**KEY WORDS**

- Positive symptoms
- Hallucinations
- Delusions
- Negative symptoms
- Flat affect
- Anhedonia
- Avolition
- Prodromal
- Residual
- Loose association
- Waxy rigidity
- Tardive dyskinesia
- Catatonia
- Catalepsy
- Echolalia
- Echopraxia

**CASE VIGNETTE**

Dr. Enid Mitchell is a 43-year-old pharmacist who has come to a local community mental health center where she is well known. She has been unemployed for the past 3 years and lives with her mother. During this time, she has been repeatedly hospitalized for fatigue, feelings of extreme anger, and difficulty experiencing emotion. Although she indicates she does not feel depressed or euphoric and does not have hallucinations or delusions, she tells the therapists she feels strongly that people are out to get her, and she demonstrates considerable difficulty concentrating to respond to the therapist’s questions. She alternately expresses guilt about various aspects of her life and expresses accusations that others are interfering with her ability to succeed. She is in constant motion during the conversation with the therapist and repeatedly indicates she needs to get back to her “projects.”

Dr. Mitchell’s most recent hospitalization occurred when she was picked up by the police. She had been found standing outside a neighbor’s house in a snow storm—dressed only in pajamas—screaming that “they” were poisoning her. She told the police, on the way to the psychiatric emergency department, that she had not been able to sleep for days and felt unable to stop moving. She indicated that she was in the midst of several important projects in her home, and that she needed to get back right away to start several more.

During her hospitalization, she received several medications that seemed to help her become calmer. She was seen by an occupational therapist, who tried to help her manage her behavior so she could go back to work; however, these efforts were unsuccessful.

**THOUGHT QUESTIONS**

1. Do you believe that Dr. Mitchell has a mental disorder?
2. If so, what behaviors, thoughts, or other symptoms do you identify that suggest this view?
3. Of the symptoms you identified, which might cause Dr. Mitchell problems in her work as a pharmacist?