

Abnormal Psychology

Somatic Disorders

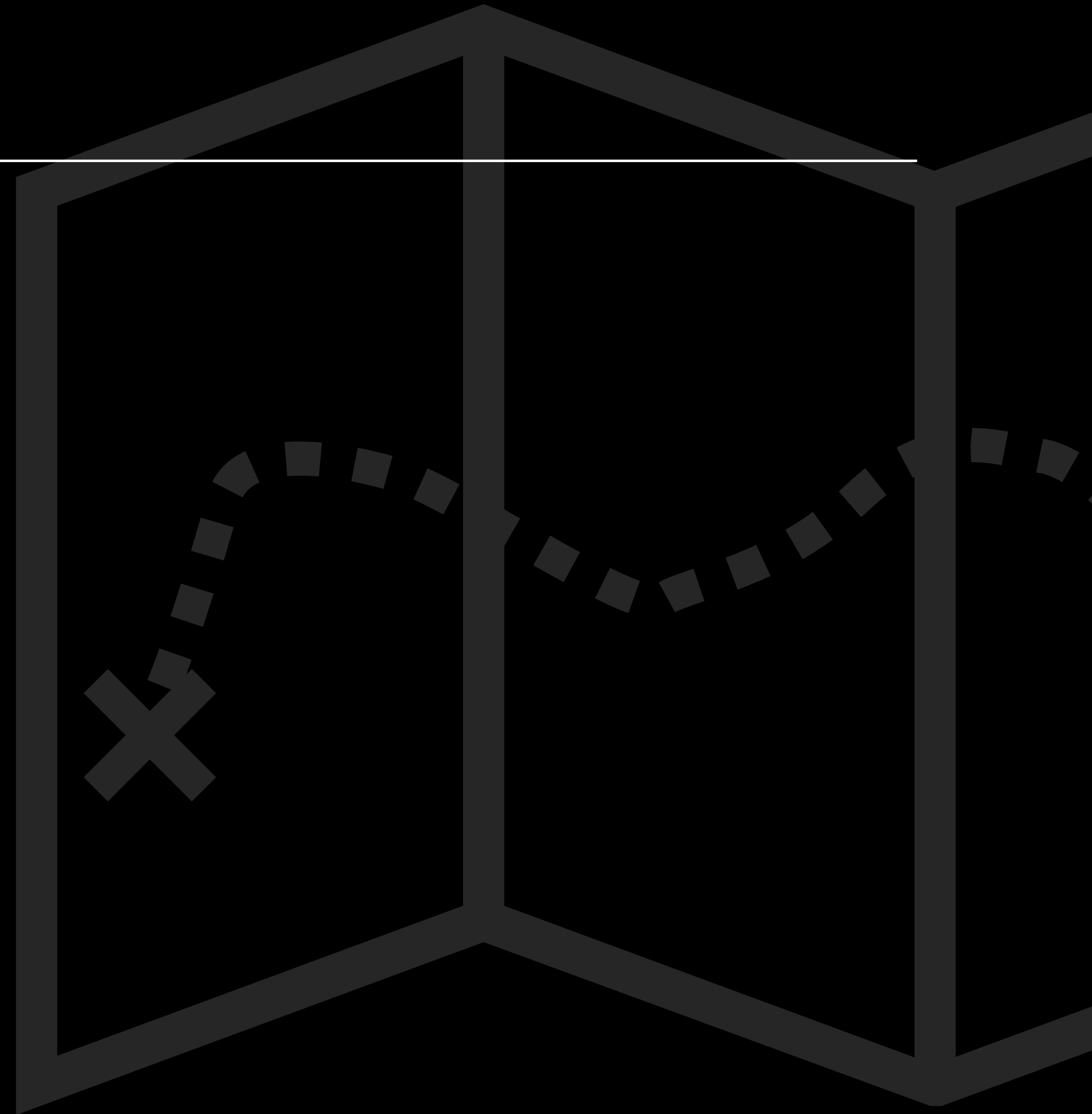
Psychology 3303

Professor June Gruber



Roadmap

Somatic Symptom Disorders



Somatic Symptom Disorders

Soma – Meaning Body

Overly preoccupied with health or bodily appearance.

Somatic Symptom Disorders:

Somatic symptom disorder (SSD) is characterized by somatic symptoms that are either very distressing or result in significant disruption of functioning, as well as excessive and disproportionate thoughts, feelings and behaviors regarding those symptoms. Must be persistently symptomatic (e.g., 6+ mo).



DSM-IV-TR Diagnoses

Somatoform Disorders

Somatization

Pain disorder

Hypochondriasis

Conversion disorder

Body dysmorphic disorder

DSM-5 Diagnoses

Somatic Symptom Disorders

Complex somatic symptom disorder

Illness anxiety disorder

Functional neurological disorder

DSM-IV-TR somatization, pain disorder, and hypochondriasis are combined into one category of complex somatic symptom disorder in DSM-5. A small proportion of people with hypochondriasis will meet criteria for illness anxiety disorder. Body dysmorphic disorder is placed in the depressive-compulsive and related disorders chapter in DSM-5.

Types of DSM Somatic Symptom Disorders

1. Somatic Symptom Disorder
2. Illness Anxiety Disorder
3. Conversion Disorder
(Functional Neurological Symptom Disorder)

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Somatic Symptom Disorder: Diagnostic Criteria

1. One or more somatic symptoms that are distressing or result in significant disruption of daily life.
2. Excessive thoughts, feelings or behaviors related to the somatic symptoms or associated health concerns as manifested by at least one of the following:
 - a.** Disproportionate and persistent thoughts about the seriousness of one's symptoms.
 - b.** Persistently high level of anxiety about health or symptoms
 - c.** Excessive time and energy devoted to these symptoms or health concerns.
3. Although any one somatic symptom may not be continuously present, the state of being symptomatic is persistent (typically more than 6 months).

Somatic Symptom Disorder: Diagnostic Criteria

Specify If:

With predominant pain (previously pain disorder): This specifier is for individuals whose somatic symptoms predominantly involve pain.

Specify If:

Persistent: A persistent course is characterized by severe symptoms, marked impairment, and long duration (more than 6 months).

Specify Current Severity:

Mild: Only one of the symptoms specified in Criterion B is fulfilled.

Moderate: Two or more of the symptoms specified in Criterion B are fulfilled.

Severe: Two or more of the symptoms specified in Criterion B are fulfilled, plus there are multiple somatic complaints (or one very severe somatic symptom).

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Illness Anxiety Disorder

Severe anxiety focused on the possibility of having a serious disease.

Patients go initially to physicians, are reassured for only a short time, and repeat visits to doctor and/or see multiple doctors.

Sex ratio is 50-50.



Illness Anxiety Disorder: Diagnostic Criteria

1. Preoccupation with having or acquiring a serious illness.
2. Somatic symptoms are not present or, if present, are only mild in intensity. If another medical condition is present or there is a high risk for developing a medical condition (eg., strong family history is present), the preoccupation is clearly excessive or disproportionate.
3. There is a high level of anxiety about health, and the individual is easily alarmed about personal health status.
4. The individual performs excessive health-related behaviors (eg., repeatedly checks his or her body for signs of illness) or exhibits maladaptive avoidance (eg., avoids doctor appointments and hospitals).

Illness Anxiety Disorder: Diagnostic Criteria

5. Illness preoccupation has been present for at least 6 months, but the specific illness that is feared by change over that period of time.
6. The illness-related preoccupation is not better explained by another mental disorder, such as somatic symptom disorder, panic disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, body dysmorphic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, or delusional disorder, somatic type.

Illness Anxiety Disorder: Diagnostic Criteria

Specify Whether:

Care Seeking Type: Medical care, including physician visits or undergoing tests and procedures, is frequently used.

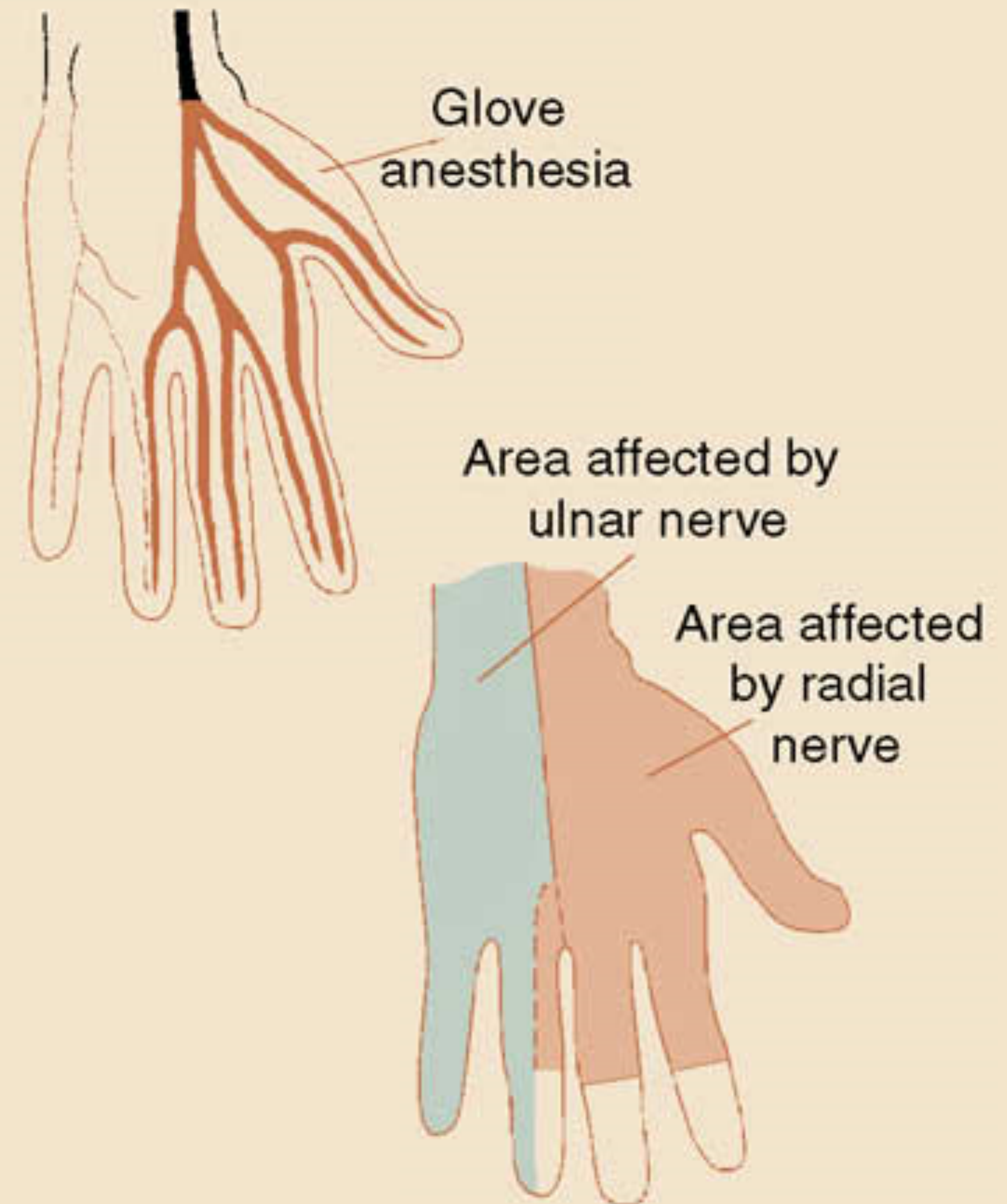
Care-Avoidant Type: Medical care is rarely used.

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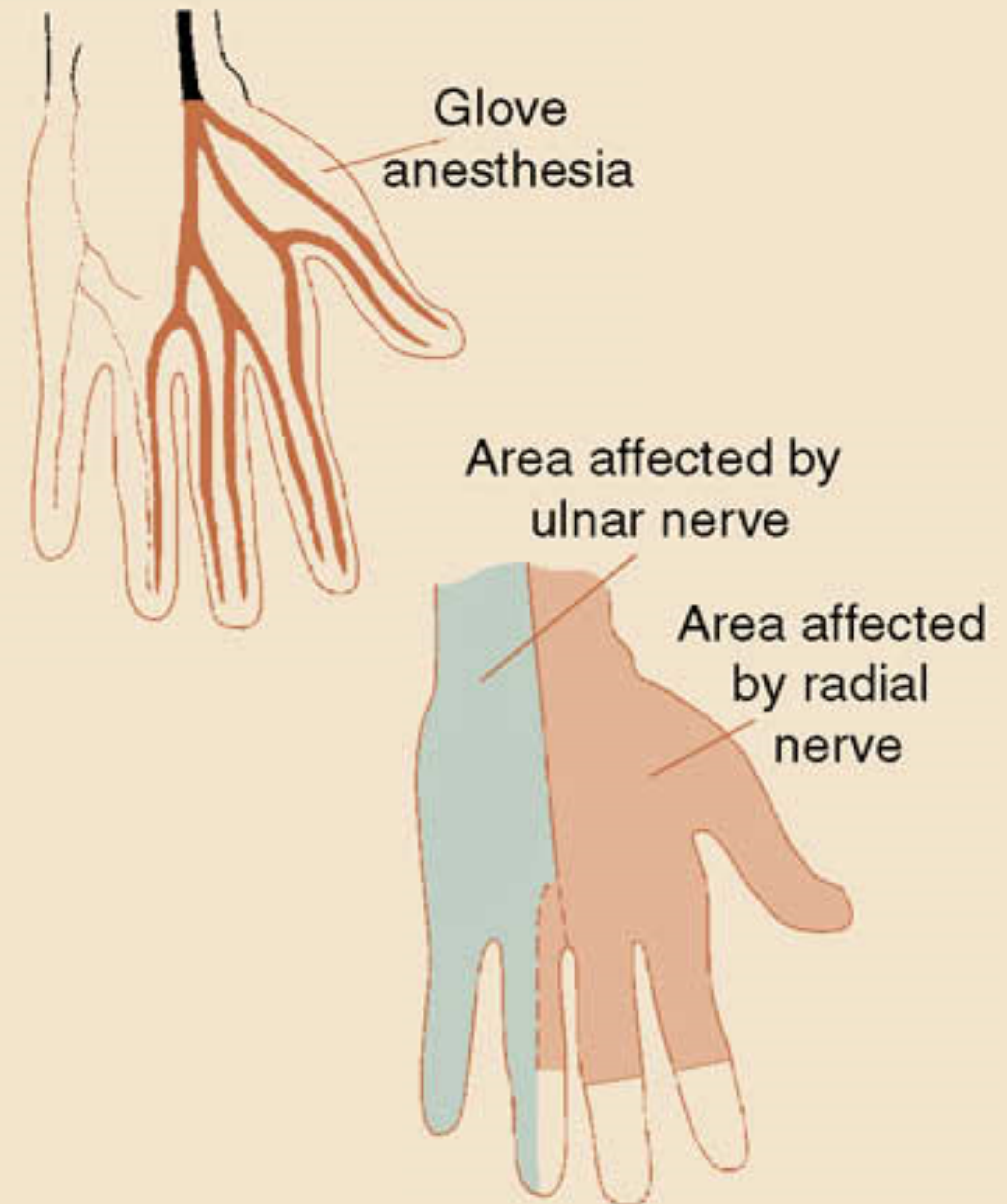
Functional Neurological Disorder

Physical malfunctioning, such as paralysis, blindness, difficulty speaking or mutism, without any organic pathology. Often, though appearing neurological, they make no physical sense.



Functional Neurological Disorder

In “glove anesthesia” (right), the entire hand from fingertips to wrist becomes numb. Actual physical damage to the ulnar nerve, in contrast, causes anesthesia in the ring finger and little finger and beyond the wrist partway up the arm; and damage to the radial nerve causes insensitivity only in parts of the ring, middle and index fingers and the thumb and partway up the arm.



FND: Diagnostic Criteria

1. One or more symptoms of altered voluntary motor or sensory function.
2. Clinical findings provide evidence of incompatibility between the symptom and recognized neurological or medical conditions.
3. The symptom or deficit is not better explained by another medical or mental disorder.
4. The symptom or deficit causes clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning or warrants medical evaluation.