

Somatic Symptom Disorders and Dissociative Disorders

Somatic Symptom Disorders

Have you ever experienced a stress headache?

Or has your stomach been upset because you were worried or nervous about something?

When these symptoms begin to disrupt a person's ability to function, they are diagnosed with a Somatic Symptom Disorder.

Somatic Symptom Disorders

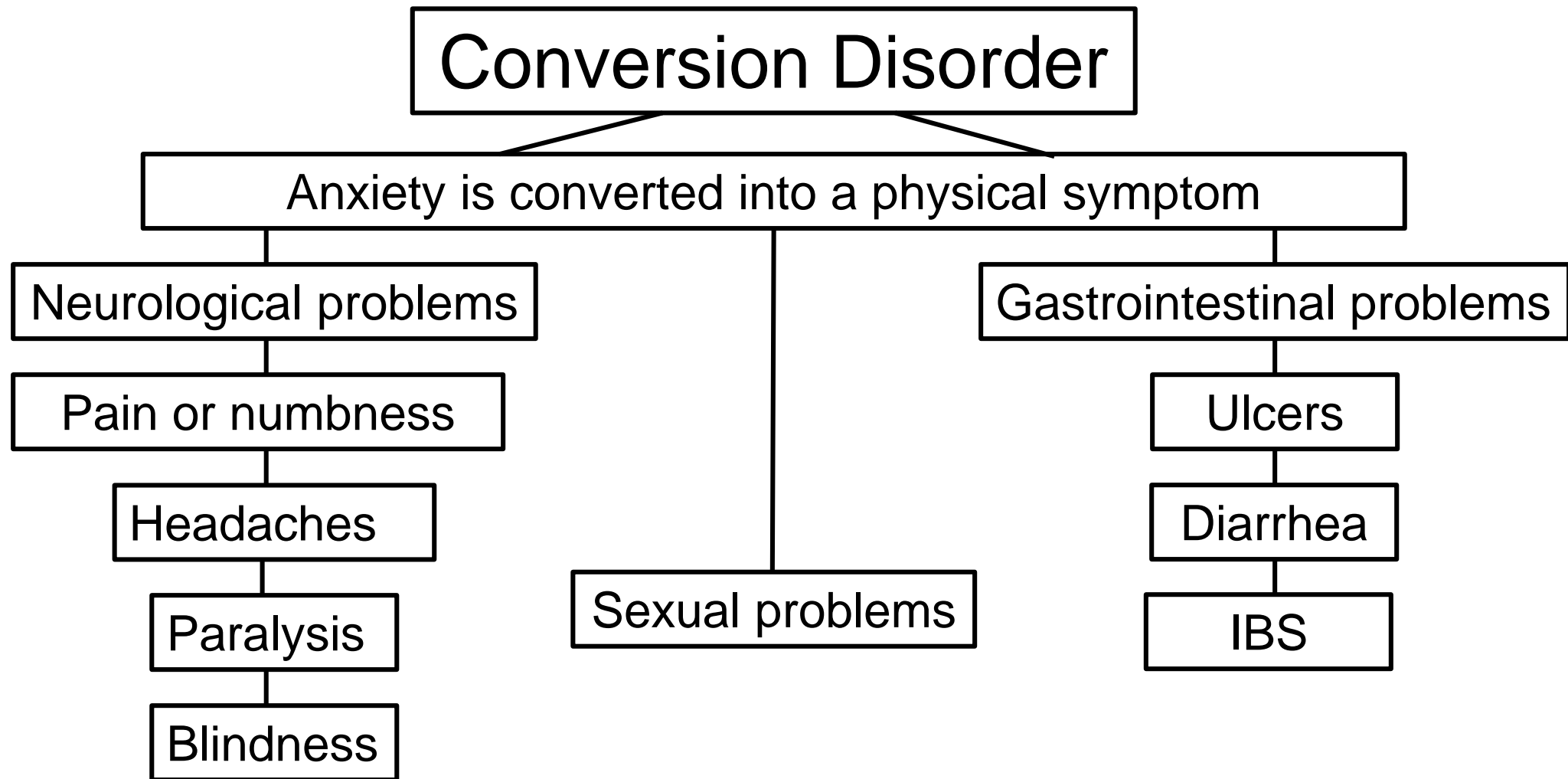
- Used to be called Somatoform
- Soma = body
- Somatic symptoms = symptoms involving the body
- **Somatic symptom disorders** = disorders that take the form of bodily illnesses and symptoms but are due to psychological rather than medical conditions

Somatic Symptom Disorders

There are two main categories of Somatic Symptom Disorders:

- Conversion Disorder
 - Anxiety is converted into a physical symptom
- Illness Anxiety Disorder
 - Normal sensations (like headaches, stomach aches, etc.) are interpreted as some sort of dreaded disease.

Somatic Symptom Disorders

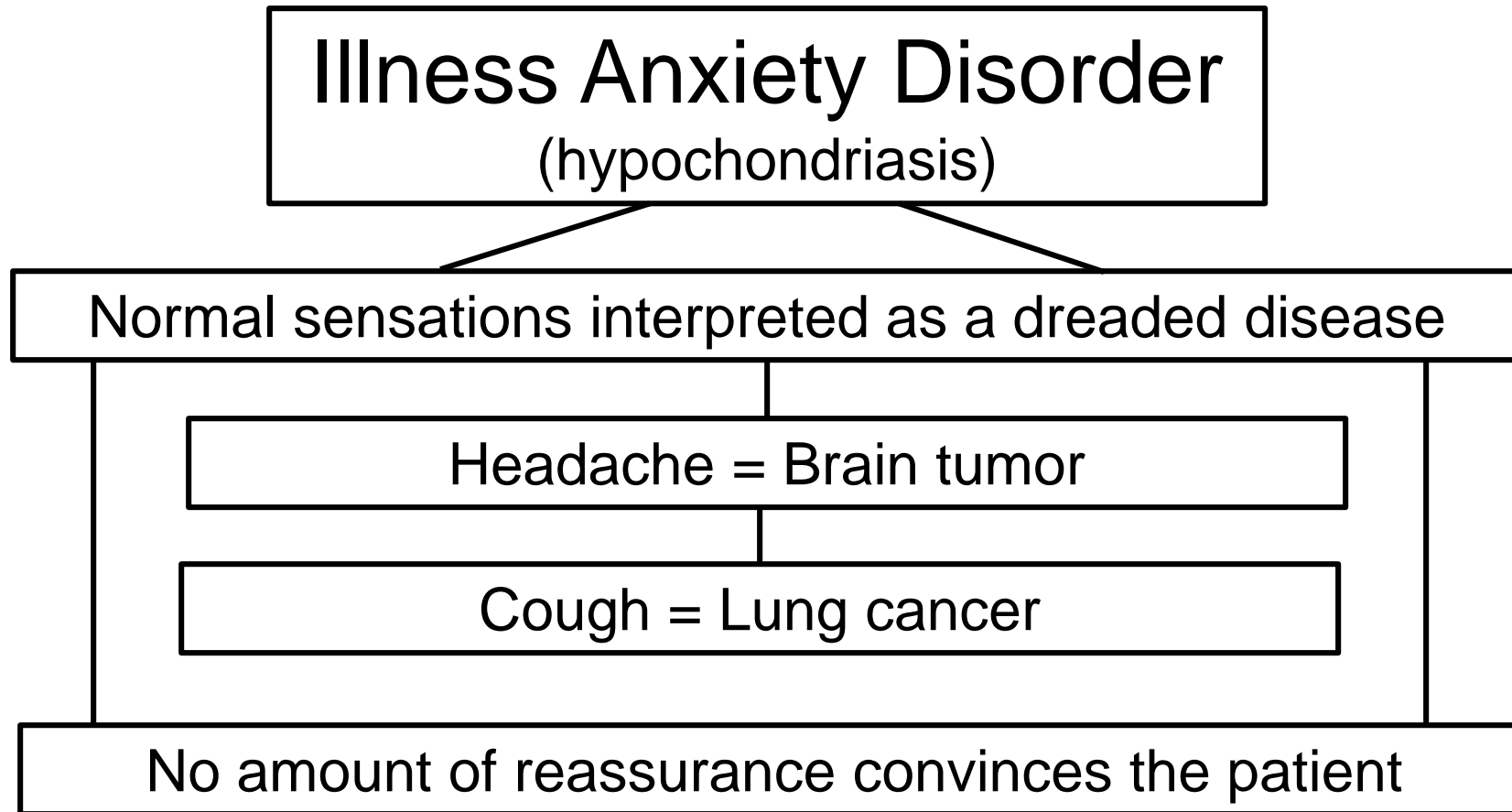


Conversion Disorder

View the Conversion Disorder video.



Somatic Symptom Disorders



The background features a dark blue, almost black, gradient. In the center, there is a bright blue, swirling vortex or ripple effect, resembling a drop of water hitting a surface. The swirls are concentric and radiate outwards from a central point, creating a sense of motion and depth. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern, with a focus on the central graphic and the overlaid text.

DISSOCIATIVE DISORDER

Dissociative Disorders

- **Dissociative disorders** - disorders in which there is a break in conscious awareness, memory, the sense of identity, or some combination.
- Some dissociation is not that rare:
 - Bilingual
 - Playing a guitar while talking to someone
 - Driving somewhere and not remembering the drive itself because of thinking about something else.

Dissociative Disorders

- Not anterograde or retrograde amnesia
- **Dissociative amnesia** - loss of memory for personal information, either partial or complete.
 - Usually associated with a trauma
- **Dissociative fugue** - traveling away from familiar surroundings with amnesia for the trip and possible amnesia for personal information.
 - A person's conscious awareness is said to dissociate from painful memories.

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Teacher Hannah Upp still missing

By SUZANNE CARLSON Daily News Staff Oct 5, 2017 0



Hannah Upp



ST. THOMAS — The search continues for missing Montessori teacher Hannah Upp.

V.I. Police Commissioner Delroy Richards Sr. said Wednesday the department has received no new information about her disappearance.

Upp was last seen on the morning of Sept. 14 leaving her home, and this is the longest period that she has been missing. The next day, a construction crew at Sapphire Beach found Upp's car keys, clothing and sandals by the beach bar. Her car was also located at Sapphire with her purse, phone, wallet and ID inside.

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Dissociative Disorders

- **Dissociative identity disorder (DID)** (*Multiple Personality Disorder*) disorder occurring when a person seems to have two or more distinct personalities within one body.



Dissociative Disorders



Chris Costner Sizemore

Dissociative Identity Disorder

- Genuine disorder or not?
- DID rates
 - Rates increased in 1980's North America, after the movie "Sybil" was released, but not elsewhere
- Therapist's creation?



"Would it be possible to speak with the personality that pays the bills?"

Assignment

- Open the Somatic & Dissociative Disorders Google Document, make a copy, and answer the questions. Share with Mr. Hunsaker at jhunsaker@qcusd.org.