Chapter 11
Childhood and Neurodevelopmental Disorders

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Introduction

- 75% of adults diagnosed with psychiatric disorders first diagnosed between ages 11 and 18 years
- Disruption to normal pattern of childhood development
- Difficulty diagnosing younger people
- Lack of services and premature termination of treatment

Etiology

- Biological factors
  - Genetic
  - Neurobiological
- Psychological factors
  - Temperament
  - Resilience
- Environmental factors
- Cultural
A child with many “risk factors” for the development of mental illness develops normally. You hear the term resilience used. What are some characteristics this child has?

What are some familial risk factors that appear to be related to a child’s experiencing a psychiatric disorder?

Assessing Development and Functioning

- Assessment data
- Data collection
- Mental status examination
- Developmental assessment
General Interventions for Children and Adolescents

- Family therapy
- Group therapy
- Behavioral therapy
- Cognitive behavioral therapy
- Disruptive behavior management
- Time-out
- Quiet room

General Interventions (Cont.)

- Play therapy
- Bibliotherapy
- Therapeutic drawing
- Music therapy
- Psychopharmacology
- Team work and safety

Communication Disorders

- Speech disorders
- Language disorders
Learning Disorders

- Dyslexia (reading)
- Dyscalculia (math)
- Dysgraphia (written expression)

Motor Disorders

- Stereotypic movement disorder
- Tourette’s disorder

Intellectual Development Disorder

- Deficits in
  - Intellectual functioning
  - Social functioning
  - Managing age-appropriate activities of …
Autism Spectrum Disorder

- Neurobiological disability
- Developmental disability
- Appears during first 3 years of life

Autism Spectrum Disorder: Application of the Nursing Process

- Assessment
- Diagnosis
- Outcomes Identification
- Implementation
  - Psychosocial interventions
  - Psychobiological intervention
- Evaluation

Case Study (Cont.)

- If a child is diagnosed with autism, what type of treatment will be recommended?
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

- Inappropriate degree of
  - Inattention
  - Impulsiveness
  - Hyperactivity

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Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (Cont.)

- Assessment
  - Level of physical activity, attention span, talkativeness
  - Social skills
  - Comorbidity
- Diagnosis
- Outcomes Identification

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Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (Cont.)

- Implementation
  - Psychosocial interventions
  - Psychobiological interventions
    - Psychopharmacology
- Evaluation

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Question 1

Which statement demonstrates that a parent understands the diagnosis of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder?

A. “My child will never be able to graduate or go to college but may be able to learn a vocational skill.”
B. “My child’s performance will improve in a structured setting that provides rewards for appropriate behavior.”
C. “Nothing is wrong with my child. The school hasn’t provided qualified teachers and classroom settings.”
D. “My child is just going through a stage. This problem will go away with time.”

Question 1 (Cont.)

C. “Nothing is wrong with my child. The school hasn’t provided qualified teachers and classroom settings.”
D. “My child is just going through a stage. This problem will go away with time.”

Audience Response Questions

1. Which child would be most difficult to diagnose for a neurodevelopmental disorder?
   A. 3 year old
   B. 5 year old
   C. 8 year old
   D. 12 year old
2. A 4-year-old frequently lashes out in anger at adults and other children. This child’s style of behavior is an aspect of

A. neurobiology.
B. temperament.
C. resilience.
D. culture.