



User-Friendly Clinical Assessment Tools

Daniel Brown, Ph.D.

Oct. 21, 2011 (Fri. 9:00am-5:00pm)

Newton Center, MA

Clinical practice is rapidly moving in the direction of evidence-based treatment, i.e. justification of approaches to treatment based on the level of supporting outcomes research. Many clinicians fail to appreciate that most outcomes research is based on widely-used paper-and-pencil self-report inventories that are quick to give and easy to score. Clinicians could easily use these same tools in private or clinic settings, both to make accurate initial diagnoses and to periodically assess treatment progress. The workshop reviews the best of these self-report inventories for depressive, bipolar, psychotic, anxiety, somato-form, dissociative, and personality disorders, and addictions/eating disorders. Course includes a packet most assessment tools.

Course Outline

9:00-10:30

Diagnostic and structured interviews

- The problem of open-ended interviews

- Advantages of structured interviews

- Overview of structured interviews

- Research on the psychometric properties of structured interviews

Normative Self-Report Inventories

- Rationale of normative self report inventories

- Types of inventories

 - Face valid vs. actuarial inventories

 - Validity assessment in self report inventories

- Sensitivity & specificity

- Incremental validity

- The multimethod standard

- The core battery approach

- General symptom inventories

SCL-90
MMPI-2

10:30-10:45 BREAK

10:45-12:00 Noon

Depression

General depressive symptoms

Severity assessment

Negative self talk, irrational beliefs, self esteem

Bipolar illness

Mood and behavioral assessment

Severity

Assessing thought disorder & first rank symptoms in psychotic patients

12:00-1:00pm LUNCH BREAK

1:00-3:00pm

Assessing anxiety symptoms

GAD, panic, & specific phobia

OCD

PTSD

Dissociation

Addictions: alcohol abuse, drug abuse, & eating disorders

Axis II assessment

MCMII

SCID-II Personality Questionnaire and structured interview

Assessing maladaptive beliefs

Young Schema Questionnaire

Trauma and Attachment Belief Scale

3:00-3:15pm BREAK

3:15-5:00pm

Assessing somatization

Interpersonal assessment

Assessing life satisfaction

Assessing report validity and malingering

Assessing memory reports and memory distortion

