# EARLY WARNING SIGNS OF PSYCHOSIS



#### PERCEPTION, THINKING, AND SPEECH CHANGES

- Trouble thinking clearly or concentrating
- Difficulty getting your point across in conversation
- Reduced speech/talking
- Paranoid ideas
  - Thinking that others want to harm you
  - Feeling watched or followed

### **SOCIAL CHANGES**

- Social withdrawal or isolation
- Suspiciousness about others
- Dropping out of social activities, worrisome drop in grades, decreased work performance



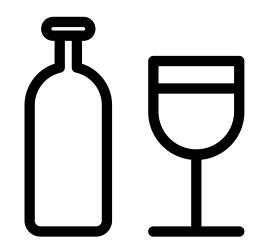


#### **EMOTIONAL CHANGES**

- Not feeling like your usual self
  o Irritability or agitation
- Overly intense new feelings and ideas
- Feelings of depression and anxiety

#### **BEHAVIORAL CHANGES**

- Decline in self-care or personal hygiene
- Difficulty telling reality from fantasy
  - Seeing or hearing things that others do not
- Behavior that is out of character
  - Risk-taking, or unusual behaviors
- Increased drug or alcohol use



## **KNOW THE SIGNS**

Both experiencing and talking about psychotic-like experiences can be frightening. Knowing the symptoms can help individuals find the resources they need. For more information, visit:

#### www.PIER.uiowa.edu



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