

**ST3-CL-AOP-EPA8 – Chronic psychiatric illness in the general hospital**

<b>Area of practice</b>	Consultation–liaison psychiatry	<b>EPA identification</b>	ST3-CL-AOP-EPA8	
<b>Stage of training</b>	Stage 3 – Advanced	<b>Version</b>	v0.4 (EC-approved 10/04/15)	
<p>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.</p>				
<b>Title</b>	<b>Assess and manage chronic psychiatric illness in a patient in the general hospital.</b>			
<b>Description</b> Maximum 150 words	The trainee must demonstrate an ability to assess and manage a chronic mental illness and the range of issues involved in a patient in the general hospital.			
<b>Fellowship competencies</b>	<b>ME</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	<b>HA</b>	1, 2
	<b>COM</b>	1, 2	<b>SCH</b>	1, 2
	<b>COL</b>	1, 2, 3	<b>PROF</b>	1, 2
	<b>MAN</b>	1, 2, 3, 4		
<b>Knowledge, skills and attitude required</b> The following lists are neither exhaustive nor prescriptive.	<p>Competence is demonstrated if the trainee has shown sufficient aspects of the knowledge, skills and attitude described below.</p> <p><b>Ability to apply an adequate knowledge base</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence base for treatments of chronic psychiatric disorders.</li> <li>• Knowledge of common medical comorbidities in individuals with a chronic psychiatric illness.</li> <li>• Psychodynamic factors, eg. countertransference, transference and therapeutic nihilism, and how these factors can influence the behaviour of the health provider.</li> <li>• Challenges of the use of medications in patients with a chronic psychiatric illness, eg. drug interactions.</li> <li>• Knowledge of the literature around stigma and discrimination towards individuals with psychiatric diagnoses and its impact on medical and surgical treatment choices.</li> </ul> <p><b>Skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather, collate and synthesise the previous psychiatric diagnosis and treatment history.</li> <li>• Assess the patient’s mental state to evaluate the impact of their psychiatric illness on their current medical problem.</li> <li>• Assess the patient’s mental state to evaluate the impact of their current medical problem on their psychiatric illness.</li> </ul>			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advise, support and educate the medical team on how to optimally manage the patient in view of their psychiatric disorder.</li> <li>• Provide a comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment including consideration of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– treatment adherence</li> <li>– family and cultural factors</li> <li>– the patient's understanding of the illness</li> <li>– illness behaviour.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Work collaboratively with other health professionals to provide a psychiatric assessment and manage patients with medical illness.</li> <li>• Develop and recommend an appropriate management plan in a consultation or liaison role, through negotiation with the patient, their family and the treatment team.</li> <li>• Demonstrate effective verbal and written communication skills.</li> </ul> <p><b>Attitude</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understands the importance of advocacy.</li> <li>• Collaborative approach with patient and carers.</li> <li>• Aware of the impact on the treating team of caring for people with chronic psychiatric illness.</li> <li>• Aware of the limitations of a consultation–liaison role.</li> <li>• Models a hopeful and optimistic attitude with an understanding of patient dignity.</li> <li>• Aware of the stigma associated with a psychiatric diagnosis in a general medical setting.</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment method</b>	Progressively assessed during individual and clinical supervision, including at least three appropriate WBAs.
<p><b>Suggested assessment method details</b></p> <p><i>(These include, but are not limited to, WBAs)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case-based discussion.</li> <li>• Mini-Clinical Evaluation Exercise.</li> <li>• Observed Clinical Activity (OCA).</li> <li>• Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS).</li> </ul>
<p><b>References</b></p> <p>COGHLAN R, LAWRENCE D, HOLMAN CDJ &amp; JABLENSKY AV. <i>Duty to care: physical illness in people with mental illness</i>. Perth: The University of Western Australia, 2001.</p>	

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

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