Examination Questions for the "Mental Health" Module for 5th-Year Students of the Faculty of General Medicine, Belarusian State Medical University (2026/2027 Academic Year)

General questions

1. Psychiatry and narcology as a discipline: main tasks. The main historical stages of psychiatry and narcology development in the world, USSR, Belarus. Prominent figures in psychiatry (E. Krepelin, E. Bleiler, M. Balinsky, V. Kandinsky, S. Korsakov, V. Bekhterev).
2. The main modern directions in psychiatry: nosological, syndromological, eclectic ("pragmatic"), psychoanalytic, antipsychiatric.
3. ICD-10 structure, mental disorders and behavioral disorders.
4. The concept of non-constraint in psychiatry. Stigma and discrimination of people with mental disorders, destigmatization. Hospitalism and deinstitutionalization.
5. Psychiatric help and drug addiction treatment in the Republic of Belarus: organizational structure. "Mental health care law" in the Republic of Belarus: main regulations. Mental health presumption, voluntary treatment. General practitioners' management of mental disorders: options and obstacles.
6. Mental and behavioral disorders: psychoprophylaxis (primary, secondary, tertiary) and medical-labour expert commission. Psychiatric rehabilitation.
7. Admission to a psychiatric hospital: terms and conditions. Forced hospitalization. Main requirements for a psychiatric examination. Military-psychiatric expert examination.
8. Forensic psychiatric expert examination. Imputability, non-imputability, dispositive legal capacity and lack of dispositive legal capacity. Compulsory security and treatment measures in psychiatry.
9. Mental and behavioral disorders: biopsychosocial determinants. Endophenotype. Course and outcomes of mental and behavioral disorders. Multiaxial classification of psychiatric disorders.
10. Epidemiology of mental and behavioral disorders, including narcological. The global burden of disease. Social filters for mental and behavioral disorders. Comorbidity.
11. Interaction of genetic and environmental factors in the pathogenesis of mental and behavioral disorders. Epigenetic mechanisms of mental and behavioral disorders.
12. Mentally ill patients with refusing to eat, suicidal tendencies and aggressive behavior: patient care approaches.

13. Assessment approaches in psychiatry (clinical, experimental-psychological). Assessment of thinking, memory, attention and intelligence.
14. Paraclinical methods of assessment in psychiatry (neurovisualization, EEG, cerebrospinal fluid assessment).
15. Mental and behavioral disorders: the concept of symptoms and syndromes and their diagnostic value. The main psychopathological syndromes (asthenic, affective, anxiety-phobic, obsessive-compulsive, cerebrosthenic).
16. The concept of psychosis and neurosis: a fundamental differences and it implication in modern psychiatry.
17. Sensory disturbances (senestopathy, paresthesia, hyposthesia, hyperesthesia). Perceptual disorders (illusions, hallucinations, pseudo-hallucinations, and agnosia).
18. Psychosensory disorders. Depersonalization and derealization.
19. Differential diagnosis of hallucinations and pseudo-hallucinations. Syndrome of the psychic automatism (Kandinsky-Clerambo syndrome).
20. Disorders of thinking (pressure of thought, poverty of thoughts, tangentiality, circumstial thinking, ambivalence, autistic thinking, flight of ideas, word salad, mentism, thought block, paralogical and symbolic thinking, verbegeration, neologisms). Speech Disorders.
21. Overvalued ideas. Mania, obsessions, compulsions. Delusions: definition and classification.
22. Disorders of mood (apathy, euphoria, dysphoria, emotional lability, inappropriate affect, ambivalence, pathological affect)
23. Depressive and manic syndromes. Somatic symptoms of depression. Atypical depression.
24. Pathology of instincts. Disorders of volition. Catatonic motor symptoms: stereotyped movements, waxy flexibility, posturing, negativism, stupor, echolalia and echopraxia.
25. Disorders of attention. Disorders of memory. Korsakoff's syndrome. Disorders of intellect: mental retardation, dementia.
26. Quantitative changes of consciousness: obnubilation, somnolence, sopor, and coma. Syncope, hypnosis. Pathological affect.
27. Delirium, oneroid syndrome, amentia: clinical features. Twilight state of consciousness. Pathological intoxication. Pathological affect.

Specific questions

28. Early recognition of mental disorders. Early signs of schizophrenia.
29. Schizophrenia: etiopathogenesis, general diagnostic criteria, clinical forms, types of course.

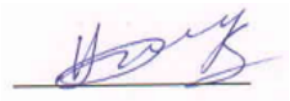
30. Schizophrenia: pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatment approaches.
31. Bipolar disorder, cyclothymia. Clinical features. Treatment.
32. Recurrent depressive disorder, dysthymia. Clinical features. Treatment.
33. Mental disorders with exogenous etiology: clinical features, course and outcome. Epileptic psychosis: clinical features.
34. Infections and intoxication related psychosis: clinical features and course.
35. Acute and chronic organic brain syndrome (delirium and dementia): etiology, clinical features, treatment.
36. Mental disorders of an old age. Alzheimer's disease. Vascular dementia. Diagnostics, differential diagnostics, treatment.
37. Mental disorders related to acute and long-term period of traumatic brain injury.
38. Mental retardation: etiology and degrees of severity. Delayed mental development.
39. Types of psychomotor agitation. Emergency care.
40. Substance dependence syndrome: general criteria and main etiological factors. Syndrome of altered reactivity, mental and physical dependence.
41. Alcohol intoxication: clinical features. Expert examination of alcohol intoxication. Treatment of alcohol intoxication.
42. Alcohol withdrawal syndrome: clinical features, complications, treatment.
43. Alcohol dependence: pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatment. Alcohol dependence outcomes.
44. Opioids: mechanism of action, intoxication symptoms, withdrawal symptoms, dependence. Treatment of overdose, withdrawal syndrome and addiction.
45. Mental and behavioral disorders due to the use of cannabinoids. Synthetic cannabinoids. Clinical features of dependence and it consequences. Treatment.
46. Mental and behavioral disorders due to the use of psychostimulants. New psychostimulants (cathinones). Treatment of intoxication and dependence.
47. Nicotine: intoxication symptoms, consequences of use, symptoms of dependence, treatment.
48. Antipsychotics (neuroleptics): mechanism of action and clinical effects. Typical and atypical antipsychotics. Depot antipsychotics. Antipsychotics in general medicine.
49. Side effects and complications of antipsychotic therapy (neuroleptics): parkinsonism, akathisia, acute dystonia, tardive dyskinesia, malignant neuroleptic syndrome. Side effects of atypical antipsychotics. Management of common adverse effects.

50. Antidepressants: classification and mechanisms of action. Side effects. Serotonin syndrome. Practical approach to prescribing antidepressants. Indications in psychiatry and general medicine.
51. Anxiolytics (tranquilizers). Mechanisms of action and clinical effects. Side effects. Indications in psychiatry and general medicine.
52. Types of medications used for dementia treatment.
53. Mood stabilizers: classification, mechanisms of action, side effects.
54. Non-pharmacological treatment in psychiatry: electroconvulsive therapy, rehabilitation, transcranial magnetic stimulation, deep brain stimulation, etc. Personalized psychiatry. Psychotherapy.

Differential diagnosis and comorbidity

55. Differential diagnosis: enduring personality change after schizophrenic psychosis and disorders of adult personality and behavior.
56. Differential diagnosis: enduring personality change after schizophrenic psychosis and enduring personality change after catastrophic experience (as a result of post-traumatic stress disorder).
57. Differential diagnosis: enduring personality change after epilepsy and disorders of adult personality and behavior.
58. Differential diagnosis: mental retardation with significant impairment of behavior requiring attention and treatment and disorders of adult personality and behavior.
59. Differential diagnosis: organic personality disorder and disorders of adult personality and behavior.
60. Differential diagnosis: depression and grief.
61. Differential diagnosis: depression and adjustment disorder.
62. Differential diagnosis: persistant delusional disorder and somatoform disorders (somatization disorder, undifferentiated somatoform disorder, hypochondriacal disorder, persistent somatoform pain disorder).
63. Differential diagnosis: epilepsy with generalized seizures and dissociative convulsions.
64. Differential diagnosis: accentuation of personality traits and personality disorders.
65. Differential diagnosis: organic anxiety disorder and generalized anxiety disorder/panic disorder.
66. Differential diagnosis: organic dissociative disorder and dissociative (conversion) disorders.
67. Differential diagnosis: organic emotionally labile disorder and neurasthenia.
68. Differential diagnosis: schizophrenia and obsessive-compulsive disorder.

69. Comorbidity between affective disorders and anxiety disorders (phobia, generalized anxiety disorders, panic disorders).
70. Comorbidity between eating disorders and disorders of adult personality and behavior.
71. Comorbidity between eating disorders and anxiety disorders.
72. Comorbidity between substance dependence and disorders of adult personality and behavior.
73. Comorbidity between substance dependence and neurotic disorders (mixed anxiety and depressive disorder, phobic anxiety disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder).
74. The link between psychotic disorders and substance use.

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31.08.2026