## Differential Diagnosis of Psychosis

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<tr>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
<th>Common Age Onset</th>
<th>Differentiating Features</th>
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| Schizophrenia                   | Late adolescence (can be older but incidence drops significantly) | • Often has prodromal period  
• 80% have auditory hallucinations; most common outside, 3rd person, often multiple, often can’t identify  
• Most sensitive to schizophrenia: Delusions of reference, thought broadcasting  
• Often have negative symptoms  
• Visual hallucinations less common (15%)  
• Not due to substance abuse |
| Endocrine disorders (hypoglycemia/diabetes, thyroid) | Often older  | • Physical sx: faint, weak, nauseated, diarrhea, thirst, frequent urination  
• Low blood sugar  
• Thyroid abnormality  
• Hyperthyroid: hot, hyperactive, hair loss, sweaty, elevated blood pressure/pulse  
• Weight gain  
• Menstrual problems |
| Brain tumor                     | All                                                   | • Severe, frequent headache  
• Blurry  
• Nausea  
• Focal seizures |
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| Brain trauma    | All              | • History of trauma/loss of consciousness  
                          • Level of consciousness affected  
                          • Bad headache  
                          • Blurry vision |
| Drugs           | All              | • Used within last week  
                          • Physical symptoms: agitation, sweating, dry mouth, pupil changes  
                          • More insight into psychosis  
                          • Often paranoid delusions  
                          • Often auditory and visual plus insight  
                          • Acute onset |
| PTSD/PD         | All              | • Visual hallucinations associated with trauma  
                          • Auditory hallucinations- inside head, first person, remind of perpetrator, associated with negative affect/quality  
                          • Non bizarre sx  
                          • No to minimal GAF change. |
| Depression      | All              | • Sad affect  
                          • Auditory hallucinations, mood specific, typically inside head  
                          • No prodrome  
                          • Might see negative symptoms  
                          • Mood congruent delusions |
| Infection       | All              | • Temperature  
                          • Ill |
| Bipolar disorder| Median age mid-20s | • Sleeplessness without fatigue  
                          • Sx occurring during mania  
                          • Grandiose delusions  
                          • Pressured speech  
                          • Respond quicker to treatment  
                          • Cyclical condition |