

PSYCHIATRY

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OFFICE LOCATION:	Medical Education Building

A. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

It is designed to provide exposure to psychiatric conditions in both inpatient and outpatient settings.

B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Psychiatry is a broad based specialty and so the learning objectives for an elective will depend on the orientation of the staff person and team with whom the student is involved. For example, involvement on a general inpatient ward, attachment to an early intervention program for psychosis, participation in a consultation-liaison service, or work with someone specializing in neuropsychiatry constitute four very different learning experiences.

MEDICAL EXPERT OBJECTIVES

1. Demonstrate knowledge regarding the proposed etiology, clinical features, differential diagnosis and various treatment modalities for the following adult and child/adolescent psychiatric conditions **relevant to the elective experience**:
 - a. **Psychotic Disorders:** Schizophrenia, Schizophreniform Disorder, Schizoaffective Disorder, Drug-Induced Psychotic Disorder
 - b. **Mood Disorders:** Major Depressive Disorder, Bipolar Disorder
 - c. **Anxiety Disorder:** Generalized Anxiety Disorder, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Panic Disorder
 - d. **Substance Use Disorders:** Substance Abuse, Substance Dependence, Intoxication and Withdrawal Syndromes
 - e. **Personality Disorders**
 - f. **Eating Disorders, Psychosomatic Disorders.**
 - g. **Child/Adolescent Psychiatric Disorders:** ADHD, Anxiety and Mood Disorders. Developmental Disorders
2. Complete a psychiatric interview and mental status examination tailored to the elective experience, and which includes:
 - a. Effectively identify and explore significant mental health issues in patient encounters.
 - b. Elicit and explore patient concerns to construct a history that is relevant and accurate.
 - c. Demonstrate an understanding of developmental issues in the life cycle and the importance of the interaction between patient and the patient's family.

- d. Use a variety of interview techniques to elicit and explore patient concerns and to respond appropriately and empathically to significant cues from the patient to deliver compassionate and patient-centred care.
 - e. Elicit and understand the issues from a patient's history that are amenable to psychotherapeutic interventions.
 - f. Provide a clear and concise oral presentation of a patient's history and mental status examination.
 - g. Demonstrate effective clinical reasoning, interpreting biological, social and psychological data and integrating information to generate a differential diagnosis and management plan.
 - h. Conduct an assessment of risk of harm to the patient or others.
3. Employ the bio-psycho-social model in understanding a patient's unique circumstances and in developing a comprehensive treatment plan which will engender the:
 - a. Ability to diagnose primary psychiatric disorders.
 - b. Ability to recognize psychiatric disorders that are secondary to medical illness, the result of treatment for medical illnesses, or due to substance misuse.
 - c. Ability to select medically appropriate investigations to distinguish primary from secondary psychiatric disorders, particularly the value of a thorough history and physical exam.
 - d. Ability to understand the rational use of psychotropic medication.
 - e. Ability to identify and address the psychosocial factors related to psychiatric illness.
 - f. Ability to identify which types of psychotherapy are suitable for particular patient issues.
 - g. Ability to identify the factors interfering with treatment adherence, including lifestyle choices, neglect of personal care, barriers to treatment, and side effects of psychotropic medications, as well as strategies aimed at improving compliance.
 - h. Ability to develop an approach to the immediate management of psychiatric emergencies, such as in the Emergency Department or in a crisis situation in inpatient or outpatient settings.
 4. Learn and apply effective preventive and therapeutic interventions in psychiatry relevant to the elective experience.
 5. Perform a physical examination as appropriate for a patient struggling with mental illness.

COMMUNICATOR OBJECTIVES

1. Develop relationships with a patient struggling with mental illness characterized by compassion, empathy, respect, and genuineness, demonstrating a willingness to collaborate with the patient about management.
2. Write progress notes on patients that communicate accurately the patient's condition and treatment plan.
3. Demonstrate skill in communicating information with clear, concise explanations that are understandable to a patient struggling with mental illness.

4. Recognize risk factors relevant to the clinical elective experience, and be able to counsel the patient on risk reduction.

COLLABORATOR OBJECTIVES

1. Demonstrate the ability to work effectively as a member of a multidisciplinary team, as participant or leader.
2. Collaborate effectively with the patient and the patient's support network in the context of ongoing mental illness.
3. Actively seeks help, advice or consultation when needed.
4. Demonstrate skill in finding common ground when differences of opinion exist.
5. Establish effective relationships with colleagues and other member of the health care team by:
 - a. Considering their suggestions and criticisms.
 - b. Tactful handling of differences of opinion.

MANAGER OBJECTIVES

1. Apply the concept of cost-effectiveness to public health interventions.
2. Use the concepts of evidence-based medicine to guide patient care decisions.
3. Assess the effectiveness of their current practice and engages in continuous quality improvement.
4. Demonstrate responsibility and respect in the context of delivering mental health care.

HEALTH ADVOCATE OBJECTIVES

1. Identify potential conflicts between individual and wider public interests in mental health care, and actively seeks advice from others in potential resolutions.
2. Assist the patient in accessing the health care system for physical, psychological, social, and economic rehabilitation or long-term care.
3. Describe the determinants of health relevant to the clinical elective experience and apply them appropriately to enhance individual and community well-being.

SCHOLAR OBJECTIVES

1. Demonstrate skill in self-directed learning by developing the
 - a. Ability to identify areas of deficiency in one's own knowledge and skills.
 - b. Ability to find appropriate educational resources.
 - c. Ability to evaluate personal learning progress.
 - d. Ability to use new knowledge in the care of patients.
2. Determine the validity and applicability of published data through critical appraisal.

PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the ethical, legal and professional aspects involved in psychiatric practice by learning
2. The Code of Ethics developed by the Canadian Medical Association and abiding by it.
3. The special aspects of the doctor-patient relationship that take place in psychiatry

4. How boundary crossings and violations can undermine professionalism in the delivery of psychiatric care.
5. To understand how personal biases can influence the provision of psychiatric care, and that the doctor-patient relationship is a dynamic one with reciprocal influences.
6. To use one's own emotional responses to more fully understand patients and to more appropriately provide psychiatric care.
7. The basics of the Mental Health Act, obtaining informed consent, and how to conduct various capacity assessments.
8. Identifies personal biases and ensure that they do not interfere with the patient's best interests.
9. Identify the rights and legal responsibilities relevant to the clinical experience of physicians to the patient and the community.

NIGHT AND WEEKEND CALL

Students are NOT required to participate in Call. Calls are available if requested.

EVALUATION

The evaluation is based on the student's clinical performance during the rotation and a Summative Clinical Elective Assessment completed by the Preceptor.

LOTTERY:

Psychiatry electives are **ONLY** available via the On-line Electives Lottery –
1 student per Block