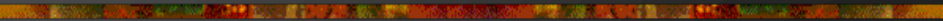
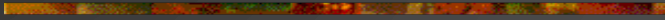


MENTAL STATUS EXAMINATION



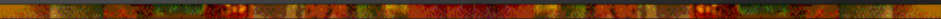



The **mental status examination** is an important part of the clinical assessment process in psychiatric practice. It is a structured way of observing and describing a patient's psychological functioning at a given point in time.



General appearance and Behavior

- Alertness
 - Appearance
 - Nutritional status
 - Dress and grooming
 - Eye contact
-

- 
- Gait
 - Freedom of movement
 - Any involuntary or abnormal movements
- 



Speech

- Tone
 - Tempo
 - Volume
 - Coherent
 - Relevant
- 

Mood

- Pervasive sustained emotional that colours the persons perception of the world
 - “ how you have been feeling in the last 1 week”
 - Happy, sad, anxious fearful, angry etc...
-

Affect

Patients present emotional responsiveness

- Range
 - Reactivity
 - Intensity
 - Mobility
 - Appropriateness
-

Thought

- Form
- Stream
- possession
- Content

Thought

Form (speech sample should be collected)

- Circumstantiality
 - Tangentiality
 - Loose Association
-

POSSESSION

- Obsessions and compulsions
 - Thought alienation/ insertion/deprivation/
broadcasting
-

THOUGHT CONTENT

- Plans of suicide, homicide.
 - Delusions
-

PERCEPTION

- Hallucination
 - Illusion
 - Depersonalization/ derealization
-

hallucinations

- 1st person, 2nd person
 - Known, unknown persons
 - Where
 - Control
 - Content
 - Acting out
-

The cognitive exam

- Consciousness
 - Orientation to time /place/person
 - Attention and Concentration
 - Memory- immediate, recent, remote
 - Intelligence- similarities, differences, Calculations, abstract
-

Insight



- Awareness
 - Attribution
 - acceptance
- 

Judgement

- Does the patient understand the likely outcome of his behavior
 - Test
 - Social
 - personal
-

