

Undergraduate Mental Health DCE™ Learning Objectives



Learning Objectives	Learning Activities	Anxiety	Depression	Alcohol Abuse	PTSD	Schizophrenia
Describe the major physiological, psychological, emotional, and sociological changes experienced by adults with mental health issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a patient interview to collect relevant subjective data • Complete a focused physical assessment to collect relevant objective data • Document in the EHR accurately, using professional terminology • Educate and Empathize with the patient to engage in therapeutic communication • Complete an SBAR hand-off that reflects clinical decision making skills 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Assess patient condition and identify physical signs and symptoms related to mental health issues using appropriate objective assessment strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform a Mental Status Exam • Perform a problem focused physical assessment, including assessing for signs of self-harm or abuse • Document findings in the EHR 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Demonstrate an understanding of the manifestations of the underlying mental health issues by synthesizing data discovered in the patient interview and physical assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document subjective and objective findings in the EHR • Describe manifestations of mental health issues and recommend a plan of care in an SBAR hand-off 	✓ Understand physiological manifestations of anxiety	✓ Understand depressive symptoms in older adults	✓ Recognize the relationship between alcohol abuse and underlying anxiety	✓ Recognize manifestations of PTSD and relationship to Military Sexual Trauma	✓ Recognize the positive and negative symptoms of schizophrenia
Apply principles of medication management to the care of the mental health patient by evaluating effects of medications, including symptom abatement and side effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform a medication reconciliation • Assess for side effects of medication • Assess for non-adherence 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Demonstrate use of evidence based screenings in a mental health assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View patient-completed screenings and ask follow-up questions • Administer additional screenings and document results in the EHR • Incorporate results in an SBAR handoff 	✓ Patient completed GAD-7	✓ Patient completed PHQ-9	✓ Administer a CAGE assessment	✓ Patient completed PHQ-9 and PCL-5	✓ Recognize risk for dyskinesias with anti-psychotics; complete an AIMS assessment

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Apply therapeutic communication techniques in care practices with patients experiencing common psychiatric symptoms and practice mental health focused education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate the patient in areas of low health literacy and about available resources for self-care Use empathetic, nonjudgmental communication to establish rapport 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Analyze the needs of mental health patients and families for health care services, including implications for health policy, financing, and service availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete an SBAR hand-off that considers referrals such as targeted medical care or ancillary services (PT, nutrition, OT, social services) 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓