Meetings, new data, thorough reviews, and farewell to a friend

The upcoming meeting of the American Academy of Clinical Psychiatrists in collaboration with Current Psychiatry will take place in Chicago, IL, on April 15-17, 2011. The meeting’s topic is “Psychotic and cognitive disorders: Solving clinical challenges, improving patient care.” Presentations will address psychotic and cognitive disorders across the lifespan, best practices for treatment-resistant schizophrenia, managing dementia pharmacologically and behaviorally, evaluating risk for violence and suicide, and treating psychotic disorders during pregnancy and postpartum. New to this meeting will be a “point/counterpoint” exchange on antipsychotics (“Efficacy vs tolerability: Which trumps?”) between Drs. Henry A. Nasrallah and Rajiv Tandon. This will be a great meeting, and I hope all of you will attend.

This issue of Annals features several important articles. Jon E. Grant, JD, MD, MPH, and colleagues present results from a 6-month follow-up of pathological gamblers treated with imaginal desensitization and motivational interviewing. Data from Terence A. Ketter, MD, and colleagues show in an uncontrolled study that a combination of lamotrigine and quetiapine can be effective for treatment-resistant bipolar depression. Raymond W. Lam, MD, and his group present findings from a pilot study of telephone-assisted cognitive-behavioral therapy showing that this simple technology can successfully reduce depressive symptoms. S. Nassir Ghaemi, MD, and colleagues report data showing that bipolar disorder often is missed in children while attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder is overdiagnosed. Lastly, Sidney Zisook, MD, and colleagues present data demonstrating that, contrary to expectations, resident psychiatrists still view psychotherapy as integral to their professional identity.

Other contributions include a review by Miriam Weiner and colleagues showing that patients with bipolar disorder have a 2-fold greater risk of cardiovascular mortality compared with the general population. Robert H. Howland, MD, and colleagues review neuromodulation technologies that are available or are in development to treat neuropsychiatric disorders. Leslie J. Shapiro, LCJCSW, and S. Evelyn Stewart, MD, discuss the concept of pathological guilt as a mediating factor in obsessive-compulsive disorder.

I have sad news to report. Annals editorial board member Dr. Jerry Lewis died unexpectedly on September 13, 2010, while on a bicycle ride in Minnesota. Jerry was a valued friend and colleague who served as a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Director of Electrotherapy at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine. He had a keen mind and was not afraid of hard work. A native of Muscatine, IA, he received his medical degree from the University of Iowa in 1971. He first trained in family medicine, but later switched to psychiatry, completing a residency at Iowa, then under the leadership of George Winokur, MD. George had a profound influence on Jerry, who took great pride in the research they published together. They concluded that antidepressants did not accelerate cycling in patients with bipolar disorder,¹ a topic that even today generates controversy. Before Jerry joined the faculty at the University of Iowa in 2001, he worked in private practice for nearly 20 years. He also was a loyal and contributing member of the American Academy of Clinical Psychiatrists, and joined the Board of Directors in 2008. He is survived by his wife Jan, 4 children, and 8 grandchildren.

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Editor-in-Chief

REFERENCE