

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?
My perception of an individual with a mental illness is someone who may have experienced a traumatic or life-changing event. This occurrence has caused them to change emotionally, which negatively impacts their daily routine or other societal factors/activities.
2. What would you say to a depressed client who was admitted to a psychiatric facility after attempting suicide?
If a depressed client were admitted to a psychiatric facility after attempting suicide, I would want to assure the patient that they are in a safe environment where people care about them, want to help, and want to try to understand the situation. I would also provide active listening skills in order for the client to explain their situation.
3. What is a Mental Status Examination?
A mental status examination is an assessment done to determine a client's cognitive and behavioral function. This examination includes topics such as appearance, behaviors, alertness, motor function, speech, mood, affect, thought process and content, perception, cognition, and judgment. During the exam, a nurse has to identify any acute issues that require immediate action, such as suicide. The exam must also be taken in a place that assures the client that they are safe and comfortable.

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