

## UNFOLDING CASE STUDY

### Schizophrenia: Part 3

See [Schizophrenia: Part 2](#) for a review of the client data.

Nursing Notes	<p><b>2025: Assessment</b></p> <p>Physical Examination: Client is clean and appropriately dressed, alert and oriented ×1, unable to state time, place, or why he is in the hospital. Confused as to why there are so many people in his “bunker.”</p> <p>HEENT: Pupils equal, reactive to light (PERRL), mucus membrane dry, pharynx without lesions, palate intact. No thyroid enlargement.</p> <p>Lymphatic: Tonsillar and cervical lymph nodes noted but not enlarged, hard, palpable left axillary lymph nodes, tender to touch; no enlargement of right axillary or inguinal nodes, no pain or tenderness noted.</p> <p>Respiratory: Clear to auscultation bilaterally, no stridor, no crackles or murmur.</p> <p>Cardiovascular: Regular rate and rhythm, no edema, peripheral pulses 2+</p> <p>Abdomen: Bowel sign present in all four quadrants, no organomegaly or tenderness.</p> <p>Musculoskeletal: Bone and joint pain, full ROM</p> <p>Skin: Pale and dry, bruising noted on both elbows and forearms that are unexplained. Slight irritation and erythema around wrists and ankles due to attempts to remove restraints.</p> <p>Mental assessment: Client denies any depression or suicidal ideation, exhibits fear and suspicion of others; mood and affect: labile and incongruent</p>
Flow Chart	<p><b>2025: Assessment</b></p> <p>Blood pressure: 140/82 mmHg</p> <p>Heart rate: 96 beats/minute</p> <p>Respiratory rate: 22 breaths/minute</p> <p>Temperature: 99.3°F (37.3°C)</p> <p>Oxygen saturation: 98% on room air</p> <p>Pain: 3/10</p>
Lab Results	<p>Urine obtained. UDS: positive for marijuana</p>

5.

Following lab results, the UDS and CMP, it is confirmed that the client's condition has not resulted from any underlying physical cause and is to be treated as a mental health problem. Which actions will be taken with this client? (Select answers from the appropriate lists.)

The nurse knows that the client will be prescribed     List 1     that may result in side effects such as     List 2    ,     List 2    , and     List 2    . The client will be evaluated for improvement in his condition as evidenced by the client     List 3     and     List 3    .

List 1

lithium carbonate (Carbolith)  
 benztropine (Cogentin)  
 benzodiazepine (Alprazolam)  
 risperidone (Risperdal)  
 amitriptyline (Elavil)

## List 2

blurred vision  
diarrhea  
urinary frequency  
constipation  
hyperactivity  
dry mouth

## List 3

pacing only in the mornings  
engaging in therapeutic modalities  
seeing the FBI not in a helicopter  
only using tinfoil on windows when voices tell him to do so  
phones his mother to complain directly to her  
complying with his medication

6. The nurse would use clinical judgment to ascertain if the following behaviors by the client demonstrate that treatment has been Effective, Ineffective, or is Irrelevant.

Behavior	Effective	Ineffective	Irrelevant
Takes his medications			
Watches television			
Complains that people are following him			
Is isolated and talking to himself			
Talks in group therapy sessions			
Talks to his mother on the telephone			
Can talk about what might trigger a psychotic episode			