Redesign of health services for schizophrenia is a top priority globally

Schizophrenia: is a long-term mental health disorder that causes hallucinations, delusions and muddled thoughts.

- Responsible for: 1.1% of all DALYs
- 2.5% of global health expenditure

- 2x more likely to develop type II diabetes

- 47% of patients do not report symptoms nor seek treatment
- Only 36% receive appropriate treatment
- 17% are misdiagnosed
- 4 out of 10 family caregivers spend an average of 23 hours per week caring for their relatives with schizophrenia
- 44% are unsatisfied with their role in treatment and care planning
- 44% feel they are unable to cope with the constant anxiety of caring

Focusing healthcare programmes on early intervention and communication with family caregivers can reduce schizophrenia complications.

- 22% fewer days in hospital than standard care programmes

† Disability adjusted life years.
This infographic has been developed by H. Lundbeck A/S from published literature as a contribution to the public health debate and is endorsed by the European Brain Council, the European Federation of Associations of Families of People with Mental Illness, the Global Alliance of Mental Health Illness Advocacy Networks and the World Federation for Mental Health.
Lack of response and side effects from current schizophrenia medications put patients at risk of stopping medication and of relapse⁹

Without maintenance antipsychotic treatment, 60–70% relapse within one year, and almost 90% relapse within two years⁹

Healthcare costs for patients who relapse are over €2,000 more each year⁹

8 out of 10 people receiving pharmacologic therapy for schizophrenia do not achieve remission¹⁰

50% of people treated for schizophrenia stop taking their medication³

1 in 7 people with schizophrenia discontinue treatment due to side effects they cannot tolerate¹³

Common side effects include:¹⁴
- Irritability
- Insomnia
- Restlessness
- Anxiety
- Weight gain
- Parkinsonism
- Sleepiness
- Diabetes
- Cardiovascular disease

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

• **Invest in healthcare professional training and services** so people with schizophrenia are accurately diagnosed and can easily access the support they need

• **Educate, empower and support caregivers** to enhance their important role alongside healthcare professionals and patients in the management of treatment and care for people with schizophrenia

• **Invest in earlier and appropriate schizophrenia interventions** to avoid extended periods of untreated or sub-optimally treated psychosis and reduce the economic burden

• **Improve access to schizophrenia treatment** that delivers quality of life and functioning outcomes


⁶ DataMonitor statistics, including data from US, Japan, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the UK. 2015.


¹⁴ Date of preparation: March 2017

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