

# Neurologic and Psychiatric Care II

## Depressive Disorders

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the epidemiology of depressive disorders in the United States including reasons for, and consequences of, under-recognition.
2. Apply validated screening methods and classify a patient's depression status based on clinical symptoms and diagnostic criteria outlined in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*.
3. Apply the pathophysiology of depressive disorders to the mechanism of action of antidepressants.
4. Construct individualized goals and develop a patient-specific pharmacotherapy treatment plan for depression, including first-line treatment, monitoring parameters, treatment duration, and second-line treatment options.
5. Evaluate the role of new antidepressants based on their pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic characteristics, adverse effect profile, and projected effectiveness.
6. Develop a plan to monitor for antidepressant adverse effects that includes strategies for prevention and detection.
7. Detect potential reasons for antidepressant treatment failure and develop a plan to manage inadequate response.
8. Compose patient education to optimize safe and effective antidepressant treatment.

## Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

1. Analyze a patient case for the presence of symptoms related to posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and its comorbid conditions.
2. Distinguish the various pharmacotherapeutic options for PTSD based on efficacy, tolerability, and safety profiles.
3. Distinguish the various psychotherapeutic options in regard to their roles in the prevention or treatment of PTSD.
4. Develop a treatment plan for a patient with PTSD, including selection of medication, dosing information, expected time course of response, and duration of treatment.
5. Evaluate the pharmacotherapeutic response of a patient with PTSD with respect to chief therapeutic goals.
6. Design an educational plan for a patient with PTSD that includes psychoeducation, lifestyle factors, and medication counseling.

# Schizophrenia

1. Evaluate changes in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition regarding the diagnosis of schizophrenia and their implications for practice.
2. Apply drug information to choose an appropriate antipsychotic for a specific patient.
3. Analyze a patient case to identify opportunities to improve schizophrenia treatment outcomes.
4. Develop a treatment plan for a patient with schizophrenia whose symptoms are non-responsive to previous treatment or who has adverse effects from antipsychotics.
5. Evaluate the need for ongoing antipsychotic polypharmacy in a specific patient and implement changes when appropriate.
6. Distinguish between true treatment failure and inadequate antipsychotic trials.