Chapter 51:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Explain the pathophysiologic mechanisms impacting the CNS proposed to underlie major depressive disorder.
2. List the major symptoms exhibited in a patient suffering from major depressive disorder as defined in the *DSM-IV-TR*.
3. Recommend appropriate duration of antidepressant therapy based on the treatment phase and patient history.
4. List factors that would guide selection of a specific antidepressant for an individual patient.
5. Compare and contrast the pharmacology and side effect profile of individual antidepressants.
6. Provide recommendations on proposed differences in antidepressant efficacy that may be relevant for some patients.
7. Apply pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic principles to guide medication management decisions.
8. Recommend specific exercise parameters to augment antidepressant response.
10. Describe the general approach to treatment for special populations (e.g., elderly, pediatric, and pregnant patients).
11. Identify treatment options for patients who are treatment resistant.
12. Monitor for adverse events or severe toxicity that may be associated with a particular medication regimen.
13. Differentiate treatment combinations that are contraindicated from those that can be used with caution and careful monitoring.
14. Recommend treatment options for major depressive disorder that can be used concurrently with traditional antidepressant medications.
15. Identify dose-related adverse toxicity that may lead to strict dosing guidelines.