

## **AMERICAN BOARD OF MEDICAL PSYCHOLOGY**

**(In addition to the specific requirements for ABMP Board Certification, ABMP endorses the following training model and will be accepted as satisfying the educational and supervision requirements for board certification in medical psychology.) All applicants will have to have a transcript and internship and residency review, and the faculty may require prerequisites to start the program depending on the applicant's psychology and science background as an undergraduate and the nature of their graduate program. An Introduction to Medical Psychology pre-admission course (30 hours) is required of all applicants to orient them to the nature, expectations, and practice of Medical Psychology.**

### **A POST DOCTORAL MEDICAL PSYCHOLOGY TRAINING SHALL BE CONSISTENT WITH THE FOLLOWING COURSES CONSISTING OF 450 HOURS**

1. Basic anatomy and physiology (45 hrs)
2. Biochemistry (45 hrs)
3. Basic Pharmacology (45 hrs)
4. Clinical Medicine (45 hrs)
5. Diseases of the Cardiovascular System (45 hrs)
6. Diseases of the Hepatic and Renal Systems (45 hrs)
7. Diseases of the Respiratory System (45 hrs)
8. Interpreting Laboratory Studies and Physical Assessment (45 hrs)
9. Psychotropic Pharmacotherapy (45 hrs)
10. Interpreting Pharmacological Research and Prescribing Ethics. (45 hrs)
11. Electives (up to 3 courses). Depending on the accepted students pre-requisites and Health facility internships, practicum, residencies, and performance in the program, Up to 3 additional (30 hour each) electives in specific diagnostic groups, populations, And techniques may be added by faculty. These courses are designed to assist the Student with preparation for passing our required Oral and Written Examinatons.

### **TESTING REQUIREMENTS MUST INCLUDE ITEMS THAT EVALUATE THE FOLLOWING CLINICAL COMPETENCIES**

#### **1. PHYSICAL EXAM AND MENTAL STATUS**

Possess knowledge of a comprehensive physical examination and mental status evaluation.

#### **2. REVIEW OF SYSTEMS**

Possess knowledge and ability to systematically evaluate and document each of the major body systems resulting in appropriate assessment of the need for collaboration and linkage with other healthcare professionals and the development of an adequate comprehensive treatment plan.

**3. MEDICAL HISTORY INTERVIEW AND DOCUMENTATION**

Ability to systematically conduct a patient and family medical history and to communicate the findings in written and verbal form.

**4. ASSESSMENT: INDICATIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

Ability to order and interpret appropriate tests (e.g., psychometric and laboratory) to aid in the prescribing of a medication, and the scientifically indicated psychological treatments that accompany established diagnoses.

**5. DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS**

Use of appropriate processes, including established diagnostic criteria (e.g., ICD-9, or its future iterations) to determine primary and alternate diagnoses which are required to establish a scientifically validated set of treatment interventions that are components of a treatment plan.

**6. INTEGRATED TREATMENT PLANNING**

Ability to utilize all available data to select the most appropriate treatment alternatives. This requires, not only compiling assessment data, but getting authorizations to access and evaluate (when available) data from past injury, treatments, reactions to treatment, and lab work that would be helpful in accurate and effective treatment planning.

**7. CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION**

Developing and understanding how a medical psychologist works with other professionals in a healthcare leadership, or an advisory, or collaborative manner to effect scientifically validated, clinically necessary, and highest probability of success treatment of a patient.

**8. TREATMENT MANAGEMENT**

Application, monitoring and modification, as needed, of treatments provided by the Medical Psychologist, their program, and their treatment team.

**9. REVIEW OF RELEVANT RESEARCH**

The ability to evaluate and utilize unbiased psychological, basic science, pharmacological and psychopharmacological research studies resulting in safer and better care for patients.

**10. HEALTHCARE TEAM LEADERSHIP AND FACILITY PRACTICE RULES AND STATUTE**

Medical Psychologists will be leaders in Hospitals, Primary Care Centers, Residential Care Centers, Nursing Facilities, and Group Practices. They will need clear and usable knowledge and skills related to healthcare law, rule and regulation, federal and state program participation and reimbursement systems, and administrative practice. This will be essential to acting as facility, clinical program, and clinical monitoring and evaluation

necessary to advocate for patients with mental illness, substance abuse disorders, and the psychological factors affecting chronic physical illness.

### **SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS**

A training program for prescriptive authority must include an appropriate period of supervision under a licensed healthcare professional authorized to prescribe psychotropic medications. A minimum of 1500 hours equivalent to one year of full time practice of supervision is required. Physicians, psychiatrists, nurse practitioners and medical psychologists with prescriptive authority are suitable to provide this supervision. The collaborative supervision must include opportunities for the medical psychology trainee to evaluate a patient's medication and psychological needs, when necessary, and opportunities to prescribe medications for a wide variety of patients who present with the types of mental health issues typically encountered in mental health practice.

