Chapter 14: Psychological Disorders

Slide 2

Abnormal Behaviour

- The medical model
- What is abnormal behaviour?
  - **3 criteria**
    - **Deviant**
    - **Maladaptive**
    - **Causing personal distress**
- A continuum of normal/abnormal

Slide 4

Prevalence, Causes, and Course

- Epidemiology
- Prevalence
- Lifetime prevalence
- Diagnosis
- Etiology
- Prognosis

Slide 6

Psychodiagnosis: The Classification of Disorders

- **American Psychiatric Association**
- **Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders – 4th ed. (DSM - 4)**
- Multiaxial system
- 5 axes or dimensions
  - **Axis I – Clinical Syndromes**
  - **Axis II – Personality Disorders or Mental Retardation**
  - **Axis III – General Medical Conditions**
  - **Axis IV – Psychosocial and Environmental Problems**
  - **Axis V – Global Assessment of Functioning**

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Clinical Syndromes: Anxiety Disorders

- **Generalized anxiety disorder**
  - "free-floating anxiety"
- **Phobic disorder**
  - Specific focus of fear
- **Panic disorder and agoraphobia**
  - Physical symptoms of anxiety/leading to agoraphobia
- **Obsessive compulsive disorder**
  - Obsessions
  - Compulsions
- **Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)**

Slide 8

Etiology of Anxiety Disorders

- **Biological factors**
  - Genetic predisposition, anxiety sensitivity
  - **GABA** circuits in the brain
- **Conditioning and learning**
  - Acquired through classical conditioning or observational learning
  - Maintained through operant conditioning
- **Cognitive factors**
  - Judgments of perceived threat
- **Stress**
  - A precipitator

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Clinical Syndromes: Somatoform Disorders

- **Somatization Disorder**
- **Conversion Disorder**
- **Hypochondriasis**
  - Etiology
    - Reactive autonomic nervous system
    - Personality factors
    - Cognitive factors
    - The sick role

Slide 14

Clinical Syndromes: Dissociative Disorders

- **Dissociative amnesia**
- **Dissociative fugue**
- **Dissociative identity disorder**
  - Etiology
    - severe emotional trauma during childhood
  - Controversy
    - Media creation?

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Clinical Syndromes: Mood Disorders

- **Major depressive disorder**
  - Dysthymic disorder
- **Bipolar disorder (manic-depressive disorder)**
- **Diversity in mood disorders**
- **Mood disorders and suicide**
  - Cyclothymic disorder
- **Etiology**
  - Genetic vulnerability
  - Neurochemical factors
  - Dispositional factors
  - Cognitive factors

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Clinical Syndromes: Schizophrenia

- General symptoms
  - **Delusions and irrational thought**
  - **Deterioration of adaptive behaviour**
  - **Hallucinations**
  - **Disturbed emotions**
- Prognostic factors

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Subtyping of Schizophrenia

- 4 subtypes
  - **Paranoid type**
  - **Catatonic type**
  - **Disorganized type**
  - **Undifferentiated type**
- New model for classification
  - **Positive vs. negative symptoms**

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Etiology of Schizophrenia

- Genetic vulnerability
- Neurochemical factors
- Structural abnormalities of the brain
- The neurodevelopmental hypothesis
- Expressed emotion
- Precipitating stress

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Personality Disorders

- **Anxious-fearful cluster**
  - Avoidant, dependent, obsessive-compulsive
- **Dramatic-impulsive cluster**
  - Histrionic, narcissistic, borderline, antisocial
- **Odd-eccentric cluster**
  - Schizoid, schizotypal, paranoid
- **Etiology**
  - Genetic predispositions, inadequate socialization in dysfunctional families

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Psychological Disorders and the Law

- **Insanity**
  - M'naghten rule
- **Involuntary commitment**
  - danger to self
  - danger to others
  - in need of treatment

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Culture and Pathology

- **Cultural variations**
- **Culture bound disorders**
  - Koro
  - Windigo
  - Anorexia nervosa
- **Eating disorders**