

**Margaret H. Rollins School of Nursing  
N201 Nursing Care of Special Populations  
MENTAL HEALTH NURSING**

**Class Preparation**

**Directions: Answer the following questions:**

1. What is your perception of an individual with a mental illness?

I have respect for individuals with a mental illness. They deserve respect, compassion, and definitely understanding. Mental illness is a health condition that affects a person thinking, feeling, behavior, or mood. But it doesn't define who they are as a person.

2. What would you say to a depressed client who was admitted to a psychiatric facility after attempting suicide?

It's important to show sensitivity and empathy. Let the client know that he/she is not alone, that there is support. To tell them that their feelings are completely valid and to encourage them to talk about their feelings. Also let them know that it's better to work together.

Listen, validate their emotions, and offer reassurance.

3. What is a Mental Status Examination?

It's to help dx and monitor s/s of a mental illness that assesses patient behavioral and cognitive functioning. An exam that asks you about personal info, appearance, behavior, speech, mood, disorders by the way/how you think, perceptual disturbances (hallucinations/illusions), cognition, and ideas of harming self/others.

**Directions:** Identify the following key terms associated with caring for patients with mental illness and substance use disorders in general practice settings with the descriptions or definitions listed below.

a. diagnostic overshadowing

e. social distancing

b. patient-centered care

f. stigmatization

c. screening

g. suicide prevention

d. SBIRT

h. trauma-informed care

  B   1. A concept that requires nurses and other healthcare professionals to listen to and empower the patient in decision making around his or her care and establish a collaborative partnership

  F   2. An attitude of devaluing a person because of a particular characteristic or illness

  D   3. An evidence-based approach referring to screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment

  A   4. A phenomenon in which a person's physical symptoms are attributed to his or her mental illness

- \_\_\_G\_\_\_ 5. Methods of assessment for suicide risk and for differentiating between suicide ideation and attempts
- \_\_\_H\_\_\_ 6. Care that assesses for and demonstrates sensitivity to the impact of trauma history on current behavior and relationships in every aspect of nursing intervention
- \_\_\_C\_\_\_ 7. The identification of clinically significant symptoms that require further assessment and intervention
- \_\_\_E\_\_\_ 8. An aspect of stigma that refers to the tendency of healthcare workers and others to avoid people with mental illness or addiction