

UNIT 6: HUMAN SEXUALITY

Educational Topic 56: Sexuality and Modes of Sexual Expression

Rationale: All physicians should be able to provide a preliminary assessment of patients with sexual concerns and make referrals when appropriate.

Intended Learning Outcomes:

A student should be able to:

- Obtain a sexual history; including sexual function and sexual orientation
- Describe the physiology of the female sexual response
- Describe the common patterns of female sexual dysfunction
- Identify the physical, psychological and societal impact on female sexual function

TEACHING CASE

CASE: A 29 year-old G1P1 woman comes to see you because of decreased sex drive and pain with intercourse. She reports that since the birth of her child about one year ago, her sexual relationship with her husband never returned to normal. She does admit to being very stressed out lately because she started a new job six months ago and she is trying to balance it out with being a mother. She also reports being very tired most of the time. She is using oral contraceptive pills for birth control.

COMPETENCY-BASED DISCUSSION & KEY TEACHING POINTS:

Competencies addressed:

- Patient Care
- Medical Knowledge
- Interpersonal and Communication Skills
- Professionalism

1. What are the key components of a sexual history?
2. Describe the physiology of the female sexual response.
3. What is the definition of sexual dysfunction?
4. What are the potential etiologies of this woman's sexual dysfunction?
5. How do you treat this patient's sexual dysfunction?

CASE 2: L.W. is a 22-year-old G0 who comes to the office for a health maintenance exam. Her previous medical and surgical history is negative. She has regular menses, has never had a history of abnormal Pap tests. Her last one was 2 years ago. She lives with Lisa, her current partner of 6 months. She smokes 1 pack per day and has for the last 10 years. She does not use alcohol or any other drugs. She is on no medications. She has no complaints.

Physical exam:

Young healthy woman in no distress. Exam all normal.

COMPETENCY-BASED DISCUSSIONS & KEY TEACHING POINTS:

Competencies addressed:

- Patient Care
- Medical Knowledge
- Interpersonal and Communication Skills
- Professionalism

1. What issues should be discussed at this patient's well-woman visit?

2. What are some special concerns regarding health care and women in same- sex relationships?

REFERENCES

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