



Medical Psychology and Ethics - General Medicine Course (EAP0103390)

Winter semester: 3 hours of lectures + 1 hour of practical seminar/week; credit

Summer semester: 1 hour of practical seminar/week; credit + final oral exam

Practical seminars are scheduled as a two-lessons block once in two weeks

Conditions for completion of the subject

winter semester credit: mandatory attendance in practical seminars (one absence in a semester is allowed) + essay

summer semester credit: mandatory attendance in practical seminars (one absence in a semester is allowed) + essay **or** participation in the student's scientific activity/ in the survey

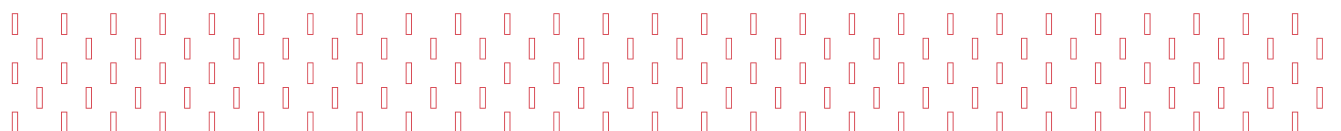
Student is allowed to sit the *final oral exam* not earlier than after achieving of both credits.

Annotation

Psychological aspects of medicine. Communication skills. Crisis intervention. Conveying the diagnosis of a serious disease. Chronic and old patient in medical care. Family issues, family therapy. Nonverbal communication. Psychotherapy, supportive psychotherapy. Ethical aspects of medicine. Troubles and conflicts in doctor - patients communication.

Syllabus of topics

1. A complex view of a patient: the biopsychosocial model of disease. Psychotherapy and medicine: the integration of psychotherapy into medicine. The psychotherapeutic approach: a targeted use of communication skills and doctor - patient relationship in clinical practice.
2. The relationship between the doctor and the patient : contribution of M. Balint to understanding problems in the doctor - patient relationship.
3. Basic communication skills: listening, empathy, understanding, interpretation, interest and support advice and counselling. Integration of communication skills.
4. Nonverbal communication between doctor and patient : verbal, nonverbal and paraverbal components of communication. Description and classification of nonverbal behaviour. Application of the study of nonverbal behaviour in doctor-patient interaction.
5. Anamnesis (a case history) aimed at patient's psychological problems: examples of forms of specific anamnestic question (e.g. open introductory question, „ yes – no“ questions, questions about patient's opinion etc.)
6. Doctor - patient interview: history taking versus doctor - patient interview (dialogue), defining the framework of the interview, specially oriented interview (e.g. crisis intervention, conveying the diagnosis of a serious disease, approach to depressive patients etc.)



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7. Supportive psychotherapy : introduction, definition, basic characteristics of supportive psychotherapy.
 8. Supportive psychotherapy as an independent method of treatment: e.g. in problem situations of life, in a crisis of life values etc.
 9. Psychological aspects of pharmacotherapy: psychological factors on the side of the doctor and on the side of the patient, psychotherapy and psycho – pharmacotherapy. Placebo effect.
 10. Problem situations (complications) in communication between the doctor and the patient: factors on the side of the doctor, patient and his /her family.
 11. Lifespan approach to human development: newborn, long term effects of early experience, maternal deprivation, hospitalisation of children . Adolescence, development tasks, development of identity, sex roles. Ageing, development tasks, adjustment to losses associated with old age , abnormal ageing.
 12. Personality: definition, personality development, introversion /extraversion, personality disorders. Intelligence: definition, IQ , mental retardation.
 13. Pain : psychogenic pain, gate – control theory, endorphins ,assessment methods, chronic pain management.
 14. Sleep : stages of sleep, functions of sleep, dreaming, sleep disorders ,sleep hygiene.
 15. Social psychology: relevance of social principles to medicine, behaviour in groups , sick role. Mental health programmes.
 16. Psychotherapy : definition (e.g. dynamic, behavioural, cognitive).
 17. Family issues : parenting, violence and sexual abuse, family therapy.
 18. Sexual function and dysfunction : psychological influences, cultural influences, therapeutic interventions. Transgenders.
 19. Addiction : alcoholism and drug addiction, sociocultural and psychological factors, treatment and prevention programmes.
 20. Normal versus abnormal behaviour : classification of abnormal behaviour (anxiety, somatoform disorder, dissociative disorder, depression, obsessive – compulsive disorder, psychosis, dementia).

Summary and learning objectives

Subject Medical Psychology and Ethics is included into the programme of the third year of General Medicine Course. Beside the mandatory attendance in practical seminars, the condition for achieving the credit in the winter semester is the written work – a scientific essay in the field of medical psychology and/or ethics. A particular topic is the matter of students choice. In the summer semester, student chooses between the options to submit the second written work – essay or to participate at the scientific activity/survey . Meeting these conditions is necessary to obtain credit for the relevant semester.



Lectures and practical seminars are elaborating topics according syllabus. Practical teaching is based on specific problems from the clinical medicine, e.g.informing, psychological quidance, counselling, communication with handicapped etc. During the practical training we use role playing, video feedback and small groups dynamics. Students are sharing their experiences from clinical training and from literature dealing with psychology and ethics topics.

The goal of this teaching programme is the support of humanisation of medicine, sensibilisation of students to psychological and ethical aspects of clinical medicine and training of communication in specific situations of medical practice.

Recommended literature

Introduction to medical psychology. Doctor - patient communication, Beran. J.,Praha, Universita Karlova 2005.

Medical Humanities, An introduction. Cambridge University Press, 2015. Thomas R. Cole, Nathan Carlin, Ronald A. Carson

Psychology for medicine, SAGE 2011, Susan Ayers, Richard de Visser

