

(e.g., fiberglass threads), and other causes of tingling or prickling sensations. Frequently, such patients repeatedly seek medical consultations, resist alternative explanations for their symptoms, and exacerbate their discomfort by self-treatment. Long-term pharmacotherapy with pimozide or other psychotropic agents has been more helpful than psychotherapy in treating this disorder. Patients with delusional parasitosis often develop the unshakeable conviction that they are

infested by a previously unknown pathogen, while their personal lives, family support, and employment collapse around them. **2751**

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