Clinical Essentials on Catatonia in Children and Adolescents

Course Design: This course consists of 3 modules with a total viewing time of 3 hours and 48 minutes of video, specifically designed to meet the course learning objectives. Each module is followed by a post-test, with a total of 20 questions across all modules. The materials for this course were reviewed and selected by AACAP’s Clinical Essentials Committee in December 2023.

Learning Objectives: At the conclusion of this continuing medical educational activity, the participant will be able to:

1. Describe epidemiology, diagnostic features of catatonia in children and adolescents, and associated etiologies and comorbidities.
2. Describe differential diagnosis, work up, and treatment for patients presenting with catatonia, including escalation of interventions in treatment-resistant cases.
3. Determine how to use the available scales to track disease burden and treatment response.
4. Describe neurodevelopmental and physical disorders such as autism spectrum disorder and autoimmune encephalitis and their association with catatonia.
5. Describe the indications for electroconvulsive therapy (ECT), the necessity of familiarity with local regulations, and the importance of advocacy.

Lectures, Titles, and Speakers from AACAP’s 70th Annual Meeting

Module 1: Overview, Treatment, Epidemiology, and Rating Scales

Topics covered:

- History of catatonia, treatment essentials and approach to treatment, epidemiology and nosology, and rating scales for diagnosis and management

Speakers: From AACAP’s 2022 69th and 2023 70th Annual Meeting: Eric Hazen, MD; Leah Jesse, MD; James Luccarelli, MD, PhD

Module 2: Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Autoimmune Encephalitis

Topics covered:

- Catatonia’s overlap with neurodevelopmental disorders, autism spectrum disorder, and autoimmune encephalitis

Speakers: From AACAP’s 2023 70th Annual Meeting: Kelli Dominick, MD, PhD; Anna B. Jolliffe, DO; GenaLynne C. Mooneyham, MD; Robyn Thom, MD
Module 3: Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT)

Topics covered:

- ECT safety, outcomes, regulatory considerations, and indications

Speakers: From AACAP’s 2023 70th Annual Meeting: H. Yavuz Ince, MD
Neera Ghaziuddin, MD; Joshua Ryan Smith, MD; From AACAP’s 2020 Virtual Meeting: Eva C. Ihle, MD, PhD