

## **ADDICTION PSYCHIATRY**

### **Department of Psychiatry**

## **SCOPE OF PRACTICE**

### **PGY-5**

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The Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship focuses on training the fellow on the prevention, evaluation, and treatment of substance-related disorders as well as providing related education and research. The addiction psychiatrist will be fully trained in techniques required in the treatment of the larger group of patients with dual diagnoses of substance use disorders and other psychiatric disorders. The field of addiction psychiatry requires knowledge of pharmacology, psychiatry, general medicine, as well as an understanding of the interaction of these disciplines.

- Knowledge of the signs and symptoms of the use, abuse and dependence on alcohol and other drugs, as well as the knowledge of the types of treatment required for each.
  - Be able to identify signs and symptoms and develop competence in the functional assessment of neuropsychiatric impairment associated with substance misuse and substance use disorders.
  - Identification of physical illnesses and iatrogenic factors that can alter mental status, behavior and management in substance using individuals. Develop knowledge of appropriate treatment in these situations.
- Knowledge of the signs and symptoms of withdrawal from alcohol and other drugs of abuse, as well as knowledge and experience with the range of options for treatment of withdrawal syndromes and the complications commonly associated with such withdrawal.
  - Medical management of withdrawal both as an outpatient and in the acute hospital setting for individuals physically dependent on alcohol and/or drugs.
- Knowledge of the signs and symptoms of overdose, the medical and psychiatric sequelae of overdose, and experience in providing proper treatment of overdose.
  - Gain experience in working collaboratively with specialists in the emergency department and intensive care units in the diagnosis and management of acute overdose symptoms.

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- Evaluation, consultation and treatment of psychiatric inpatients and outpatients with chemical dependencies and comorbid psychopathology, to include a broad range of psychiatric diagnoses, such as affective disorders, psychotic disorders, organic disorders, personality disorders, and anxiety disorders, as well as patients suffering from medical conditions commonly associated with substance use such as hepatitis and acquired immune deficiency syndrome.
  - Knowledge of the signs and symptoms of the social and psychological problems as well as the medical and psychiatric disorders that often accompany the chronic use and abuse of the major categories of drugs and alcohol.
  - Experience in the use of psychoactive medications in the treatment of psychiatric disorders that often accompany the major categories of substance abuse.
  - Patients will be followed frequently, for an extended period of time, in a variety of treatment modalities in order to include exposure to the full continuum of care.
- Experience in the use of techniques required for motivational enhancement and intervention with substance use disorders, and addressing the defense mechanisms that cause the patient to resist entry into treatment.
- Experience in the use of the various psychotherapeutic modalities involved in the ongoing management of the chronic substance abusing patient, including individual psychotherapies (e.g., cognitive-behavioral therapy), couples therapy, family therapy, group therapy, motivational enhancement therapy, and relapse prevention therapy.
  - Experience in working with patients who are concurrently participating in self-help programs.
- Experience in working collaboratively with other mental health providers and allied health professionals, including nurses, social workers, psychologists, nurse practitioners, counselors, pharmacists, and others who participate in the care of patients with substance-related Disorders.

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- Provide leadership of interdisciplinary teams and coordination/supervision of care by non- medical therapists.
- Knowledge of family systems and dynamics relevant to the etiology, diagnosis, and treatment of substance-related disorders.
- Knowledge of the genetic vulnerabilities, risk and protective factors, epidemiology, and prevention of substance-related disorders.
- Evaluation, consultation, and treatment of medication-dependent patients with chronic medical disorders.
- Knowledge and understanding of the special problems of the pregnant substance user and of the neonates born to mothers with substance use disorders.
- Familiarity with the major medical journals and professional-scientific organizations dealing with research on the understanding and treatment of substance use disorders.
- Critical analysis of research reports, as presented in journal clubs and seminars.
- Gaining experience in the supervision and teaching of student clinicians and medical residents in the care of substance-abusing patients.
- Understanding of the current economic aspects of providing psychiatric and other health-care services to the addicted patient.
  - Knowledge of quality assurance measures and cost effectiveness of various treatment modalities for substance-abusing patients.