Psychiatry: Core EPA # 8

Integrating the principles and skills of psychopharmacology into patient care

Key Features:
- This EPA focuses on pharmacological management, and includes the prescription and monitoring of medications for adult patients as well as for children, adolescents, and older adults.
- This EPA includes obtaining informed consent and providing education for medication as appropriate across the lifespan, including in pregnancy, children, adolescents, and the elderly population (with varying levels of capacity).
- This EPA also includes advocating for access to medication.

Assessment plan:

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

Use Form 1. Form collects information on:
- Demographic: child; adolescent; adult; older adult
- Activity (select all that apply): starting and monitoring medication; medication management (including switching, augmenting, discontinuation); reviewing management; safe prescribing practice; de-prescribing
- Medication (select all that apply): serotonin specific reuptake inhibitor; serotonin-noradrenaline reuptake inhibitor; tricyclic antidepressant; antipsychotic; clozapine; long-acting injectable antipsychotic; anxiolytic; benzodiazepine; sedative/hypnotic; lithium; mood stabilizer; stimulant; cognitive enhancer; opioid agonist; agent to treat medication side effect; other
- Complexity factors: pregnancy; breast feeding; multiple medications; substitute decision maker; medical comorbidity; other

Collect 12 observations of achievement:
- At least 1 each starting and monitoring
  - long-acting injectable antipsychotic
  - oral antipsychotic
  - sedative/hypnotic
- At least 2 starting and monitoring 2 different classes of antidepressants
- At least 1 each starting and/or monitoring
  - lithium
  - clozapine
- At least 1 each of managing
- benzodiazepine
- opioid agonist therapy
- mood stabilizer other than lithium
- agent to treat medication-induced side effect
- At least 1 patient on multiple psychiatric medications
- At least 2 patients in the CL setting
- At least 2 child/adolescents, including starting and managing 1 stimulant
- At least 2 older adults, including 1 with a cognitive enhancer
- At least 1 pregnant or breastfeeding patient
- At least 5 observers
- At least 3 by psychiatrists

Relevant Milestones:

1. **ME 1.3** Apply knowledge of pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics at various developmental stages
2. **ME 1.6** Adapt care as the complexity, uncertainty, and ambiguity of the patient’s clinical situation evolves
3. **ME 3.2** Describe the indications, contraindications, risks, and alternatives for a given treatment plan
4. **ME 2.2** Assess and monitor patient adherence and response to therapy
5. **ME 2.2** Assess potential harmful or beneficial drug-drug interactions
6. **ME 3.2** Use shared decision-making in the consent process
7. **ME 4.1** Establish plans for ongoing care
8. **COM 5.1** Document prescriptions accurately in the patient’s medical record, including the rationale for decisions
9. **COL 1.2** Negotiate overlapping and shared care responsibilities with physicians and other colleagues in the health care professions in episodic and ongoing care
10. **L 2.2** Apply evidence and management processes to achieve cost-appropriate care
11. **HA 1.1** Facilitate access to appropriate medications
12. **P 1.4** Recognize and manage conflicts of interest in independent practice