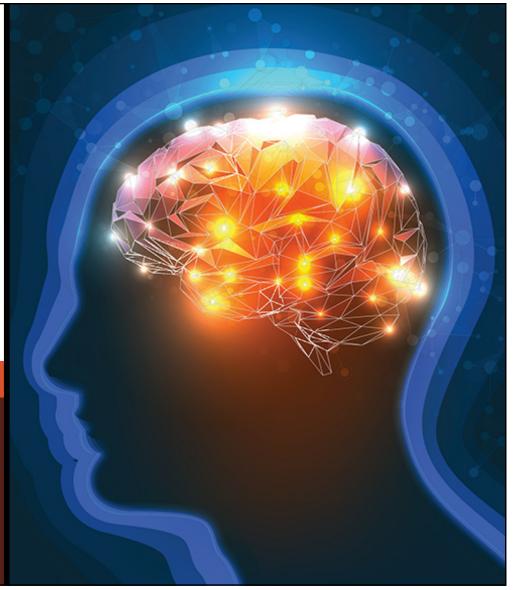
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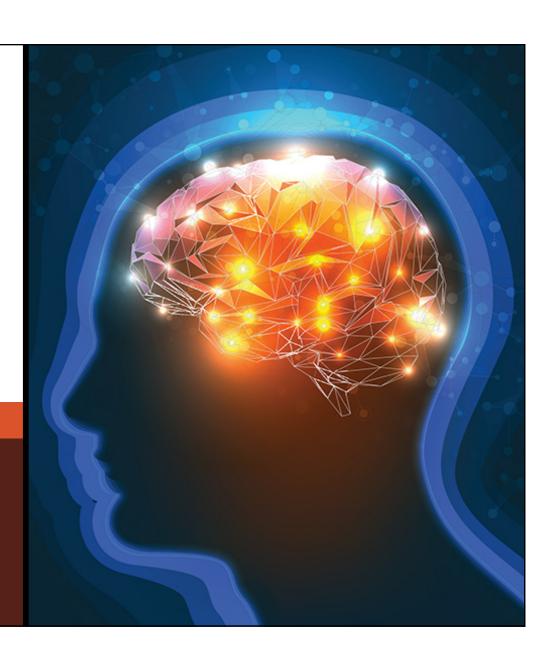




# Evidence-Based Evaluation and Treatment of the Psychiatric Patient in the Emergency Department

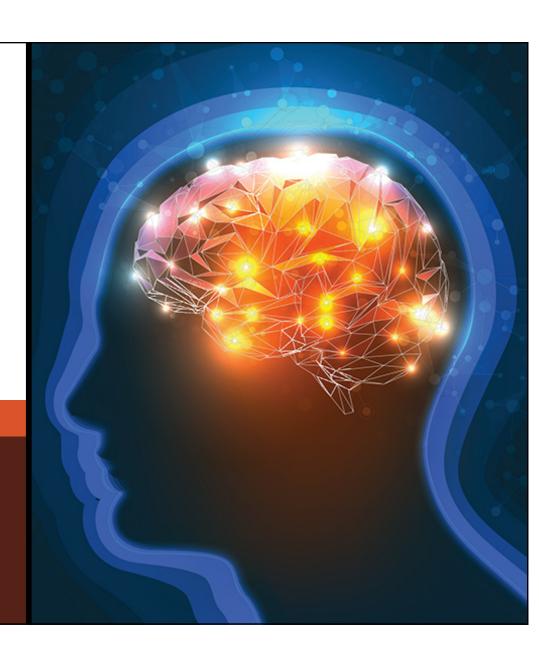
#### Leslie S. Zun, MD, MBA

Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science/The Chicago Medical School Chicago, IL



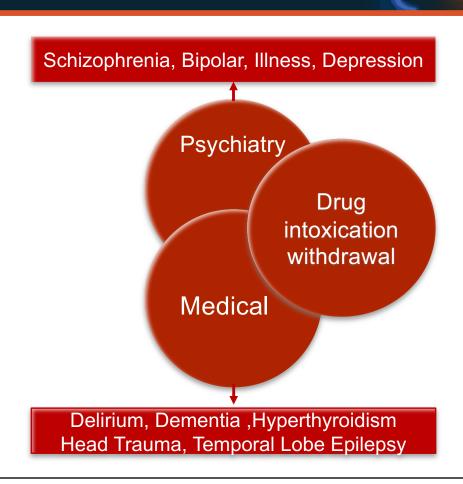
# **Learning Objective**

Individualize the assessment and management of psychiatric patients who present to the ED based on evidence-based literature



# Primary Purpose Etiology

- Drug and alcohol intoxication or withdrawal
- Medical
- Psychiatry



#### **Evaluation Process**

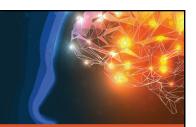
- Components
  - History
  - Physical exam vital signs
  - Mental Status Exam
  - Laboratory testing

- Red flags of medical etiology
  - No prior psychiatric/medical history
  - Age >45 years old
  - Exposure to toxins or drugs
  - Substance intoxication or withdrawal
  - Abnormal vital signs
  - New cognitive deficits
  - Focal neurologic findings, slurred speech, seizures

### **Agitation Treatment**

- Agitation meatines
- Etiology of agitation
- Measure level of agitation
- Principles of treatment
  - Use non-pharmacologic approaches first
    - Verbal de-escalation
      - Respect personal space
      - Do not be provocative
      - Establish verbal contact
      - Be concise
      - Identify wants and feelings
  - Use medication tailored to diagnosis
  - Adjust medication to level of agitation

## **Agitation Treatment (cont.)**

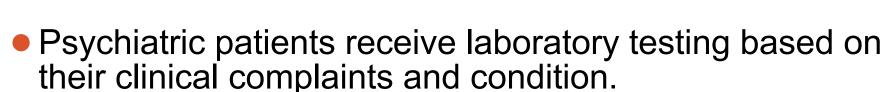


- Medications recommendations
  - First generation haloperidol
  - IM risperidone = haloperidol + lorazepam
  - Oral risperidone = haloperidol = olanzapine
  - Not recommended aripiprazole, quetiapine and clozapine
- Supplemental
  - Oral as effective as IM
  - Single medication preferred
  - No need for prophylaxis for an adverse drug reaction
  - First medication not effective switch to another
- Physical restraints and seclusion

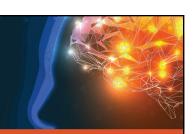
Wilson MP, et al. West J Emerg Med. 2012;13(1):26–34.

#### **SMART Goals**





- All patients need an agitation assessment performed at presentation.
- Verbal de-escalation is used for first-line treatment in agitated patients.
- Agitation treatment is based on the etiology.
- Single medication is preferred for agitation.



# Questions Answers

Don't forget to fill out your evaluations to collect your credit.

