

## EMERGENCY PSYCHIATRY

**Credit:** Selective A or Elective

**Location:** LAC+USC Medical Center

**Revised:** 4/1/07

Applications will be accepted beginning March 1st of Year III on a first-come, first-serve basis

**DIRECTOR:**

Darin Signorelli, MD

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**COORDINATOR:**

David Kurtz

**PHONE #**

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**REPORT TO:** Psychiatry ER, Room 1234 at 8:00am

**PREREQUISITE:** Psychiatry Clerkship

**DURATION:** 4 or 6 weeks

**DATES OFFERED:** All Year

**Rotations scheduled:** every Monday unless holiday

**NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** 2

**VISITING STUDENTS:** Yes

**INSTRUCTION:**

90% Supervised Patient Care

5% Attending Rounds/Small group discussion

5% Lectures

**SUPERVISION:**

100% Faculty

**DESCRIPTION:**

Under close supervision by the staff and residents of the service, patients are evaluated in the admitting area and walk-in clinic. Experience is gained in diagnosis, treatment and disposition of many emergency psychiatric problems. The student is also expected to participate in departmental and divisional conferences and seminars. There is no fixed weekly schedule, but students are expected to be available during working hours.

**EVALUATION:**

During orientation, students will be verbally informed of expectations and methods of evaluation. An evaluation form will be filled out by Dr. Signorelli. Students will receive feedback by an evaluation form and from attending physicians during rotation.

**\* Selective Attendance and Illness Policy**

In order to insure adequate clinical exposure, no more than 3 days of excused absences (to include official Holidays) can be accepted during a selective. This policy does not imply that absences are guaranteed; absences may be excused at the discretion of the faculty. Absence due to illness must be reported to the faculty or his/her designee as soon as possible. In case of extended absence (2 days or more), a note from a physician (who is not a relative) is required and the absence will be reported to the Office of Student Affairs. A physician note may be requested for any absence, at the discretion of the faculty.

Students will generally be required to make up days before a passing grade can be assigned. All absences must be excused and any planned absence must be registered with the preceptor prior to the first day of the selective. Students should take vacation time if he/she anticipates a need for more than 3 absences during a selective. USMLE and BLS/ACLS will not be considered excused absences.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Students will:

1. Discuss a wide array of psychiatric symptoms and diagnoses including mood disorders, anxiety disorders, psychotic disorders, and substance abuse issues.
2. Differentiate between medical versus psychiatric causes of depression, psychosis, altered mental status, and acute behavioral changes.
3. Discuss the prevalence and epidemiology of schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depression, and anxiety disorder.
4. Describe diagnostic tests, symptoms and physical exam findings can differentiate functional vs. organic etiologies of mental disorders.
5. Discuss management of acute psychotic agitation and aggressive behavior using verbal de-escalation, limit setting, seclusion, restraints and medications.
6. Assess, diagnose, and treat suicidal patients
7. List criteria for involuntary hospitalization and when its implementation is warranted.
8. Describe the proper usage of psychiatric medications including antipsychotic, mood stabilizers, antidepressants, benzodiazepines, and anticonvulsants.
9. Describe the side effects of psychiatric medications used in the emergency room setting.
10. Discuss of the signs and symptoms of drug medication, intoxication, and overdose.