Chapter 20: LEARNING OBJECTIVES

On completion of the chapter, the reader will be able to:

1. Describe the purpose of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition, (DSM-5), and how it is used in the clinical care of patients with psychiatric illness.

2. Describe the application of the current DSM-5 in a patient’s diagnostic assessment.

3. Recognize the medical morbidity and mortality risks associated with serious mental illness.

4. Describe how to initially approach a patient with psychiatric illness and steps to conduct a clinical interview.

5. Propose interview strategies for “challenging” patients that will enable the interviewer to build rapport and establish a therapeutic relationship with the patient.

6. Select appropriate interview questions for assessing specific psychiatric symptoms and disease states.

7. Evaluate a patient using the components of a mental status examination and explain each component.

8. Identify information from a psychiatric, medical, and medication history that is relevant to the evaluation of the patient with a specific psychiatric illness.

9. Discuss the role of medical testing, including the physical examination, in the diagnosis and monitoring of patients with mental illness.

10. Discuss the role of laboratory assessment in the diagnosis and monitoring of patients with mental illness.

11. Interpret the information gathered from a mental status examination; psychiatric, medical, and medication histories; and medical and laboratory assessment to construct a problem-focused workup.

12. List at least three advantages and three limitations associated with psychiatric rating scales used to assess mental status, psychiatric symptoms, and medication-induced adverse effects.

13. Define the following terminology associated with clinical rating scales: sensitivity, specificity, reliability, interrater reliability, content validity, concurrent validity, and construct validity.

14. Identify rating scales that are clinician rated from those that are patient rated for assessing depression, anxiety, and bipolar disorder.

15. Differentiate between rating scales for adverse effect measurement based on the specific type of adverse effect.

16. Select from a list of psychiatric rating scales which is most appropriate for the initial and ongoing assessment of symptoms associated with a specific psychiatric disease state.