CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Overall Goal: By the end of the core clinical clerkships, the student will summarize the unique factors essential to the evaluation of children and adolescents and will be able to diagnose common child psychiatric disorders.

Specific Objectives:

By the completion of the Preclinical years, the student will:

1. Know the key physical, cognitive, social/emotional developmental milestones for each childhood age group:
   a. Infancy (0-18 months)
   b. Toddlerhood (18-36 months)
   c. Preschool (3-5 years)
   d. Early childhood (6-11 years)
   e. Adolescence (12-18 years)

2. Know key features for each age group along the major developmental lines (physical, cognitive, social and emotional) as well as classic and current developmental theorists (e.g. Erikson, Piaget, Vygotsky).

By the completion of the Clinical Years, the student will:

3. Be able to modify history taking and examination skills with children and adolescents taking into account the specific needs at different developmental stages (e.g. use of indirect questioning, using play, consideration for the evolving capacity for abstract thinking, acknowledging the key role of family and other systems such as school, etc.).

4. Identify academic and behavioral difficulties that may result from a psychiatric or medical condition (including substance abuse) knowing when to refer for psychological or developmental assessment.

5. Summarize the key clinical features and first line treatment for the following disorders in children and adolescents:
   a. Attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder
   b. Mood disorders (including depression and risk for suicide)
   c. Anxiety disorders including separation anxiety
   d. Autism spectrum disorders

6. Identify signs and symptoms of child physical and sexual abuse or neglect and understand the physician's obligation to report any suspected abuse or neglect to proper authorities.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Objective/Benchmark</th>
<th>Evaluation Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Know the key physical, cognitive, social/emotional developmental milestones for each childhood age group | • MCQ exams  
• USMLE step 1  
• Reflection paper from observation of children linking knowledge to what they observed  
• Reflection paper from interviewing patients about health care and linking to development concepts |
| 2. Know key features for each age group from the major developmental theorists (e.g. Erikson, Piaget, Freud). | • MCQ exams  
• USMLE step 1  
• Reflection paper from observation of children linking to stages described |
| 3. Be able to modify history taking and examination skills with children and adolescents taking into account the specific needs at different developmental stages | • Observation by clinical faculty of history and physical exam with patients under age 18 (live or videotaped)  
• Standardized patients (OCSE or CPX) |
| 4. Identify academic and behavioral difficulties that may result from a psychiatric or medical condition (including substance abuse) knowing when to refer for psychological or developmental assessment. | • Clinical preceptor evaluation  
• CPX exam  
• MCQ exams  
• NBME subject exams  
• USMLE Step 2 |
| 5. Summarize the key clinical features and first line treatment for the following disorders in children and adolescents:  
  a. Attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder  
  b. Mood disorders (including depression and risk for suicide)  
  c. Anxiety disorders including separation anxiety  
  d. Autism spectrum disorders | • MCQ exams  
• OCSE or CPX type exams  
• Case based learning in clerkships  
• NBME subject exams  
• USMLE step 2  
• Clinical Preceptor evaluation |
| 6. Identify signs/symptoms of child physical and sexual abuse or neglect and understand the physician's obligation to report any suspected abuse or neglect to proper authorities | • OCSE or CPX type exams  
• Case based learning in clerkships  
• Clinical Preceptor evaluation  
• MCQ exams  
• NBME subject exams  
• USMLE step 2 |

MCQ= multiple choice question exam  
OCSE = observed clinical skills exam  
CPX = clinical problem solving exam