

Review of Key Points

Parakinetic Catatonia

Bush-Francis Catatonia Rating Scale

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Posturing: Spontaneous maintenance of a position against gravity

- Differs from catalepsy, which is maintaining a position induced by the examiner
- Differs from immobility, which describes diminished activity of the whole body

Staring: Fixed gaze, no scanning of room

- Differs from withdrawal, which is specifically avoiding eye contact with others

Immobility: Extreme hypoactivity/lack of movement

- Differs from rigidity, which is increased muscle tone
- Differs from posturing/catalepsy, which involves positions held against gravity

Manneristic Speech: Odd but purposeful speech

- Abnormal inflections, accents, or tone that differ from patient's regular speech

Verbal Perseveration: Repeating the same word or phrase or returning to the same topic

- Differs from verbigeration, which sounds like a skipping record

Catalepsy: Maintaining a position induced by the examiner

- Differs from posturing, which is maintaining a position assumed spontaneously

Waxy Flexibility: Initial resistance to movement that quickly releases

- Differs from gegenhalten, which is resistance proportional to the force applied
- Note: DSM-5 defines waxy flexibility differently, as "slight, even" resistance during repositioning; slight, even resistance is scored as rigidity on the BFCRS

Mitgehen: Patient's arm rises with light pressure despite instruction to resist Impulsivity: Sudden inappropriate behavior

- Differs from combativeness, which describes an impulsive, purposeless act to harm another person
- Differs from excitement, which emphasizes the frequency or constancy of overall activity