



Bipolar Disorder

Magellan Complete Care's goal is that with education people will seek the treatment they need. We also will work so that no one will have to face labels and unhelpful attitudes. People with mental illness get better and can stay better.

What is bipolar disorder?

Bipolar disorder is a brain disorder. It causes shifts in mood, energy, and activity levels. It also effects being able to do day-to-day tasks.

Symptoms of bipolar disorder are severe. They are different from the normal ups and downs that everyone goes through. Bipolar disorder symptoms can result in bad relationships, poor job or school output, and even suicide.

It can be treated, and people with this illness can lead full lives.

Causes

Experts are looking at the likely causes of bipolar disorder. Most scientists agree that there is no single cause. Rather, many acting together.

Genetics

Bipolar disorder runs in families. Some studies show that people with some types of genes are more likely to get bipolar disorder than others. Children with a parent, brother, or sister who has bipolar disorder are much more likely to get it. However, most children with a family member with bipolar disorder will not get it.

Genes are not the only cause of bipolar disorder. It is likely that there are many factors. However, scientists do not yet totally understand how these things cause bipolar disorder.

Signs and symptoms

People with bipolar disorder have mood episodes. Each mood episode is a strong change from a person's normal mood and

behavior. A very joyful or hyper state is called a manic episode. A very sad or hopeless state is called a depressive episode. Sometimes, a mood episode includes signs of both mania and depression. This is called a mixed state. People with bipolar disorder also may be very angry during a mood episode.

Who is at risk?

Bipolar disorder often starts in a person's late teens or early adult years. At least half of all cases start before age 25.

Some people have their first symptoms as a child, while others may get symptoms late in life.

To get more information about Magellan Complete Care please call us toll-free at 800-327-8613 or 800-424-1694 (TTY only). Or you can call Florida Medicaid Choice Counselors at 877-711-3662 or 866-467-4970 (TTY only).

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention