BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

MD3

BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

- 1. Developmental Life Cycle
- 1. Theories of Learning and Behavioural Modification
- 2. Defense Mechanisms Psychological Health and Testing
- 3. Substance Use Disorders
- 4. Sleep and Sleep Disorders
- 5. Psychiatric (DSM-5) Disorders
- 6. Psychopharmacology
- 7. Brain Function and Neurocognitive Disorders
- 8. Ethics, Law, and Physician Behavior
- 9. Health Care Delivery Systems

BEHAVIORAL SCIECNES

DEVELOPMENTAL LIFE CYCLE

Learning Objectives

Demonstrate understanding of stages and milestones of development

□ □ Answer questions about sexuality and gender identity

Demonstrate understanding of aging and issues of death and bereavement

STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT

Development occurs along multiple lines:

- Physical,
- Cognitive,
- Intellectual, and
- Social

Newborns

Newborns have certain preferences:

- Large, bright objects with lots of contrast
- Moving objects
- Curves vs. lines
- Complex vs. simple designs
- Facial stimuli

Neonatal Reflexes

Reflex	Features	Onset	Extinction	CNS Origin
Moro (startle)	Arms and legs extend when child is startled	Birth	5 months	Brain stem/vestibular nuclei
Grasp	Fingers curl around object placed in hand	Birth	5 months	Brain stem/vestibular nuclei
Rooting	Baby turns face toward direction of touch	Birth	5 months	Brain stem/trigeminal
Babinski	 Not pathological in newborns Stroking bottom of foot causes the toe to move upward (dorsiflexion) instead of downward (hallux flexion); normal in adults 	Birth	1 year	Spinal cord

Milestones

- Skills achieved by a certain age are called **milestones**, which are normative markers at median ages.
- Some children develop more slowly and some more quickly, so milestones are
- only approximate and do not have to occur concomitantly. Thus, a child may
- match the milestones for cognitive development but show slower growth in the
- social area.

Stranger anxiety is distress in the presence of unfamiliar people.

Peaks at age eight months

Can last until age one year

Separation anxiety is distress following separation from a caretaker.

Onset at age eight months

Can last until age two years

Cognitive Development Theories * Based on Age

- Erikson
- Freud
- Piaget

Erikson	Freud	Piaget
 Trust vs. mistrust Develop feeling of trust that their wants will be satisfied If parent is not attentive, will learn to mistrust 	 Oral Mouth is the main site of gratification; manifested by chewing, biting, and sucking 	 Sensorimotor Begin to learn through sensory observation Gain control of motor functions through activity, exploration, and manipula- tion of the environment Achieve object permanence

Birth – 2 Year



 shame/doubt Have sense of mastery over themselves and their drives; can be cooperative or stubborn 	 Anal Anus and surrounding area is main site of gratification; primarily involved in bowel functions and bladder control If harsh toilet training, may become "anally fixated" (obsessive-compulsive personality disorder) 	 Preoperational Use symbols and language more extensively Are egocentric, use animistic thinking, and have a sense of imminent justice See death as reversible Lack the law of conservation
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2 Year – 4 Year



Initiative vs. guilt	Phallic	
 Initiate both motor and intellectual activity 	 Genital area is main site of gratification 	
 Start to become sexually curious 	 Penis envy and fear of castra- tion are evident 	
 Start to develop sibling rivalry 	 Increase in genital masturba- tion with fantasies involving opposite-sex parent ("Oedipal complex") 	

4 Year – 6 years



Age	Erikson	Freud	Piaget
6–12 years	 Industry vs. inferiority Enter programs of learning; able to work and acquire adult skills Learn they are able to master and complete a task 	 Latency Formation of the superego; resolution of the Oedipal complex Sexual interests during this period are believed to be quiescent Sublimation of sexual energy into energetic learning and play activities 	 Concrete operational Replace egocentricity with operational thought, thus can see things through others' perspectives See death as irreversible (age 10) Have the law of conservation

6-12 Years



Teenage years	 Identity vs. role confusion Develop group identity Develop preoccupation with appearances Begin to deal with morality and ethics Experience "identity crisis" at end of this stage (which 	Genital Capacity for true intimacy 	 Formal operational abstract thinking acquired
	at end of this stage (which Piaget called normative)		

Teenage Years



Early adulthood	 Intimacy vs. isolation Experience intimacy of sexual relations and friend- ships (all deep associations are present) 	
	 Develop an ability to care and share with others without fear of losing self 	

Early Adulthood



Late adulthood	Integrity vs. despair	
	• Experience sense of satisfac- tion with one's life; allows for an acceptance of one's place in life cycle	

Late adulthood



SEXUALITY

Gender identity is a child's sense of maleness or femaleness. It is established by age 3.

Sexual identity is determined by secondary sexual characteristics.

• **Gender dysphoria** is a "disconnect" between gender identity and sexual identity. Boys > girls.

• **Gender role** is determined by behaviours exhibited by a child. It can be congruent or incongruent to the child's gender identity (usually congruent).

Sexual orientation is determined by gender identity:

• Homosexuality: same gender identity (can be ego-syntonic or ego-dystonic; when ego-dystonic, is pathological)

- Heterosexuality: Opposite gender identity
- Bisexuality: Either gender identity
- Asexuality: Neither gender identity

Masturbation is normal at all ages and equal in both genders. When it interferes with normal functioning, it is pathological.

• Exploring human sexuality is normal, especially during teenage years, even with same sex partners.

Tanner Stages of Development

	Female	Both	Male
Stage	Breast	Pubic hair	Genitalia
T	Preadolescent	None	Childhood size
Ш	Breast bud	Sparse, long, straight	Enlargement of scrotum, testes
Ш	Areolar diameter enlarges	Darker, curling, increased amount	Penis grows in length; testes continue to enlarge
IV	Secondary mound; separation of contours	Coarse, curly, adult type	Penis grows in length/breadth; scrotum darkens, testes enlarge
V	Mature female	Adult, extends to thighs	Adult shape/size

AGING

The human body undergoes significant changes with age that have both medical and psychological implications for your patients. The leading causes of death for patients age >65 include:

- Heart disease
- Malignancy
- Cerebrovascular disease
- Chronic lower respiratory disease
- As such, preventive care and primary or secondary prevention becomes crucial to patient health, improved quality of life, and survival.

Some factors can be modified by behavioural change:

- Smoking = smoking cessation
- Poor diet = low sodium diet (CHF), low cholesterol diet (ACS), low sugar (DM)
- Physical inactivity = exercise
- Geriatrics is the subspecialty dedicated to the science of providing medical care to the elderly. As a physician, regardless of specialty, you are likely to encounter and treat elderly patients

- Medical
- Medical care of the geriatric population includes preventive care, vaccinations, and screening.
- **Preventive care** may include aspirin therapy and lipid management.
- Vaccinations: illness is usually associated with higher morbidity and mortality with older patients, so it is important they receive certain vaccinations.
- Tetanus
- Diphtheria
- Pneumococcus
- Influenza

Screening: The 2 main areas of screening are cancer and abdominal aortic aneurysm. For older patients, the rule of thumb is to evaluate comorbidities, functionality, and life expectancy before making recommendations for screening tests. In general, the survival screening benefit is not seen unless the patient's life expectancy is >5 years.

 Cancer screening: Ages for screening are usually standardized: Breast cancer: women age >40

Colorectal cancer: Men and women age >50

 Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening: men age 65–75

Psychiatric

- Depression screening
- Age >65 is a risk factor for suicide.

 Screening appropriate especially when patients have a terminal or debilitating illness.

• Adjustment disorder

- Many life changes can be stressors that require coping mechanisms.
- Some life changes (e.g., retirement, even when voluntary; illness,
- etc.) can cause an adjustment disorder

Physiological

- On the exam, you will be expected to recognize physiological changes that are not pathological, but rather due to aging.
- Sexuality
- Sexual interest and activity does not decline significantly with aging
- Best predictor of sexual activity in the elderly is availability of a partner

Changes in men:

Slower erection, longer refractory period, more stimulation needed

Changes in women:

Vaginal dryness and thinning

- Sleep
- Early morning wakefulness
- Less deep sleep
- REM sleep does not significantly decrease until age >85

Financial

Several factors contribute to financial instability in the elderly:

• Inadequate fixed income

 Social Security (government-provided earned benefit): eligible adults who have worked >40 quarters; dependents of eligible adult (typically the spouse who was a homemaker)

- Pensions (employer-provided earned benefits)
- Investment income
- High medical costs

• Low financial literacy: elderly can be exploited by unscrupulous investment advisors and sometimes family members

End-of-Life Care

Talking about life expectancy and end-of-life treatment and expectations is important.

• Patients should be asked about DNR status.

• Patients may have a living will or assign a health power of attorney in the event they can no longer make decisions themselves.

- You have an obligation to tell the patient everything.
- Do not give false hope to patients but recognize that they might hope for things other than a cure: quality of life, less pain, a painless death.
- Allow patients to talk about their feelings.
- Encourage patients to avoid social isolation and stay engaged in different activities

Patients may cycle through the <u>Kubler-Ross stages of</u> <u>adjustment.</u> The stages need not occur in order.

- Denial
- Anger
- Bargaining
- Depression
- Acceptance

- **Hospice care** is care for terminally-ill patients with a life expectancy ≤6 months.
- It provides care and support for patients (and their families) with advanced disease; the goal is to help dying patients with peace, comfort, and dignity.
- Hospice care consists of medical care, psychological support, and spiritual support.
- It may be delivered at specialized facilities or at home.
- In the United States, payment for hospice care varies:
- Medicare hospice benefit
- Medicaid hospice benefit
- Private insurance

Attachment and Loss in Children

According to Bowlby's theory of attachment, children are predisposed at birth to form attachments with others. Over the first two years of life, they form attachments with their primary caregiver.

Separation from a child can lead to the following:

- Protest (usually seen during short-term separation, e.g., up to two weeks)
- Crying, screaming, and clinging when parents leave
- Anger toward parent upon return
- Despair
- Protesting stops
- Despondency and sadness
- Child appears calmer but may be withdrawn and disinterested
- Detachment
- If separation continues, the child will start to engage with others but will reject caregiver and remain angry
- Indifference upon caregiver's return

Mourning and Loss in Adults

Adults who are bereaved or are mourning the loss of a loved one also go through a period of adjustment. People move back and forth through the stages of adjustment (Kubler-Ross). Not everyone passes through all stages or reaches adequate adjustment.

Normal Grief	Depression
Normal up to 1 year	After 1 year, sooner if symptoms severe
Crying, decreased libido, weight loss, insomnia	Same but more severe
Longing, wish to see loved one, may think they hear or see loved one in a crowd (illusion)	Abnormal overidentification, person- ality change
Loss of other	Loss of self
Suicidal ideation is rare	Suicidal ideation is common
Self-limited, usually <6 months	Symptoms do not stop (may persist for years)
Antidepressants not helpful	Antidepressants helpful

DEVELOPMETAL LIFE CYCLE SUICIDE

SUICIDE

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States. Men > women; however, women attempt suicide more often (pills/poison).

- Elderly are most successful and attempt less frequently.
- Adolescents attempt more frequently.

• Ethnic group with the highest suicide rate is Native Americans; within this group adolescents > elderly.

- Firearms account for >50% of all suicides.
- 50% have seen a physician in the past month.

High risk factors for suicide include:

- Previous suicide attempt
- Age
- Gender
- High socioeconomic status (SES)
- Unemployed
- Medical/psychiatric comorbidities
- Hopelessness
- Isolation
- Initiation of antidepressant pharmacotherapy (suicide window)