

Course Title/Code: **Clinical Decision Making in Psychotic Disorders (MMPH6197)**

Department: Psychiatry

Objective: Proper clinical decision making is essential to the optimal care for psychosis. Competence in organizing and interpreting complex clinical information is key to effective and decisive intervention strategy. This module will introduce a framework for clinical decision making in psychosis management, highlighting the principles and skills of case formulation. Participants will learn about methods involved in identifications and prioritization of clinical needs; exercises will be used to illustrate the analysis of complex clinical problems by identification of core versus incidental issues. The skills involved in case assessment, case formulation, and individualized care plan construction will be discussed in detail.

Content: **Clinical decision making**
Clinical decision making: general principles in decision making, rational and heuristic factors, common biases in clinical impressions. Real life clinical decision making. Common decisions in managements of psychotic disorders.

Deciding on interventions
Deciding on interventions, estimating intervention effectiveness, use of evidence based information in management decisions, Clinical pathways and guidelines, cost benefit analysis

Estimating prognosis
Estimating prognosis, outcome domains, predictors, construction of a life course analysis and prognostic estimation

Constructing case formulations
Evaluating clinical information
Advanced clinical information evaluation, Salient features in symptoms and history, Factors contribution to distortions in clinical information. Critical evaluation of information. Dealing with uncertainties.

Making careplans
Careplan construction, Individualization of care plan, forward planning, longitudinal evolution of careplan

Analyzing case histories
• Single case analysis, critical events, constructing critical path
Interactive case discussion

Advanced formulation case study: Etude I
Interactive case discussion

Learning outcomes

Knowledge

- Familiar with case formulation and care plan in management of first-episode psychosis.
- Understand the principle of clinical decision specific to psychosis at different stages.

Skills

- Develop skills in evaluating clinical information, making case formulation and care plans.

Prerequisite: None

Duration: 1 semester; 2.5 hours/week; 24 contact hours

Continuous assessment/examinationratio: Continuous assessments 40%
Written examinations 60%

Examination method and duration: Written examination / 1.5 hours