

**Undergraduate Medical Education Program  
Summary of Objectives – Psychiatry**

**Goal Statement:**

By the end of the Psychiatry clerkship, a Dalhousie medical student will have the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to successfully (under supervision) assess and care for patients, in a variety of settings and across the lifespan, presenting with acute or longstanding psychiatric illness. They will be able to differentiate normal from pathological emotional states.

*Key Objectives for the Unit:*

<b>Objective Code</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Maps to</b>
PR-1	Conduct a comprehensive psychiatric evaluation that includes relevant collateral history, while demonstrating the capacity to build a therapeutic relationship with the patient and obtain complete and relevant information.	2.1, 2.2, 2.6
PR-2	Conduct and interpret a complete mental status examination, including the assessment of risk to self or others and cognition, as appropriate to the presentation of the patient.	2.1, 2.2
PR-3	Discuss the importance of co-morbidity of psychiatric and medical illness and evaluate and manage this with appropriate use of targeted physical examination, investigation and consultation.	2.3, 2.4, 2.9
PR-4	Integrate information obtained in the assessment to develop a working and differential diagnosis, using the DSM-5. Students should begin to describe the etiology of the diagnosis within a bio-psycho-social framework relevant to the patient.	2.3, 2.6
PR-5	Develop and carry out (under supervision) a bio-psycho-social management plan that considers immediate, short term and long term treatment goals.	2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.6
PR-6	Discuss pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic strategies as potential treatment options for patients presenting with psychiatric illness including consideration of risk / benefit, indications, contraindications, common and serious side effects and interactions	2.3, 2.6, 2.5, 2.8
PR-7	Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, including documentation in patient charts, case presentations, writing orders and prescriptions, sending referrals and in providing	2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 2.8

	education and negotiating a management plan with patients and their families.	
PR-8	Work collaboratively within a multidisciplinary team, including accessing community resources and agencies to optimize the care of patients presenting with psychiatric illness and their families.	2.3, 2.4, 2.6, 2.8, 2.9
PR-9	Discuss the common clinical, ethical and legal issues in practice with specific emphasis on patient autonomy, confidentiality, involuntary admission and competency.	2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7
PR-10	Demonstrate the attitudes and behaviours necessary to optimize the care of the patient presenting with psychiatric symptoms. Emphasis should be placed on recognition of the components of a therapeutic relationship and professional boundaries and on skills used by physicians to cope with stress and balancing personal and professional lives.	2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7
PR-11	Discuss the role of the social stigma of mental illness as a potential barrier to access to care and explore and manage their own preconceptions or reactions to patients with psychiatric symptoms.	2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 2.8
PR-12	Demonstrate competence and commitment to lifelong learning that would include development of self-assessment skills and the use of evidence based resources to direct patient care.	2.3, 2.7, 2.8