

Guidelines in Psychiatric Management

SASOP under the management of P3 (Psychiatrists in Private Practice) and the Academic Task Team under the supervision and peer review of the Clinical Peer Review Committee of P3, has published its first set of guidelines for the management of the most common psychiatric disorders in South Africa.

The process has been a long and difficult process initiated, planned and conducted by psychiatrists in private and public practice.

The process started with a weekend workshop of the Clinical Peer Review Committee at Glenburne Lodge in the Cradle of Mankind from 15 - 18 June 2006. The Clinical Peer Review Committee P3 (CPRCP3) consists of 20 psychiatrists.

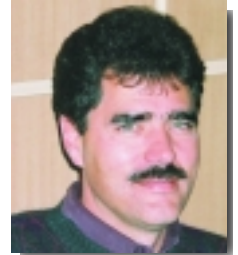
The CPRCP3 invited several other role players, including 10 Academic psychiatrists from the public sector and Universities, Clinical Psychologists, General Practitioners, Medical Advisors from Medical Schemes, Medical Advisors from Pharmaceutical Companies, Occupational Therapists and other interested professionals.

During this weekend a draft format was formulated and agreed upon.

Over the next 20 months a core group of psychiatrists and psychologists worked on the guidelines and algorithms and they are finally published.

The SASOP P3 psychiatric guidelines and algorithms will be available on the SASOP website, on the open section for free access, a CD will be available and a short pocket guide will be available with the algorithms and references.

The intention is not to set a "cookbook" guideline, but to assist psychiatrists, GP's, psychologists, medical schemes, managed healthcare organisations and others to manage patients with psychiatric problems appropriately in the South African context. ◆



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