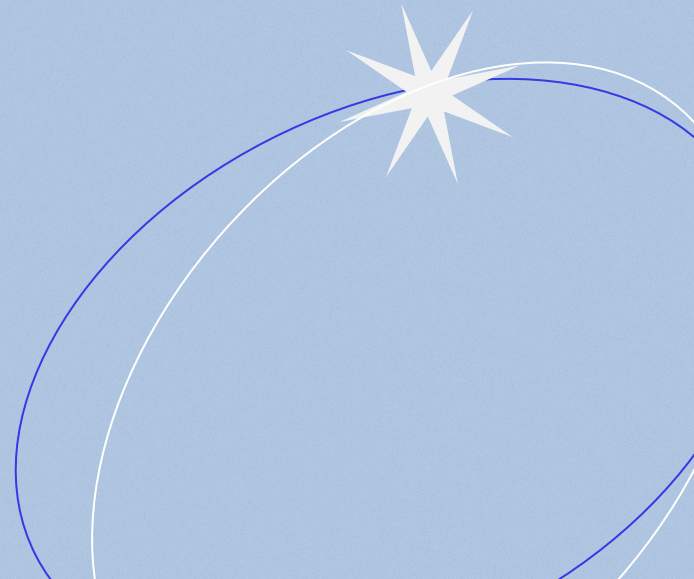




Psychological Analysis of “*Frailty*”

Angel Le
PSYC 107-509



What To Expect



01. Context & Diagnosis



Setting and general diagnosis
backed by scholarly articles

Symptoms

Symptoms and
specific diagnosis

02.



03. Treatment Plan

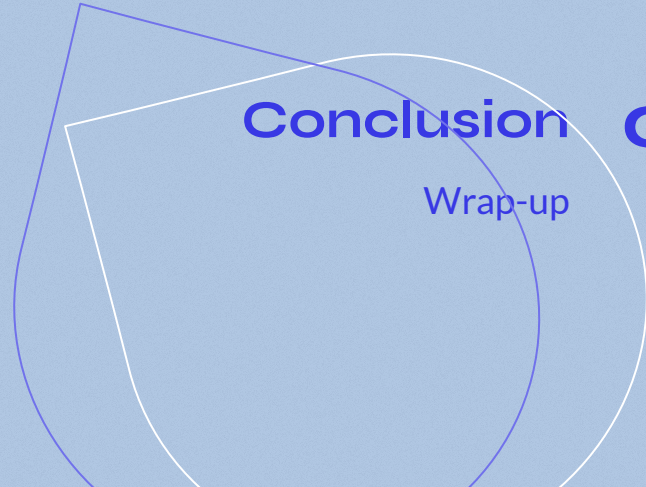


Proposed treatment and
justification

Conclusion

Wrap-up

04.





01. Context

Context:

- Mr. Meiks - father of two sons, aged seven and ten years old
- Fenton Meiks - older brother
- Adam Meiks - younger brother
- Set in suburban Texas
- Christianity
- Strong stigma towards mental disorders

01. Scholarly Research (Context)



- Jacobi, C. J., Charles, J., Vaidyanathan, B., Frankham, E., & Haraburda, B. (2022). *Stigma toward mental illness and substance use disorders in faith communities: The roles of familiarity and causal attributions.*

<http://dx.doi.org.srv-proxy2.library.tamu.edu/10.1037/sah0000373>



- Quantitative survey using depression and schizophrenia vignette
- Increased familiarity with disorder reduced stigma
- Decreased familiarity with disorder increased stigma
- Stigma was quantified with social distance in survey

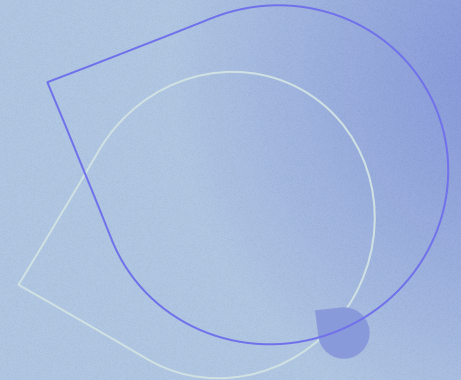




01. Diagnosis

Diagnosis:

- Schizophrenia
 - ★ - Hallucinations
 - ★ - Delusion
 - Disorganized speech
 - Catatonic or disorganized behavior
 - Negative symptoms
- Symptoms must show for at least one month
- Must experience dysfunction for most of the time
- “Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders” (DSM-5)





01. Scholarly Research (Diagnosis)

- Ng, F. (2007). *The interface between religion and psychosis*. *Australasian Psychiatry*, 15(1), 62-66.

<https://doi-org.srv-proxy2.library.tamu.edu/10.1080/10398560601083118>

- “Religion as a psychotic theme may be explained by its central cultural role... and the tendency to interpret intense events as spiritual”.
- American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders (5th ed.)*.
<https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.books.9780890425596>
- Widely accepted book for psychiatric diagnoses, used to guide diagnosis of Mr. Meiks



02. Symptoms

Delusion

- Delusion of grandeur (sense of impressiveness)
- 'God's Hands'
- Belief persists over a month
- Extremely severe
- Used position of authority as parent to manipulate and abuse children

Hallucinations

- Hallucination 1 - trophy in bedroom turned into angel with mission
- Hallucination 2 - light beam shines into abandoned barn onto axe
- Hallucination 3 - underside of car turns into ceiling of church, angel descends and lists demon's names

02. Research - Symptoms



- Getz, G. E., Fleck, D. E., & Strakowski, S. M. (2001). *Frequency and severity of religious delusions in Christian patients with psychosis*.
[http://dx.doi.org.srv-proxy1.library.tamu.edu/10.1016/S0165-1781\(01\)00262-1](http://dx.doi.org.srv-proxy1.library.tamu.edu/10.1016/S0165-1781(01)00262-1)



- Religious affiliation **increases** the frequency of religious delusions





02. Specific Diagnosis

Support for Schizophrenia Diagnosis

- Two of five symptoms listed in DSM-5 were met
- DSM-5 requires elimination of:
 - Schizoaffective disorder
 - Psychosis-related mood disorders
 - Substance-caused delusions

Weak Symptoms

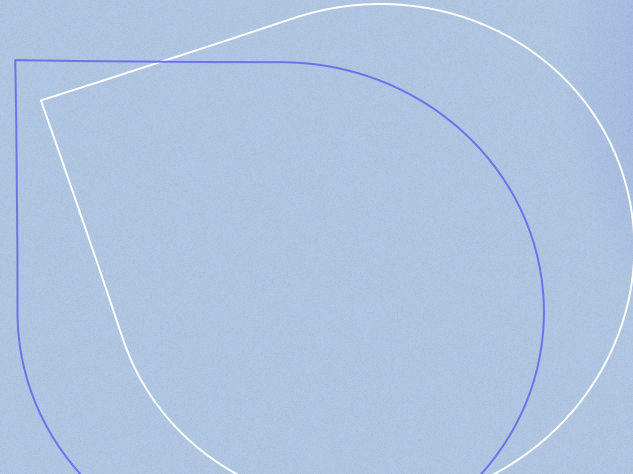
- Does not display flat affect / catatonic behavior
 - Overly active instead
- Does not display disorganized speech or behavior
- Potential mood disorder - disproved
- Potential schizoaffective disorder - disproved

03. Treatment Plan



Proposal:

- Long acting injectable (LAI) antipsychotic drugs
- Haloperidol decanoate
 - Starting dose of 50 mg/mL ampoule
 - Maintenance shot of up to 300 mg
 - 4 week injection interval
- Monitor and encourage group support
 - Preferably of the same faith





03. Research

- Di Lorenzo, R., Ferri, P., Cameli, M., Rovesti, S., Piemonte, C. (2019). *Effectiveness of 1-year treatment with long acting formulation of aripiprazole, haloperidol, or paliperidone in patients with schizophrenia: Retrospective study in a real-world clinical setting.*

<http://dx.doi.org.srv-proxy1.library.tamu.edu/10.2147/NDT.S189245>



- Tested three types of **LAI's** with psychotic patients over the course of a year - **all three improved psychosis**
- Measured efficacy with:
 - Clinical Global Impression Test (Severity)
 - Global Assessment of Functioning Scale
 - Frequency of hospitalizations and urgent consultations



03. Treatment Plan

Reasoning:

- 2019 longitudinal study led by Di Lorenzo studied the efficacy of three different LAI's, including haloperidol decanoate
- LAI's vs oral medication
 - LAI's have better adherence (**lower maintenance, ideal for patients with families and full lives**)
 - LAI's **better suited for patients with little to no support system**
- Ethical concerns
 - None
- Side effects
 - Muscle spasm



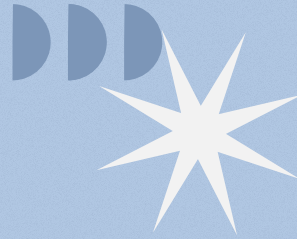
o4. Conclusion

Barriers to Psychological Help:

- **Societal** - mental health heavily stigmatized, children lack authority
- **Cultural** - religion warped the family's perception of reality, abuse was justified with religious delusion
- **Situational** - lack of support system, lack of childcare assistance

Bigger Picture:

- Schizophrenia is acknowledged in most cultures
- Patient has access to psychological help
 - Research and medicine are advanced enough in film's context to benefit from reaching out
- Film portrays severe case of psychosis without intentionally villainizing
 - Hallucinations depicted from patient's perspective - sympathy over stigma



End

