

The Interface of Medicine and Psychiatry

Andrei Novac, M.D.

INTERFACE

- Theoretical Aspects : e.g., recent trends in psychiatry, medicalization; recent trends in medicine towards more holistic approaches
- Clinical Aspects : psychiatric diagnostic and treatment modalities which expedite and facilitate recovery of patients from other medical specialties

Some Major Areas of Concern

- Comorbidity of medical and psychiatric conditions (e.g., anxiety, depression)
- Somatization
- Traumatic stress and psychopathology
- Psychosocial and family support systems
- Liaison Psychiatry

Comorbidity

- Over 50% of patients who see a GP are suffering from depression and/or anxiety (also 1 in 10 new patients)
- Certain patients in hospitals at higher risk: cardiovascular diseases, cancer, post- partum, endocrine, AIDS, chronic pain, post accident trauma, etc.

Comorbid Statistics

- Cancer: 47% - a psychiatric disorder
- Stroke: 30% - depression
- Chronic pain: up to 60% - depression
- Fibromyalgia - over 50% anxiety & depression
- Cardiovascular diseases: Post-MI depression increases mortality by 3.5 times

For additional information regarding
this subject, please contact Dr. Novac
at anovacmd@gmail.com