



Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Section - 2015

I21 Assessment and Treatment of Problematic Sexual Behaviors: An Update

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The goal of this presentation is to provide an update on the latest evidence-based approaches to assessment and treatment of adults with problematic sexual behaviors.

This presentation will impact the forensic science community by updating attendees on the evidence-based approaches to assessment and treatment of problematic sexual behaviors for practical application. In addition, it will ideally serve as an interactive method for the collection and exchange of methods and ideas among forensic professionals in the furtherance of developing a standardized guide with a wide consensus.

Although there are common recommendations for the content and methods of assessing and treating persons who have engaged in sexually offensive behavior, there is no universal standard or practice parameter. National and international associations have promulgated guidelines in the past, but not all who are engaged in assessment and treatment are members of such organizations; even among those who are, not all follow the recommendations. Consequently, practitioners and members of the legal community recommending, receiving recommendations for, and overseeing risk management activities are left with minimal, at times inadequate, and even conflicting guidance.

This presentation is presented by forensic practitioners who have experience with clinical, research, and educational facets of both assessment and treatment. This study will provide content that is evidence-based and in keeping with health care and forensic evaluation ethical standards. At the completion of this presentation, attendees will be provided an overview as well as the foundation to be able to: (1) identify the goals of assessing adults with sexual problems/offending behaviors; (2) identify components of comprehensive adult sexual problems/offending behavior assessments; (3) discuss strengths and weaknesses of assessment methods; (4) identify treatment targets; (5) develop a basic treatment plan addressing the application of both psychological and biological interventions; and, (6) discuss efficacy of various interventions and their respective strengths and shortcomings. Clinical, psychometric, and physiological assessment methods will be addressed to include penile plethysmography and polygraphy. For the treatment component, medication management will be included with attention given to use of antiandrogens and antigonadotropics for management of paraphilic symptoms. This presentation is intended to give behavioral science practitioners an overview of the tools available and procedures for their use in assessing and treating problematic sexual behaviors. Additionally, conducting this presentation interactively will serve as a means to elicit input from other forensic professionals in attendance as to their methods of conducting assessments and providing treatment to a unique population as there is active engagement in collecting such input with the goal of contributing to an eventual consensus practice guide.

Sex Offense, Assessment, Treatment