


# Is Schizophrenia Caused By Parasites? Interesting Article

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 [raypeatforum.com/community/threads/is-schizophrenia-caused-by-parasites-interesting-article.28039](https://raypeatforum.com/community/threads/is-schizophrenia-caused-by-parasites-interesting-article.28039)

Discussion in '[Mind, Sleep, Stress](#)' started by [TreasureVibe](#), [Mar 14, 2019](#).

## 1. [TreasureVibe](#) Member

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**Joined:**

Jul 3, 2016

**Messages:**

1,749

**Gender:**

Male

Hi all. So while speaking to a friend with schizophrenia a thought popped up, what if schizophrenia or other intrusive thoughts were caused or influenced by parasites? So I decided to Google search for it and I came across this very interesting article on Psychology today:

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/articles/201511/catching-madness>

Some quotes from the article:

E. Fuller Torrey, a psychiatrist with the Stanley Medical Research Institute, has been studying the connection between cats, parasites, and mental illness. According to Torrey, a known parasite that can lead to madness is carried by the common household cat. In his book, *The Invisible Plague*, he reveals that around 1808, schizophrenia was swiftly transformed from a rare to a relatively common disease. That same year, as cat ownership became popular in the United States, as well as in other parts of the world, U.S. schizophrenia rates rose sharply.

This is no coincidence, Torrey contends. Cats transmit the one-celled parasite *Toxoplasma gondii* that causes the disease toxoplasmosis. It is already implicated in prenatal brain damage, abnormal head size, deafness, seizures, cerebral palsy, retinal damage, and mental retardation. Torrey and others think it does more: They argue that *T. gondii* infection causes schizophrenia.

Researchers are unmasking the microbial roots of myriad illnesses; maladies as seemingly trivial as a sore throat can breed anorexia, Tourette's, obsessive-compulsive disorder, or schizophrenia. **Researchers estimate that infectious organisms cause from 10 percent to 75 percent of serious mental disorders.** Bacteria, viruses, fungi, and other infectious agents are responsible for many of the illnesses that we have long ascribed to genetics.

As for *T. gondii*, Torrey and colleagues suspect that it causes subtle changes to an infected fetus that could lead to schizophrenia 20 years later. In 2008, Torrey and Robert Yolken of Johns Hopkins published a study indicating that the peak age for becoming infected by *T. gondii*, between 18 and 35, coincides with the peak age for the first signs of schizophrenia. They also noted that in areas where felines are rare the prevalence rates of both toxoplasmosis and schizophrenia are low. By 2005, studies reported in journals like the *American Journal of Psychiatry* found that children of mothers who contracted *T. gondii* while pregnant had higher rates of schizophrenia in adulthood than did other children. But Torrey also found that, in fact, the most strongly positive schizophrenia correlations were not with *T. gondii* infections acquired in the womb, but with those that struck children and teenagers.

Click to expand...

TreasureVibe, Mar 14, 2019

#1

2. OP

## TreasureVibe Member

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**Joined:**

Jul 3, 2016

**Messages:**

1,749

**Gender:**

Male

Would also like to add these links:

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/8918583\\_Toxoplasma\\_gondii\\_and\\_Schizophrenia](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/8918583_Toxoplasma_gondii_and_Schizophrenia) (2003)

[Cat parasite linked to mental illness, schizophrenia](#) (june 2015)

[Toxoplasma gondii and Schizophrenia: A Relationship That Is Not Ruled Out | IntechOpen](#) (december 2016)

[Relationship between toxoplasmosis and schizophrenia: A review. - PubMed - NCBI](#) (2017)

<https://www.psychiatryadvisor.com/h...tion-occurs-more-frequently-in-schizophrenia/> (june 2018)

[Toxoplasma gondii : Biological Parameters of the Connection to Schizophrenia](#) (june 2018)

[Mind-Altering Cat Parasite Linked to Schizophrenia in Largest Study Yet](#) (30 january 2019)

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2019/02/reality-check-can-cat-poop-cause-mental-illness> (february 2019)

TreasureVibe, Mar 14, 2019

#2

### 3. Doublecapricorn Member

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**Joined:**

Jul 9, 2017

**Messages:**

71

**Gender:**

Female

| Interesting!

Doublecapricorn, Mar 19, 2019

#3

### 4. OP

### TreasureVibe Member

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**Joined:**

Jul 3, 2016

**Messages:**

1,749

**Gender:**

Male

↑

| Interesting!

Also found this:

Messing with the brain's messengers

Scientists from the Otto-von-Guericke University of Magdeburg and the Leibniz Institute for Neurobiology (LIN) have shown that *Toxoplasma gondii* influences the metabolism of its host's brain.

The parasite alters the molecular composition of synapses, which are responsible for signal-processing in the brain, according to the research published in the Journal of Neuroinflammation.

"*Toxoplasma gondii* is absorbed by humans via digestion, enters the bloodstream and also migrates into the brain to get into nerve cells for the rest of one's life," said Karl-Heinz Smalla of the Special Laboratory for Molecular Biology Techniques at LIN.

....

Treatment at hand

The good news is, sulfadiazine, an antibiotic used to treat toxoplasmosis infections, **restored the infected mice's brain metabolism to normal.**

"All investigated proteins responsible for the glutamatergic signal transmission were back to normal. The inflammatory activity also decreased measurably," said Björn Schott of the team in Magdeburg.

Source: [New research reveals how toxoplasmosis alters the brain | DW | 09.11.2018](#)

TreasureVibe, Mar 19, 2019

#4

5. johnwester130 Member

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**Joined:**

Aug 6, 2015

**Messages:**

2,354

head shape causes schizophrenia

Minor Physical Anomalies and Quantitative Measures of the Head and Face in Patients With Psychosis

Increased Head Circumference in Schizophrenia

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/...1609/schizophrenics-hyper-domesticated-humans>

Autism also correlates to facial structure

Clinical research: Facial features can help diagnose autism | Spectrum | Autism Research News

johnwester130, Mar 19, 2019

#5

## 6. Alpha Member

---

**Joined:**

Nov 16, 2018

**Messages:**

112

↑

head shape causes schizophrenia

Minor Physical Anomalies and Quantitative Measures of the Head and Face in Patients With Psychosis

Increased Head Circumference in Schizophrenia

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/...1609/schizophrenics-hyper-domesticated-humans>

Clinical research: Facial features can help diagnose autism | Spectrum | Autism Research News

So men with high fWHR and dominant skulls tend to be psychotic.

Your second and third post are contradictory in head size. And how is polarity in domestication analogous to an autism-schizophrenic spectrum?

Alpha, Mar 19, 2019

#6

## 7. [johnwester130](#) Member

---

**Joined:**

Aug 6, 2015

**Messages:**

2,354

↑

| So men with high fWHR and dominant skulls tend to be psychotic.

| i don't know

| I didn't take the studies very seriously

[johnwester130, Mar 19, 2019](#)

#7

## 8. [methylenewhite](#) Member

---

**Joined:**

Aug 21, 2018

**Messages:**

1,112

**Gender:**

Male

| T. gondii caused toxoplasmosis theoretically should be easily curable with methylene  
| blue malaria protocol.

[methylenewhite, Mar 19, 2019](#)

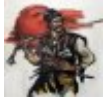
#8

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Similar Threads - Schizophrenia Caused Parasites



1.



## Dietary Niacinamide (B3) Deficiency May Be A Cause Of Schizophrenia

---

haidut, Dec 4, 2019, in forum: Scientific Studies

**Replies:**

1

**Views:**

1,197

**Jake sullivan**

Dec 25, 2019

2.



## NMDA / Schizophrenia

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Highserotonin90, Aug 7, 2019, in forum: Mental Issues

**Replies:**

48

**Views:**

2,192

**magnesiummania**

Sep 8, 2019

3.



### [A New Randomized Control Trial Finds That Estradiol Improves The Symptoms Of Schizophrenia In Women](#)

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[agnostic](#), [Jul 31, 2019](#), in forum: [Scientific Studies](#)

**Replies:**

15

**Views:**

635

**[schultz](#)**

[Aug 4, 2019](#)

4.



### [Unravelling Schizophrenia With Jerry Marzinsky](#)

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[Hugh Johnson](#), [Jun 29, 2019](#), in forum: [Meditation, Mindfulness, Religion, Spirituality](#)

**Replies:**

4

**Views:**

721

**[Hugh Johnson](#)**

[Jun 30, 2019](#)

5.



## Ketanserin Successfully Used In Schizophrenia Patient For Hallucinations

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TreasureVibe, Mar 14, 2019, in forum: Scientific Studies

**Replies:**

3

**Views:**

529

**Frankdee20**

Dec 1, 2019