Week 1 Summary and Key Points

Summary

This week, you explored neuroanatomy and neurophysiology and the unique prescribing considerations relevant to psychotropic medications. You also examined the ethical and legal ramifications associated with prescribing psychotropic medication, and the considerations required to safely prescribe these medications across the lifespan. A sound understanding of the science and art of prescribing is required to safely prescribe psychotropic medications and improve mental health outcomes.

Pliszka, S.R. (2016). *Neuroscience for the mental health clinician* (2nd ed.). The Guilford Press.

- Chapter 1: Introduction, pp. 3-20
- Chapter 2: Draw the Brain: Introduction to Clinical Neuroanatomy, pp. 21-37
- Chapter 7: Attention and Memory, pp. 123-140
- Chapter 8: Higher Cognitive Functioning, pp. 145-163

Dell'Osso, B., Albert, U., Carrá, G., Pompili, M., Nanni, M. G., Pasquini, M., Poloni, N., Raballo, A., Sambataro, F., Serafini, G., Viganó, C., Demyttenaere, K., McIntyre, R. S., & Fiorillo, A. (2020). How to improve adherence in patients with major depression: A psychoeducational

consensus checklistLinks to an external site.. *Annals of General Psychiatry, 19*(1), 61. https://doi.org/10.1186/s12991-020-00306-2

- ***Quiz clinical pearls***
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- The amygdala is associated with anxiety and perception of odors.
- The hippocampus is involved in memory and anxiety. The amygdala is associated with anxiety and perception of odors. The prefrontal cortex is associated with executive function. The thalamus is associated with motor command processing
- The client's cognitive status can result in an ethical concern if the client is unable to self-determine care or is a danger to self or others. Ability to pay is not an ethical issue.
- basal ganglia are a group of structures involved in voluntary motor movements. Basal ganglia are also involved in cognition and emotion.
- Limbic system is associated with emotion and learning
- hippocampi are associated with long term memory
- Wernicke's area is associated with speech comprehension. Review activity
- the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex (DLPFC) is concerned with higher level functioning. The VLPFC is involved with motor inhibition the IFG contains Broca's area which is associated with speech production understanding grammar. Pliska Ch. 8
- the OFC is involved in decision making and social behavior with a focus on punishment and rewards. The OFC inhibits and activates the amygdala and is activated when a risk assessment is required. Some behaviors associated with the OFC include sex, sugar, pain, social humiliation, money, rewards, fame, and aggression. The amygdala will identify a threat and then the OFC will determine the risk or benefit of an action based on past experience.
- At this time, 20 % of the world's population is suffering from a neurologic and/ or psychiatric disorder.