desire disorders, sexual dysfunctions characterized by alteration in sexual desire; see [hypoactive sexual desire d.](#) and [sexual aversion d.](#)

disorder of sexual development, a congenital condition in which development of chromosomal, gonadal, or phenotypic sex is atypical.

sexual pain disorders, sexual dysfunctions characterized by pain associated with intercourse; they include [dyspareunia](#) and [vaginismus](#) not due to a general medical condition.

shared psychotic disorder, a delusional system that develops in one or more persons as a result of a close relationship with someone who already has a psychotic disorder with prominent delusions. Most commonly it involves two people and is called [folie à deux](#). Involvement of three people would be [folie à trois](#) and so on.

simple deteriorative disorder, [simple schizophrenia](#).

single-gene disorder, [mendelian d.](#)

sleep disorders, chronic disorders involving sleep. Primary sleep disorders comprise dyssomnias and parasomnias; causes of secondary sleep disorders may include a general medical condition, mental disorder, or psychoactive substance.

sleep terror disorder, a sleep disorder of the [parasomnia](#) group, consisting of repeated episodes of pavor nocturnus (sleep terrors).

sleep-wake schedule disorder, [circadian rhythm sleep d.](#)

sleepwalking disorder, a sleep disorder of the [parasomnia](#) group, consisting of repeated episodes of somnambulism.

social anxiety disorder, [social phobia](#).

somatization disorder, a mental disorder characterized by multiple somatic complaints that cannot be fully explained by any known general medical condition or the direct effect of a substance, but are not intentionally feigned or produced, beginning before the age of 30 and occurring over several years. Complaints comprise a combination of at least multiple pain symptoms, multiple gastrointestinal symptoms, a sexual symptom, and a neurological symptom. They are often presented in a dramatic, vague, or exaggerated way, with involvement of numerous physicians, numerous diagnostic evaluations, and unnecessary medical treatment or surgery. Called also [Briquet syndrome](#).

somatoform disorders, mental disorders characterized by symptoms suggesting a general medical condition but neither fully explained by a general medical condition, the direct effects of a psychoactive substance, or another mental disorder nor under voluntary control; this category includes [body dysmorphic disorder](#), [conversion disorder](#), [hypochondriasis](#), [pain disorder](#), [somatization disorder](#), and [undifferentiated somatoform disorder](#).

somatoform pain disorder, [pain d.](#)

speech disorder, defective ability to speak; it may be either psychogenic (see [communication d.](#)) or neurogenic. See also [language d.](#)

stereotypic movement disorder, a mental disorder characterized by repetitive nonfunctional motor behavior, such as hand waving, rocking, head-banging, or self-biting, which often appears to be driven and can result in serious self-inflicted injuries.

substance-induced disorders, a subgroup of the substance-related disorders comprising a variety of behavioral or psychological anomalies resulting from ingestion of or exposure to a drug of abuse, medication, or toxin. Included are [substance intoxication](#), [substance withdrawal](#), [substance-induced delirium](#), [substance-induced persisting dementia](#), [substance-induced persisting amnestic disorder](#), [substance-induced psychotic disorder](#), [substance-induced mood disorder](#), [substance-induced anxiety disorder](#), [substance-induced sexual dysfunction](#), and [substance-induced sleep disorder](#). Specific disorders or groups are named on the basis of etiology, e.g., alcohol-induced disorders, [alcohol intoxication](#). Cf. [substance use d's](#).

substance-induced anxiety disorder, an [anxiety disorder](#) characterized by prominent anxiety, panic attacks, obsessions, or compulsions and directly due to the physiological effects of a psychogenic substance, including drugs of abuse, medications, and toxins. Individual cases are named for the specific substance involved.

substance-induced mood disorder, a prominent and lasting disturbance of mood, either manic, depressive, or both, due to direct physiological effects of a psychoactive substance, including medications, drugs of abuse, and toxins. Individual cases are named for the specific substance involved.

substance-induced persisting amnestic disorder, an amnestic disorder caused by the lasting effects of a drug of abuse, medication, or toxic substance, often remaining stable or even worsening long after exposure to the substance has ended. Individual cases are named for the specific substance involved.

substance-induced psychotic disorder, persistent delusions or hallucinations related to the use of a psychoactive substance, the patient being unaware of their etiology. Individual cases are named for the specific substance involved.

substance-induced sleep disorder, a disturbance of sleep due to the direct physiological effects of a psychoactive substance, including drugs of abuse, medications, and toxins; usually manifest as hypersomnia or insomnia but sometimes as a parasomnia or of mixed type. Individual disorders are named for the specific substance involved.

substance-related disorders, any of the mental disorders associated with excessive use of or exposure to psychoactive substances, including drugs of abuse, medications, and toxins. The group is divided into [substance use disorders](#) and [substance-induced disorders](#), each of which is specified on the basis of etiology, e.g., alcohol use disorders. DSM-IV includes specific disorders for the classes alcohol, amphetamines or similarly acting sympathomimetics, caffeine, cannabis, cocaine, hallucinogens, inhalants, nicotine, opioids, PCP or similarly acting substances, and sedatives, hypnotics, or anxiolytics.

substance use disorders, a subgroup of the [substance-related disorders](#) (q.v.) in which psychoactive substance use or abuse repeatedly results in significantly adverse consequences. The group comprises [substance abuse](#) and [substance dependence](#); specific disorders or groups of disorders are named on the basis of etiology, e.g., alcohol use disorders, alcohol abuse, and alcohol dependence.

temporomandibular disorder, **temporomandibular joint disorder**, chronic facial pain associated with dysfunction of some combination of the temporomandibular joint, jaw muscles, and associated nerves. The most common symptoms include facial, neck, and shoulder pain, clicking or other sounds associated with jaw movement, limited jaw opening and locking of the jaw, headache, otalgia, neck and shoulder pain, and dizziness. TMD is often subdivided into myogenous and arthrogenous forms. The myogenous form is most often due to some combination of malocclusion, jaw clenching, bruxism, and physical and mental stress and anxiety. The arthrogenous form is usually caused by displacement of the articular disk, but may also be due to arthritis, ankylosis, dislocation, infection, neoplasia, or congenital anomaly. Called also [temporomandibular joint syndrome](#).

thought disorder, a disturbance in the thought process that is most narrowly defined as disorganized thinking with altered associations, as is characteristic of schizophrenia. The term is often used much more broadly to include any disturbance of thought, such as confusion, hallucinations, or delusions, which affects possession, quantity, or content of thought.

transient myeloproliferative disorder, usually transient [leukocytosis](#) associated with [Down syndrome](#) and generally diagnosed in the first few weeks of life, often with hepatosplenomegaly, pericardial and pleural effusions, hepatic disease, and a pustular rash. Although spontaneous remission occurs in most cases, some affected infants develop a [myelodysplastic syndrome](#) or [acute leukemia](#). Called also [congenital leukemoid reaction](#) and [transient leukemia of infancy](#).

trinucleotide repeat disorders, **triplet repeat disorders**, disorders caused by unstable, dynamic mutations that result in expansion of [triplet repeats](#) within the affected gene, leading to abnormalities in gene expression and function. The disorders differ significantly in such factors as inheritance pattern; base sequence, size, and intragenic location of the affected repeat; and degree of expansion and of instability of the repeats; but the underlying mechanism appears to be [slipped strand mispairing](#) during DNA replication. The group includes [Huntington disease](#), [myotonic dystrophy](#), [Friedreich ataxia](#), and [fragile X syndrome](#).

undifferentiated somatoform disorder, one or more physical complaints, not intentionally produced or feigned and persisting for at least six months, that cannot be fully explained by a general medical condition or the direct effects of a substance; the category comprises persisting disorders that do not completely satisfy the criteria for other somatoform disorders.

unipolar disorders, [depressive d's](#).

disorder of written expression, a [learning disorder](#) (q.v.) in which the affected skill is written communication, characterized by errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation, by poor paragraph organization, or by poor story composition or thematic development.

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