

Exam questions on the module "Mental health" for 5th year students of the Medical Faculty of Foreign Students of BSMU (2025/2026)

General questions

1. Subject and tasks of psychiatry and narcology. Major historical stages in the development of psychiatry and narcology worldwide.
2. Epidemiology of mental and behavioral disorders.
3. Rules of medical ethics and deontology in psychiatry. Ethical aspects of interaction with staff and patients.
4. Organizational structure of psychiatric and narcology services in the Republic of Belarus.
5. Main provisions of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On the Provision of Psychiatric Care" (presumption of mental health, voluntary treatment, rights and obligations of physician and patient, medical confidentiality).
6. Procedure for psychiatric examination. Involuntary psychiatric examination. Reasons for involuntary hospitalization in a psychiatric inpatient facility.
7. Main modern approaches in psychiatry: nosological, syndromological, eclectic ("pragmatic"), psychoanalytic, antipsychiatric. Structure of ICD-10.
8. Psychoprophylaxis of mental and behavioral disorders (primary, secondary, tertiary). Rehabilitation of people with mental disorders.
9. Medical and labor expertise in mental and behavioral disorders.
10. Main provisions of military-psychiatric expertise.
11. Forensic psychiatric examination and procedure for its conduct. The concepts of sanity and insanity, legal capacity and incapacity, criteria. Compulsory security and treatment measures.
12. The internal picture of illness. Personality reaction to illness.
13. Epidemiology of suicides. Suicide. Parasuicide. Suicidal crisis. Principles and methods of crisis intervention.
14. Grief as a psychological phenomenon. Grief reaction. Dynamics of normal grieving. Assistance.
15. Pathological grief reaction. Predisposing factors. Treatment.
16. Concept of psychological defense mechanisms. Individual forms (denial, projection, primitive isolation, primitive idealization and devaluation, dissociation, conversion, repression, sublimation, regression, affect isolation, rationalization, compensation and hypercompensation).
17. Assessment methods in psychiatry (clinical, experimental-psychological). Examination of thinking, memory, attention, intelligence. Paraclinical assessment methods in psychiatry (neuroimaging, EEG, cerebrospinal fluid diagnostics).

General psychopathology questions

18. Concept of symptoms and syndromes of mental and behavioral disorders. Positive and negative symptoms. Concepts of psychosis and neurosis—fundamental differences, use in modern psychiatry.
19. Quantitative and qualitative disorders of sensations (hypoesthesia, hyperesthesia, anesthesia, cenesthopathies, paresthesias, phantom syndrome) in mental and behavioral disorders.
20. Perception disorders. Illusions. Classification by modality and levels of development.
21. Perception disorders. Hallucinations. Classification by modality, complexity, and occurrence conditions.

22. Perception disorders. Hallucinations. Classification by mechanism of development. Differential diagnosis of true and pseudo-hallucinations.
23. Perception disorders. Psychosensory disorders.
24. Perception disorders. Depersonalization and derealization in mental and behavioral disorders.
25. Quantitative and qualitative attention disorders (aprosexia, hypoprosexia, hyperprosexia, paraprosexias) in mental and behavioral disorders.
26. Quantitative memory disorders in mental and behavioral disorders. Special phenomena associated with memory (eidetic memory, flashbacks).
27. Qualitative memory disorders in mental and behavioral disorders (pseudoreminiscences, confabulations, cryptomnesia). Clinical presentation of the amnesic (Korsakoff) syndrome.
28. Thought disorders by coherence and goal-directedness (circumstantiality, derailment, incoherence, ambivalence, speech iterations, rumination, symbolic and paralogical thinking), and by speed.
29. Thought disorders by content. Delusions. Classification of delusions by mechanism of formation, degree of systematization, content, and storyline. Paranoid syndrome in mental and behavioral disorders.
30. Thought disorders by content. Dominant ideas. Overvalued ideas in mental and behavioral disorders. Difference from delusional ideas.
31. Thought disorders by content. Obsessive phenomena (mania, obsessions, compulsions, phobias) in mental and behavioral disorders.
32. Syndrome of mental automatism (Kandinsky-Clérambault syndrome) in mental and behavioral disorders. Paraphrenic syndrome in mental and behavioral disorders.
33. Congenital intellectual disabilities in mental and behavioral disorders.
34. Acquired intellectual impairments in mental and behavioral disorders.
35. Quantitative and qualitative emotional disorders (hyperthymia, hypothymia, apathy, affect, anhedonia, euphoria, dysphoria, ambivalence) in mental and behavioral disorders.
36. Individual features of emotional responsiveness (emotional weakness, emotional lability, irritable weakness, emotional hardening, emotional coldness).
37. Kraepelin's depressive and manic triad. Somatic syndrome of depression and its clinical significance.
38. Quantitative and qualitative volitional disorders in mental and behavioral disorders. Catatonic syndrome.
39. Impulse control disorders in mental and behavioral disorders.
40. Quantitative disorders of consciousness. Obnubilation. Somnolence. Sopor. Coma. Stupor. Affectively narrowed consciousness.
41. Qualitative disorders of consciousness. Clinical presentation of delirious and amentive syndromes of clouded consciousness.
42. Qualitative disorders of consciousness. Twilight states: organized and disorganized. Exceptional states (pathological intoxication, pathological affect).
43. Qualitative disorders of consciousness. Clinical presentation of oneiroid syndrome.
44. Major psychopathological syndromes (asthenic/cerebrosthenic, anxiety-phobic) in mental and behavioral disorders.
45. Major psychopathological syndromes (obsessive-compulsive, apatho-abulic) in mental and behavioral disorders.

Clinical psychiatry and medical psychology questions

46. Schizophrenia. Epidemiology. Etiology and pathogenesis. First rank symptoms.
47. Schizophrenia. Epidemiology. Etiology and pathogenesis. Second rank symptoms.
48. Schizophrenia. Clinical forms. Types of course. Age-related features of clinical picture and course.
49. Schizophrenia. Treatment (pharmacotherapy, non-pharmacological methods). Prognosis. Prevention. Rehabilitation.

50. Persistent personality changes after mental illness. Mechanism of formation. Clinical picture. Therapeutic strategy.
51. Acute and transient psychotic disorders. Clinical picture. Treatment.
52. Chronic delusional disorder. Schizoaffective disorder. Induced delusional disorder. Clinical picture. Treatment.
53. Epidemiology and etiopathogenesis of affective disorders. Depressive episode. Clinical picture. Severity levels. Treatment.
54. Epidemiology and etiopathogenesis of affective disorders. Manic episode. Clinical picture. Course types. Treatment.
55. Bipolar affective disorder. Clinical picture of bipolar disorder types I and II. Treatment.
56. Recurrent depressive disorder. Clinical picture. Treatment.
57. Chronic mood disorders. Clinical picture. Treatment.
58. Dissociative amnesia. Dissociative fugue. Etiopathogenesis. Clinical picture. Treatment.
59. Dissociative stupor. Etiopathogenesis. Clinical picture. Treatment.
60. Dissociative motor and sensory disorders. Etiopathogenesis. Clinical picture. Treatment.
61. Neurasthenia. Epidemiology. Etiopathogenesis. Clinical picture. Treatment.
62. Generalized anxiety disorder. Epidemiology. Clinical picture. Treatment.
63. Panic disorder. Epidemiology. Clinical picture. Treatment.
64. Agoraphobia. Epidemiology. Clinical forms. Clinical picture. Treatment.
65. Simple (isolated) and social phobias. Epidemiology. Clinical picture. Treatment.
66. Obsessive-compulsive disorder. Epidemiology. Etiopathogenesis. Clinical picture. Treatment.
67. Somatic symptom disorder. Clinical picture. Treatment.
68. Undifferentiated somatic symptom disorder. Clinical picture. Treatment.
69. Illness anxiety disorder (hypochondriasis). Clinical picture. Treatment.
70. Somatoform autonomic dysfunction. Clinical picture. Treatment.
71. Somatic symptom disorder with predominant pain (chronic somatoform pain disorder). Clinical picture. Treatment.
72. Psychosomatic disorders. Classic psychosomatic disorders. Alexithymia. Phenomenon of "escape into illness".
73. Infections and substance-induced psychotic disorders. Clinical picture, patterns of progression.
74. Mental disorders in post-traumatic brain injury (TBI) patients: acute and post-acute (long-term) periods of TBI.
75. Mental disorders in somatic diseases.
76. Organic mental disorders. Organic hallucinosis, organic dissociative disorder, organic anxiety disorder. Clinical picture. Treatment.
77. Organic mental disorders. Organic delusional (schizophreniform) disorder. Clinical picture. Treatment.
78. Organic mental disorders. Organic catatonic disorder. Clinical picture. Treatment.
79. Organic mental disorders. Organic emotionally labile (asthenic) disorder, organic mood (affective) disorder. Clinical picture. Treatment.
80. Organic personality disorder. Clinical picture. Therapeutic techniques of management.
81. Dementia. Epidemiology. General diagnostic criteria.
82. Dementia in Alzheimer's disease. Etiopathogenesis. Clinical forms. Clinical picture. Treatment.
83. Vascular dementia. Etiopathogenesis. Clinical forms. Clinical picture. Treatment.
84. Organic amnesic syndrome. Etiopathogenesis. Clinical picture. Treatment. Outcomes.
85. Organic delirium. Etiopathogenesis. Clinical picture. Treatment.
86. Intellectual disability (mental retardation). Epidemiology. Etiopathogenesis. Clinical picture. Diagnostics. Levels of intellectual disabilities. Treatment. Concept of delayed mental development.
87. Mental and behavioral disorders due to psychoactive substances use in ICD-10. Epidemiology.

88. Acute intoxication due to psychoactive substances use. Consumption of psychoactive substances with harmful effects. Diagnostic criteria.
89. Dependence syndrome due to psychoactive substances use. General diagnostic criteria.
90. Clinical picture of alcohol intoxication. Alcohol intoxication examination. Treatment of alcohol intoxication.
91. Alcohol withdrawal syndrome. Complicated alcohol withdrawal state. Psychotic disorder due to alcohol consumption. Clinical picture. Treatment.
92. Main (pharmacological and non-pharmacological) methods of treatment of patients with alcohol dependence syndrome. Outcomes of alcohol dependence.
93. Acute opioid intoxication. Opioid dependence syndrome. Clinical picture. Overdose treatment. Opioid withdrawal syndrome. Clinical picture. Treatment.
94. Acute cannabis intoxication. Cannabinoids dependence syndrome. Synthetic cannabinoids. Clinical picture. Treatment.
95. Hypnotics and sedatives dependence. Clinical picture. Treatment.
96. Acute psychostimulants intoxication. Psychostimulants dependence. New psychostimulants (cathinones). Clinical picture. Treatment of intoxication. Psychotic disorder due to psychostimulants intoxication. Clinical picture. Treatment.
97. Amnesic syndrome due to psychoactive substances use. Clinical picture. Treatment. Outcomes.
98. Residual psychotic disorders due to psychoactive substances use. Clinical types.
99. Disorders of adult personality and behavior. Epidemiology. Etiopathogenesis. General diagnostic criteria.
100. Disorders of adult personality and behavior, specific personality disorders.
101. Acute stress reaction. Clinical picture. Therapeutic techniques of management.
102. Adjustment disorders. Clinical picture.
103. Post-traumatic stress disorder. Clinical picture.
104. Enduring personality changes after catastrophic experience. Mechanism of formation. Clinical picture. Therapeutic techniques of management.
105. Eating disorders. Anorexia nervosa. Epidemiology. Etiopathogenesis. Clinical picture. Treatment.
106. Eating disorders. Bulimia nervosa. Epidemiology. Etiopathogenesis. Clinical picture. Treatment.
107. Eating disorders. Pathological/compulsive overeating (binge eating disorder). Epidemiology. Etiopathogenesis. Clinical picture. Treatment.
108. Antipsychotics. Mechanisms of action and clinical effects. Typical and atypical antipsychotics. Long-acting injectable (depot) forms.
109. Side effects and complications of antipsychotic therapy: parkinsonism, akathisia, acute dystonia, tardive dyskinesia, neuroleptic malignant syndrome. Side effects of atypical antipsychotics. Treatment of side effects.
110. Antidepressants. Classification. Mechanisms of action. Side effects. Serotonin syndrome. Tactics of prescribing antidepressants.
111. Benzodiazepine and non-benzodiazepine anxiolytics (tranquilizers). Mechanisms of action. Clinical effects. Side effects.
112. Mood stabilizers. Groups. Mechanisms of action. Side effects.
113. Pharmacological treatment of dementia.
114. Hypnotics (sleeping pills). Classification. Mechanisms of action.
115. Non-pharmacological methods of treatment in psychiatry: electroconvulsive therapy (ECT), rehabilitation interventions, transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), deep brain stimulation (DBS), etc. Personalized psychiatry. Psychotherapy.

Differential diagnosis and comorbidity

116. Differential diagnosis of depressive episode and dementia.

117. Differential diagnosis of delirium and dementia.
118. Differential diagnosis of depressive episode and grief reaction.
119. Differential diagnosis of depressive episode and adjustment disorder.
120. Differential diagnosis of generalized epileptic seizures and dissociative seizures (psychogenic nonepileptic seizures), taking into account the mechanisms of their development.
121. Differential diagnosis of accentuation of personality traits and disorders of adult personality.
122. Differential diagnosis of organic emotionally labile disorder and neurasthenia (neurotic disorders).
123. Differential diagnosis of schizophrenia and obsessive-compulsive disorder.
124. Comorbidities in eating disorders.
125. Comorbidities in substance use disorders.

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