

Division of Clinical Phenomenology
Annual Report: July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007

1. Highlights

Dr. Endicott gave an invited presentation on “Long-term Evaluation of Psychotropic Drugs in Major Psychiatric Disorders; Outcome Measures” at the International Society for CNS Clinical Trials and Methodology in July, 2006.

Dr. Endicott gave an invited presentation on “Quality of Life: What It Means and How It’s Assessed” as the 27th Annual Conference of the Anxiety Disorders Association of America.

The Quality of Life Enjoyment and Satisfaction Questionnaire, developed by Dr. Endicott’s group, is now available in 74 languages/dialects. It has been found to be very sensitive to differences in treatment efficacy of a wide variety of mental and other medical disorders.

Dr. Schechter found that among subjects who had no current mental disorder, those who had a past episode of a major disorder had significantly lower scores on the Quality of Life Enjoyment and Satisfaction Questionnaire than did those who were never mentally ill.

Dr. Hasin’s group found that ADH1B genotype interacted with age cohort in predicting lifetime drinking among Israeli adults. Among older Israelis, lifetime drinking was low and unrelated to ADH1B*2 genotype, the protective form of the allele. Among younger Israelis, those with homozygous or heterozygous ADH1B*2 had low drinking levels, but the mean drinking of younger Israelis with homozygous ADH1B*1 reached binge levels.

Dr. Hasin and colleagues at NIAAA found that the national prevalence of Borderline Personality Disorder was much higher than previously recognized, and was associated with substantial disability and comorbidity in men as well as women.

Drs. Hasin and Beseler found that drinking for social facilitation and to cope with negative affect predicted new onsets of alcohol dependence in a 10-year follow up of a community sample, but only among participants with a family history of alcohol problems.

Dr. Harkavy Friedman collaborated with the University of Oslo in Norway in a study of suicidal behavior in patients with schizophrenia and hosted visiting fellows from Norway.

Dr. Spinelli was selected to serve on the Advisory Board for the Strategic Work Group on Early Childhood Mental Health of New York City Department of Health, Mental Health.

Dr. Spinelli was elected as Member at Large: National Association for Behavioral Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Dr. Spinelli was named the new Director of the Center for Women’s Health in Psychiatry.

Dr. Spinelli agreed to serve as a consultant to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, District II/NY’s project “Enhancing Early Identification, Diagnosis and

Treatment of Perinatal Depression: Education and Resources for Women’s Healthcare Providers.”

Dr. Downey is the co-chair of the Committee on Human Sexuality for the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry, a national invitational organization for psychiatrists concerned about issues of social importance.

Drs. Spitzer and Williams’ analysis of a large primary care data set has yielded several indices shown to have construct, procedural, and concurrent validity. These indices, like the PHQ-9, should be of great help to clinicians and researchers.

Dr. First continued work on the preparations for the next revision of the DSM, directing the DSM-V Prelude Project (web site) and is on the steering committee of the DSM-V/ICD-11 research planning conferences.

Dr. Skodol found that persistent and adult onset personality disorders are associated with functional impairment among adults in the community.

Dr. Markowitz showed how personality disorders affect psychosocial functioning in patients with major depressive disorder over time.

Dr. Markowitz found that most patients with borderline personality disorder who completed a small 32-week trial of interpersonal psychotherapy no longer met criteria for borderline personality disorder.

Drs. Jaffee and Beebe received funding for the 9-11 Mothers and Young Children Project from four groups: Kenworthy-Swift Foundation, American Psychological Foundation, Camp Haze/Scott Hazelton Children’s Foundation and the American Psychoanalytic Fund.

Drs. Jaffee, Beebe and their group predicted 12-month and 4-year attachment and cognition from 4-month mother-infant and stranger-infant vocal rhythm coordination.

2. Professional Staff (Grouped by original departments)

Jean Endicott, PhD, Research Scientist VIII, Division Director

From Research Assessment and Training

Deborah Hasin, PhD., Research Scientist VI

Jennifer Downey, MD, Psychiatrist II

Margaret Spinelli, MD, Psychiatrist (Research) II

Jill Harkavy-Friedman, PhD, Research Scientist V

Raymond Getz, PhD., Research Scientist V

Dianne Schecter, PhD., Research Scientist IV

Donald Alderson, MS, Research Scientist IV

Efrat Aharonovich, PhD, Research Scientist IV

Jal Baksh, Associate Degree in Industrial Electronics and Computer Technology, Research Technician Level I-NL

Cheryl Beseler, PhD., Research Scientist Level III

Sharon Samet, MSW, Research Scientist IV

Hila Katz, Assistant Research Scientist

Yamilette Carmona, MA, Research Project Manager II

Julie Chipman, LCSW, Clinical Researcher III-NL

Alexandra Richard, BA, Research Support Assistant III

Eliana Greenstein, MA, Research Project Manager Level II

Marcela Hoffer-Adou, LMSW, Clinical Researcher Level III-NL

Katherine Keyes, MPH, Research Project Manager Level I

Barbara Lilliston, MSW., Clinical Researcher III-NL

Donna O'Shea, MS, Clinical Researcher III-NL

Quisqueya Meyreles, LCSW, Clinical Researcher Level III-NL

Susan Messina, LCSW, Clinical Researcher Level III-N

Joan Schulick, LCSW, Clinical Researcher III-NL

May Vega, LMSW, Clinical Researcher III-NL

Valerie Richmond MS, Research Technician

From Biometrics

Robert Spitzer, MD, Professor of Psychiatry

Janet Williams, DSW, Research Scientist VI

Michael First, MD, Research Psychiatrist II

From Personality Studies

Andrew E. Skodol, MD, Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry

John C. Markowitz, M.D., Research Psychiatrist II

Donna S. Bender, PhD, Research Scientist IV,

Anthea Paterniti, PhD, Research Technician L-II

Tracey Strasser Vorus, PhD, Research Scientist II

From Communication Sciences

Joseph Jaffee, MD, Research Scientist VIII

Beatrice Beebe, PhD, Clinical Professor of Medical Psychology

3. Overview

The Division of Clinical Phenomenology was formed during this past year by combining the staff of the following Departments: Research Assessment and Training, Biometrics, Personality Studies, and Communication Sciences. These groups share an interest in improving the evaluation of subject characteristics and identifying how various types of clinical phenomenology are related to diagnosis, severity of symptoms and impairment in functioning, course of illness, differential treatment response, and genetics. Members of the four groups also develop procedures and training materials to aid investigators in their assessment of both patients and nonpatients and consult with investigators within the medical center, nationally, and internationally. In addition, members of the Division are involved in many different substantive studies. Dr. Endicott and staff are involved in two large follow-up studies, the Collaborative Depression Study and the Treatment Resistant Depression Registry study. Both of these studies are focused upon course of illness, its predictors and evidence of the effects of differential treatment upon course of illness. Dr. Hasin heads a group investigating genetic, epidemiological, and clinical aspects of alcohol and drug use disorders and associated comorbidity. Dr. Spinelli's projects involve diagnosis and treatment of antipartum and postpartum disorders and premenstrual dysphoric disorder. Dr. Jill Harkavy-Friedman's work stresses assessment issues and methods for the study of major mental disorders, including bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, and major depression. Dr. Schechter studies mood and behavior along the menstrual cycle and characteristics of subjects who volunteer to serve as community control subjects. Dr. Downey is involved in research related to sexual behaviors of patients with and without bipolar disorders. Drs. Spitzer, Williams, and First focus on improving psychiatric classification, criteria for psychiatric diagnosis, and development of standardized instruments for evaluation of psychopathology. Drs. Skodol and Markowitz conduct research on personality traits and disorders and their relationship to impairment in social and occupational functioning. Dr. Markowitz is also involved in studies of the use of IPT in the treatment of mental disorders. Drs. Jaffee and Beebe examine nonverbal communication in their studies of maternal psychopathology and the origins of infant insecure attachment. Many of these ongoing projects involve collaboration with investigators in other departments within the medical school as well as at other facilities in the US and abroad.

4. Current Research

Dr. Endicott and the staff involved with the Collaborative Depression Study completed yearly evaluations on subjects admitted to the study in 1978-81. A new Master File of data from the study was distributed to the other sites and collaborating investigators. Many analyses of the long-term course of mood disorders were completed and others are underway. This group is also evaluating patients enrolled in the Treatment Resistant Depression Registry at baseline and 3, 6, 9, 12, 18, and 24 months thereafter.

Dr. Hasin's group is collecting data on gene x environment interaction effects on alcohol, nicotine and drug effects from a national sample in Israel.

Drs. Hasin and Aharonovich are conducting a randomized clinical trial of Motivational Interviewing augmented by participation in Interactive Voice Response as a drinking reduction intervention in HIV primary care clinics.

Dr. Hasin is working with investigators in Psychiatry, Epidemiology and Social Work and with colleagues at NIAAA on analyses of alcohol and drug disorders and related conditions in the National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions.

Dr. Spinelli's study of Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Antepartum Depression at 3 NYC sites is in its third year.

Dr. Downey is the principal investigator of a research study being performed by the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry Committee on Human Sexuality, "Psychiatrists' Knowledge of Patients' Sexual Experiences and Behavior."

Dr. Harkavy Friedman is involved in assisting investigators in determining appropriate assessment tools for the studies and providing training and ongoing supervision of clinical research interviewers, especially for studies of schizophrenia and of suicidal behavior. The international base for these studies now includes Norway, Israel and Taiwan.

Drs. Spitzer and Williams have continued their collaboration with Drs. Kurt Kroenke (Regenstrief Institute) and Bernd Loewe (University of Heidelberg) to develop measures for anxiety and depression utilizing large primary care data sets.

Dr. First continued to be involved in the research planning stages of the DSM-V revision process. He is co-principal investigator and a member of the Steering Committee overseeing the NIMH/NIDA/NIAAA-funded DSM-V/ICD-11 diagnostic and research conference co-operative agreement. He is also Director of the DSM-V Prelude Web-Based project established for the purpose of keeping the public informed about ongoing DSM-V developments and to allow submissions and proposals. Dr. First also co-edited the 2nd edition of the American Psychiatric Association's Handbook on Psychiatric Measures.

Drs. Skodol and Markowitz are involved in the Collaborative Longitudinal Personality Disorders Study (CLPS) which is in its 12th year.

Dr. Markowitz was involved in an open trial of extended (32-week) IPT for borderline personality disorder and the findings were promising. He also worked with Dr. Milrod and found that cluster C personality disorders moderate the outcome of psychoanalytically oriented psychotherapy for panic disorder.

Drs. Jaffe and Beebe have continued their studies of mother-infant vocal rhythm coordination as it is related to attachment. They also study self and interactive regulation in face to face communication and affects on child social development. Other studies are of stranger-infant interactions as a mild “challenge” in the contexts of maternal depression and insecure attachment. Their 9/11 mothers and young children project involves primary prevention programs with videotaped interactions of mother-child and therapist-child.

5. Education and Training

Dr. Hasin’s group provided mentoring and consultation and technical assistance to graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and junior faculty on use and analysis of the National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions data.

Sharon Samet, M.S.W. provided training to investigators and interviewers on use of the psychiatric Research interview for Substance and Mental Disorders (PRISM).

Dr. Spinelli gave formal classes to medical students, PGY 1’s and PGY4’s in the women’s program at the Intensive Outpatient service. She also supervised some cases.

Dr. Downey co-teaches (with Dr. Friedman) Human Sexual Development and Pathology which is a required course for PGY III Psychiatry Residents.

Dr. Harkavy Friedman teaches the Research Methodology and Statistics 2 courses to the students in the Columbia Psychiatry Fellowship Programs. She also gives lectures to medical students, residents and clinical psychology interns about research methods and suicidal behavior. In addition, she provides weekly supervision to one clinical psychology intern per year and leads the journal club discussion for Washington Heights Community Service at least twice annually. Nine different residents and fellows have participated in research with her this past year, including six from other countries (Taiwan, Norway, Denmark, and Spain).

Drs. Jaffee and Beebe provide internship opportunities for Columbia students, two of whom were interns last year in their lab and attended Dr. Beebe’s monthly seminars. They also sponsor PhD and PsyD dissertations of many students in clinical psychology drawn from various universities in the city.

6. Clinical Services

Patients who receive clinical services are involved in research projects.

7. Awards and Honors

Dr. Hasin became a member of the National Advisory Council at the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

Dr. Hasin was Chair of a symposium on marijuana research at the College of Problems on Drug Dependence.

Dr. Hasin was an invited speaker at the International Society for Biomedical Research on Alcoholism in Sydney, Australia.

Dr. Hasin was invited to speak on substance disorders and somatoform disorders at an American Psychiatric Association DSM-V Workgroup meeting in Beijing, China.

Dr. Hasin was a member of the Conference Expert Group, WHO/APIRE Conference on Public Health Aspects of Diagnosis and Classification.

Katherine Keyes was a Gordis Award finalist for pre-doctoral research at the Research Society on Alcoholism annual meeting.

Dr. Downey and Dr. Friedman gave an invited workshop on “Teaching the Sexual History to Psychiatric Residents” at the meeting of the American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training.

Dr. Beebe received the 2006 NIP Book Recognition Award for: (1) Beebe, B. & Lachmann, F (2002) *Infant Research and Adult Treatment: Co-Constructing Interactions*, Hillsdale, N.J.: Analytic Press., and (2) Beebe, B, Knoblauch, S, Rustin J, and Sorter D. (2005) *Forms of Intersubjectivity in Infant Research and Adult Treatment*. New York: Other Press.

Dr. Beebe was invited to present her work on “Transmission of Trauma in Mother-Infant Communication: The Origins of Disorganized Attachment” at the Annual International Trauma Conference in Boston.

8. Publications

Endicott J, Nee J, Harrison W. Daily Record of Severity of Problems (DRSP): Reliability and validity. Archives of Woman's Mental Health 9(1): 41-49, 2006.

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- First MB. Relational processes in the DSM-V revision process: comment on the special section. J Fam Psychology. Sep; 20(3):356-8. 2006
- Schanzer BM, First MB, Dominguez B, Hasin DS, Caton CL. Diagnosing Psychotic Disorders in the Emergency Department in the Context of Substance Use. Psychiatric Services Oct 57(10), 1468-1473. 2006

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