**Colleague Alexis M response to week 8 discussion post**

Biological mental disorders affect millions of individuals through the world. These disorders can be dealt with if caught early enough and go through proper care. If not taken seriously, these disorders can be crippling to most individuals and cause life altering changes that effect not only the individual that is diagnosed, but all those that care for that person, i.e., loved ones, and other immediate family. Because of this there is a major push in research in development in hopes of finding a cure for these mental disorders. Although drugs are always the center of controversy, there are both negative and positive values to these drugs, my standpoint on pharmacological treatment is that it can be beneficial. I believe that if caught early and treated early, you can get optimum results from a strict regime with medication.

            Some examples of where medication is helpful would be in treatment towards Alzheimer’s disease. Donzepezil, rivastigmine, and galantamine are treatments for AD, some key factors in progressive AD is the deterioration of cholinergic neurons and other key factors are led to believe in a person’s cognitive decline, these medications is to increase in cholinergic levels by increasing acetylcholinesterase (AChE) which helps slow the progress of degradation (Sharma, 2019). Other disorders that individuals deal with on a daily basis is ADHD. Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder affects children, adolescents, and adults daily, its usually defined as the inability to concentrate for long periods of time and impulsivity (Haertling, et al., 2015). Because of its impact on daily living people utilize Ritalin. People with ADHD are thought to have too many dopamine transporters in the brain (Gottlieb, 2001). Ritalin helps individuals by inhibiting those specific transporters, what this does I increase production of dopamine and NE in the synaptic cleft (Verghese, et al., 2020). My last example of treatments would be Xanax and its use for people that suffer from anxiety. The combination of GABA-A receptors with GABA produces an increase in chloride which is produced by the receptor, this conclusion creates an increase in GABA’s inhibitory effect by impacting the frequency of channel openings (Masiulis, et al., 2019).

            To every pharmacological drug there is a negative side effects as well. Some negative outcomes to these drugs is dependency. Drugs like Xanax and Ritalin are known to be abused and can be harmful if misused. Other negative features of medication is the side effects that come with them, many of the drugs share common side effects such as headaches, dizziness, G.I. complications and so forth. Effects like these may be overwhelming for some people, which can impede on progress being made. The problems with medication is the dilemma of prescribing to children, or adolescents. During this time period children and adolescents may be most vulnerable and susceptible to depression and possible suicide, it some key points are noted: high prevalence in suicidal ideation among children and adolescents who were untreated, 62% death with adversity and traumatic experience, depression during adolesce may lead to depression, and if untreated at childhood or adolescent increases the chances of developing personality disorders and make an individual dependent, antisocial, passive-aggressive, substance abuser, and historic personality disorders (Advokat, et al., 2018). The theories of psychology cover an array of different topics, professionals in the field aim to assist people with everyday living, but the root of ones conflicts may rely on other implications that are not biological and can be social and or cultural, or issues may be biological and one has to assist in teaching someone how to cope with their present dilemma, in the field of clinical psychology it can be viewed as helping with “problems of living” and the daily battle to accurately conclude a diagnosis is present (Borsboom, 2017). Ultimately the greatest challenge that is ahead is the continuation of drugs being prescribed to children, adolescents, and even adults. That possibility of one becoming dependent is a realistic challenge that is constantly present. I believe the equalizer to this will be time, I believe the further we get into testing, diagnosing, and research, the more accurate clinicians and other professionals will become in prescribing medication dosage and less misuse of medication along with dependency will be present.

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