Schizophrenia
And other psychotic disorders

Learning Objectives:

1. Psychotic illnesses
   - Explain what is meant by the term “psychosis”
   - Compare and contrast non-bizarre and bizarre delusions
   - Prepare a differential diagnosis for a person presenting with psychosis, including identifying historical and clinical features that assist in the differentiation of general medical, substance-induced, affective, schizophrenic, and other causes

2. Diagnosing schizophrenia
   - Explain what are the “positive” symptoms and the “negative” symptoms of schizophrenia
   - Recall diagnostic criteria for schizophrenia: Criteria A, B, & C
   - Describe the Downward drift hypothesis
   - Contrast the features that differentiate schizotypal personality disorder, schizoid personality disorder, paranoid personality disorder, delusional disorder, schizophreniform disorder, schizoaffective disorder, and brief psychotic disorder from each other and from schizophrenia
   - Diagnose delusional disorder, schizophreniform disorder, schizoaffective disorder, brief psychotic disorder, and schizophrenia

3. Epidemiology of schizophrenia
   - Recall the lifetime prevalence of schizophrenia
   - Compare the prevalence of schizophrenia in Males vs. females at different age ranges

4. The course & prognosis of schizophrenia
   - Compare and contrast the prodromal phase, active phase, and the residual phase
   - Explain why there is a difference in the average onset of illness in males vs. females
   - Recognize the extent of the risk for suicide and substance abuse
   - Recall the different aspects of cognitive impairment
   - Use predictive factors to offer a prognosis/ outcome/illness course in schizophrenia

5. The etiology of schizophrenia
   - Explain the Dopamine Hypothesis, the Genetic theory, and the Infection/Immune theory
   - Summarize the neurodegenerative theory and the developmental theory for schizophrenia

6. Treatment issues
   - Recall how anti-psychotic medication are used in treating different psychotic disorders
   - Discuss how medication compliance, autonomy, issue of assisted treatment, confidentiality, and fear of patient violence significantly affect treatment of schizophrenia
   - Recall the social issues that frequently must be addressed when caring for patients with schizophrenia: food, money, housing, sex/pregnancy/parenthood

7. Schizophrenia patient’s medical problems
   - Recall the increased rate of smoking, diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia
• Explain the increased risk of cardiovascular disease and decreased life expectancy in schizophrenia patients