Psychiatry: Foundations EPA #2

Performing psychiatric assessments referencing a biopsychosocial approach, and developing basic differential diagnoses for patients with mental disorders

Key Features:
- This EPA focuses on establishing rapport/therapeutic alliance and performing psychiatric assessments using a biopsychosocial approach in order to develop a differential diagnosis which reflects an understanding of common conditions and co-morbidities.
- This EPA includes demonstrating an understanding of the impact of the biopsychosocial approach on diagnosis, assessment, management, and prognosis to improve patient-centered care.

Assessment Plan:

Direct observation by psychiatrist/psychiatry subspecialist, TTP psychiatry resident, Core/TTP psychiatry subspecialty resident, or psychiatry/psychiatry subspecialty fellow

Use Form 1. Form collects information on:
- Setting: emergency; inpatient unit; consultation liaison; outpatient; day hospital; community; assisted living; correctional; residential treatment centre; simulation
- Demographic: child; adolescent; adult; older adult
- Case type: anxiety disorder; cognitive disorder; mood disorder; personality disorder; psychotic disorder; substance use disorder; other
- Complexity: low; medium; high

Collect 6 observations of achievement
- At least 1 emergency setting
- At least 2 inpatient settings
- At least 2 outpatient settings
- At most 2 child and adolescent patients
- At most 2 older adult patients
- At least 3 different case types
- At least 2 by psychiatrists
- At least 3 different observers

Relevant Milestones:

1. ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of psychiatry, including neuroscience, psychology, and nosology, to accurately assess and diagnose patients
2. ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of the impact of biological, psychological, and social factors,
including cultural factors, on the etiology and manifestation of mental disorders

3  COM 1.1 Communicate using a patient-centred approach that facilitates patient trust and
autonomy and is characterized by empathy, respect, and compassion

4  COM 1.2 Optimize the physical environment for patient comfort, dignity, privacy,
engagement, and safety

5  COM 1.4 Respond to patients’ non-verbal communication and use appropriate non-verbal
behaviours to enhance communication with patients

6  COM 1.5 Recognize when personal feelings in an encounter are valuable clues to the
patient’s emotional state

7  COM 2.1 Conduct a patient-centred interview, gathering all relevant biomedical and
psychosocial information

8  COM 2.2 Focus the interview, managing the flow of the encounter while being
attentive to the patient’s cues and responses

9  COM 2.3 Seek and synthesize relevant information from other sources, including the
patient’s family, with the patient’s consent

10 ME 2.2 Perform, interpret, and report mental status examination, including phenomenology

11 ME 2.2 Develop a differential diagnosis relevant to the patient’s presentation

12 COM 2.1 Integrate and synthesize information about the patient’s beliefs, values, preferences,
context, and expectations with biomedical and psychosocial information

13 COM 3.1 Use strategies to verify and validate the understanding of the patient and family with
regard to the diagnosis, prognosis, and management plan

14 COM 5.1 Document information about patients and their medical conditions

15 COM 5.2 Demonstrate reflective listening, open-ended inquiry, empathy, and effective eye
contact while using a written or electronic medical record

16 P 1.1 Exhibit appropriate professional behaviours