ag-o-ra-pho·bia (ag´ə-rə-fə´be-a) [Gr. agora marketplace + -phobia] intense, irrational fear of open spaces, characterized by marked fear of venturing out alone or of being in public places where escape would be difficult or help might be unavailable. It may be associated with panic attacks (see panic disorder, under disorder) or may occur independently (called a. without history of panic disorder, under disorder) in DSM-IV.

agoraphobia without history of panic disorder, agoraphobia with fear of having an attack of one or only a few incapacitating or embarrassing symptoms, which the person may or may not have had in the past, rather than a full panic attack.