

UNDERSTANDING GENERALIZED ANXIETY DISORDER

Generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) is a mental health condition that causes people to feel persistent worry and anxiety about everyday events and activities. Unlike occasional concerns about life stressors, GAD involves feelings of worry that persist for at least six months or more.





Stressful Life Transitions



Acute/Chronic Pain



Limited Physical Mobility



Loss of Independence



Financial Problems



Sleep Disturbances



Acute/Chronic
Health Conditions



Medication Side Effects



Misuse of Alcohol, Rx Medications or Illicit Drugs



Trauma

Signs and symptoms a resident may exhibit when experiencing anxiety

Physical

- Sweating
- Muscle aches/ headaches
- Stomach pain
- Rapid breathing
- Feeling of weakness & tiredness

Mental

- Restlessness
- Trouble concentrating & making decisions
- Unable to relax
- Uncontrolled worry
- Seeking constant reassurance

Behavioral

- Avoiding social gatherings
- Substance misuse
- Trouble sleeping
- Pacing/ fidgeting
- Agitation/irritability

Sources:

GENERALIZED ANXIETY DISORDER (GAD) | ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, ADAA

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA) - ANXIETY DISORDERS

