Substance Block

Will identify, clinically evaluate, and treat the neuropsychiatric consequences of substance abuse and dependence

Learning Objectives:

1. Compare and contrast the characteristic clinical features (including denial) of substance abuse and dependence (DSM-IV Diagnostic criteria)
2. Describe the epidemiology, course of illness, and the medical and psychosocial complications of common substance use disorders (alcohol, cocaine, opiates, cannabis)
3. Describe typical presentations of substance use disorders in general medical and psychiatric clinical settings
4. List the psychiatric disorders that share significant comorbidity with substance-related disorders and discuss some criteria for determining whether the comorbid disorder should be treated independently
5. List the questions that compose the CAGE (test for alcoholism) questionnaire and discuss its use as a screening instrument
6. Predict the drug of abuse (cocaine, amphetamines, cannabis, opiates, benzodiazepines, and alcohol) based on the clinical features of intoxication
7. Recall the clinical signs and recommend management strategies for substance withdrawal from alcohol, benzodiazepines, barbiturates; and opioids
8. Recall the pharmacotherapy options (and the medication’s mechanism of action) for alcohol dependence and opioid dependence; this includes disulfiram (Antabuse), acamprosate (Campral), naltrexone (Revia); methadone, Buprenorphine (Suboxone), clonidine
9. Summarize management strategies for substance abuse and dependence including detoxification, 12-step programs, support groups, rehabilitation programs, psychotherapies, and family support
10. Recall the basic pharmacology of the benzodiazepines