October 5
Clinical Implications of Neuroscience Research for Treating PTSD

Bessel A. van der Kolk, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry, Boston University School of Medicine
Director/Medical Director, Trauma Center
Director, National Complex Trauma Network, National Child Traumatic Stress Network
Chair NCTSN DSM 5 workgroup on Developmental Trauma Disorder

Introducer: Jill Opalesky, MS

Learning Objectives:
- Describe the range of adaptations to trauma early in the life cycle; explain how trauma affects the developing mind and brain
- Participants will gain a basic understanding of ways that childhood traumatic experience impacts brain development and functioning
- Discuss what brain science teaches us about how trauma is remembered and changes the processing of subsequent experience
- Participants will be exposed to the potential role of both traditional and innovative techniques in the future of the field of traumatic stress. Summarize treatment strategies alternatives to drugs and talk therapy.

October 12
VCU Departments of Psychiatry and Anatomy & Neurobiology Present Joint Grand Rounds: Paradise Lost: The Neurobiology of Child Abuse and Neglect

Charles B. Nemeroff, M.D., Ph.D.
Leonard M. Miller Professor and Chairman
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Clinical Director, Center on Aging
Chief of Psychiatry, Jackson Memorial Hospital
Chief of Psychiatry, University of Miami Hospital
Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine
University of Miami
Professor of Psychiatry
Director, Institute of Early Life Adversity Research
Dell Medical School, University of Texas at Austin

Introducer: Joel Silverman, M.D.
James Asa Shield, Jr. Chairman, Department of Psychiatry, Virginia Commonwealth University

Learning Objectives:
- Discuss how genetic polymorphisms and epigenetics affect psychiatric disease vulnerability
- Explain how a gene variation affects brain development and function so that the risk of a depressive episode or PTSD is increased
- Describe how early life experience produces persistent CNS alterations and its implications
October 19

Use and Abuse of Stimulant Medications

Sandra Mullen, PharmD, BCPP
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
Clinical Assistant Professor, VCU School of Pharmacy
Clinical Assistant Professor, VCU School of Medicine
Introducer: Cheryl Al-Mateen, M.D.

Learning Objectives:
- Compare stimulant abuse and misuse in patients with attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder and the general population
- Examine the effects of psychostimulants on the brain
- Identify risk factors for stimulant abuse and misuse
- Differentiate between common adverse effects and effects associated with stimulant abuse

October 26

A Missing Piece: An Understanding and History of Psychopathy

Keyhill Sheorn, MD
Clinical Professor of Psychiatry
Director, Psychotherapy Training
Virginia Commonwealth University
Introducer: William Nay, Ph.D.

Learning Objectives:
- Review the origin of the term and diagnostic understanding of psychopathy
- Examine some of the earlier history of the treatment of psychopaths
- Consider if psychiatry has come far enough in the understanding or treatment of people with this disorder