CORE OF DISCIPLINE #7: INITIATING AND MANAGING PATIENT CARE USING NEUROSTIMULATION ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

Short Description:
Neurostimulation treatments (e.g., electroconvulsive therapy, transcranial magnetic stimulation) are effective yet often underutilized tools for the management of psychiatric illness. In the course of training, residents will gain familiarity with the pre-initiation, initiation, monitoring, and termination phases of at least one modality of neurostimulation treatment.

Assessment Options:
● Direct observation
● Indirect observation

Scope:
● Any relevant clinical encounter or educational session with a supervisor or other health care professional
● At least 5 observations should be done with the resident actually performing the procedure.

Possible Clinical Setting:
● Any psychiatry rotation
● ECT clinic - performing ECT

Milestones:

COD7M1: Assess and manage the patient in the pre-initiation phase
● Obtain informed consent from the patient or substitute decision maker (SDM) for neurostimulation treatment
● Order appropriate diagnostic and laboratory testing
● Order appropriate pre-initiation consultations
● Adjust or discontinue contraindicated medications

COD7M2: Initiate a course of neurostimulation treatment
● Determine appropriate setting of treatment (inpatient vs outpatient)
● Determine relevant treatment parameters (e.g. frequency, pulse parameters, electrode placement)
● Initiate appropriate diet, activity and medication orders for the immediate pre-treatment state

COD7M3: Monitor and manage clinical effect during a course of neurostimulation treatment
● Utilize appropriate clinical rating scales
● Document relevant subjective and objective clinical findings
● Manage treatment parameters appropriately to optimize treatment effect (e.g. adjusting electrode placement, frequency of treatment)
COD7M4: Monitor and manage adverse effects during a course of neurostimulation treatment

- Document adverse effects, course thereof and any relevant relationships to treatment timing/parameters
- Initiate appropriate management such as ancillary (PRN) treatments or modifications to treatment parameters (e.g. adjusting electrode placement, frequency of treatment)

COD7M5: Plan for and manage treatment termination

- Determine appropriate timing for a taper or termination of treatment
- Manage changes in treatment setting relevant to treatment taper or termination (e.g., transition from inpatient to outpatient setting)
- Initiate appropriate treatments in the context of treatment termination (e.g., restarting contraindicated medications, initiating appropriate maintenance treatments).