

# **Anxiety Disorders**

# What are Anxiety Disorders?

 Mental health disorders characterized by feelings of worry, anxiety, or fear that are strong enough to interfere with one's daily activities

# **Know the Symptoms**

- Fatigue
- Insomnia
- Hypervigilance or irritability
- Racing unwanted thoughts
- Excessive worry or fear
- Feelings of impending doom
- Nausea or palpitations
- Poor concentration

# **Types of Anxiety Disorder**

### Separation Anxiety Disorder

 Excessive fear or anxiety of separation from home or those the individual is attached

#### Selective Mutism

 High social anxiety that causes an inability to speak to people in social settings

# **Types of Anxiety Disorder**

### Specific Phobia

An extreme irrational fear or anxiety about a specific object or situation

### Social Anxiety Disorder

 Fear or anxiety about social situations in which the individual is exposed to judgment by others

### **Treatments and Therapies**

### Anxiolytics

 Anxiolytic medications lower anxiety by increasing the activity of the neurotransmitter GABA

#### Antidepressants

Effective in increasing levels of serotonin in the brain

### Psychotherapy

 Cognitive behavior therapy reduces anxiety by eliminating beliefs and behaviors