**ST3-AP-AOP-EPA3 – Treatment-refractory disorders**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of practice</th>
<th>EPA identification</th>
<th>Stage of training</th>
<th>Version</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult psychiatry</td>
<td>ST3-AP-AOP-EPA3</td>
<td>Stage 3 – Advanced</td>
<td>v0.5 (EC-approved 24/07/15)</td>
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The following EPA will be entrusted when your supervisor is confident that you can be trusted to perform the activity described at the required standard without more than distant (reactive) supervision. Your supervisor feels confident that you know when to ask for additional help and that you can be trusted to appropriately seek assistance in a timely manner.

**Title**

Assess and manage treatment-refractory psychiatric disorders.

**Description**

The trainee must demonstrate an ability to assess, develop and implement comprehensive biopsychosocial management plans for patients with treatment-refractory psychiatric disorders.

**Fellowship competencies**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Fellowship competencies</th>
<th>ME</th>
<th>HA</th>
<th>COM</th>
<th>SCH</th>
<th>COL</th>
<th>PROF</th>
<th>MAN</th>
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**Knowledge, skills and attitude required**

Competence is demonstrated if the trainee has shown sufficient aspects of the knowledge, skills and attitude described below.

**Ability to apply an adequate knowledge base**

- Demonstrates knowledge of the definitions and controversies of treatment-refractory psychiatric disorders.
- Demonstrates knowledge of evidence-based interventions in treatment-refractory psychiatric disorders.
- Demonstrates an understanding of the role of families/carers and appropriate skills in working with families/carers.
- Recognises the importance of cost-effective utilisation of resources.

**Skills**

- Provides a comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment including diagnostic issues, treatment adherence, family and cultural issues, the patient’s understanding of the illness and illness behaviours.
• Works collaboratively with other professions and agencies to provide assessment and management of patients with treatment-refractory psychiatric disorders.
• Negotiates an integrated management plan in a biopsychosocial framework with the patient.
• Can incorporate recovery-based principles into the management plan.
• Includes relevant family/carers in the development of a management plan.
• Demonstrates effective verbal and written communication skills.

**Attitude**
• Provides appropriate clinical leadership to assist the patient, family/carers and team to maintain therapeutic hope.
• Advocates on behalf of patients and carers.
• Demonstrates an ethical approach, respecting the patient’s goals.

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<tr>
<th>Assessment method</th>
<th>Progressively assessed during individual or clinical supervision, including three appropriate WBAs.</th>
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**Suggested assessment method details**
• Case-based discussion.
• Observed Clinical Activity (OCA).
• Professional presentation.

**References**

COL, Collaborator; COM, Communicator; HA, Health Advocate; MAN, Manager; ME, Medical Expert; PROF, Professional; SCH, Scholar