Massachusetts Psychiatric Society’s
32nd Annual Psychopharmacology Update

Program Overview

Each year the psychopharmacology update course chair and cochair review feedback from the previous year including suggestions for topics of interest. Also, the chair has extensive experience consulting with psychiatrists who have psychopharmacology questions and becomes aware of prescribing issues that are not well understood by practitioners. From these sources a set of presentations was developed. The program begins with a review of marketing practices of pharmaceutical companies that have given false impressions about how effective they are in comparison with other options that might be more cost-effective. A second speaker will focus on the just-published 2021 update of an algorithm for evidence-supported psychopharmacology of behavioral and psychological symptoms in patients with dementia. After a break, a speaker will update attendees on device-based somatic therapies in psychiatry including ECT, rTMS, and related new procedures. This will be followed by a Keynote international guest speaker from the University of Saskatchewan, Canada, Dr. Mansfield Mela, who will share his expertise on the diagnosis and treatments for children and adults with fetal alcohol syndrome. After a lunch break, the program continues with the second Keynote Speaker, Dr. Maya Mathur, who is from Stanford University in California. Dr. Mathur has developed innovative methods of determining the worth of observational studies. She will focus on some important psychiatric treatment issues whose evidence base is derived largely from such studies and help attendees interpret the results of such studies. The final lecture will be on the topic of ethno-psychopharmacology, a subject with strong contemporary interest. The program will end with questions and answers on any topic in psychopharmacology with a panel of the day’s speakers.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, participants will be able to:

- Prescribe medications without being subject to undue influence by drug company marketing
- Select the most evidence-supported medications for efficacy and safety for patients with agitation related to dementia
- Utilize or refer patients for ECT, rTMS, or other device-based therapies when indicated
- Diagnose and treat with the most evidence-supported treatments the symptoms in persons with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome – children and adults
- Have a method for evaluating whether observational studies in the literature are credible enough to influence practice
- Discriminate when changes in standard treatment could be influenced by the ethnic background of the patient

AMA Credit Designation Statement

The Massachusetts Psychiatric Society designates this live activity for a maximum of 6.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Accreditation Statement

The Massachusetts Psychiatric Society is accredited by the Massachusetts Medical Society to provide continuing medical education for physicians.
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REGISTRATION FEE

[ ] MPS/APA/MMS MEMBER $90
[ ] RESIDENT/FELLOW/STUDENT $20
[ ] NON-MEMBER $110

Please note the link for the conference will be sent on October 22. If you are unable to register online, please note that we are not in the office due to the pandemic and request that you register by phone at (781) 237-8100.

Questions?
Call (781) 237-8100, 8 a.m.–4 p.m. Monday thru Friday