
Glossary of Terms

Adverse effects

Noxious, undesirable effects that occur at doses normally used for treatment. The term side effect could be desirable or undesirable effects of medication, which are not necessarily noxious. However, these terms are used interchangeably in this book. We focus on the side effects that are significant, either due to their frequency or their potential dangers.

Akathisia

Inability to sit still or an intense subjective sense of restlessness.

Alzheimer Disease

Noninfectious progressive brain amyloidosis associated with dementia and eventual death.

Amnesia

Loss of memory, due to injury of the brain or severe emotional trauma. There are several kinds of amnesia including: *anterograde amnesia*, *retrograde amnesia*, and *transient global amnesia*.

Analgesics

Pain-relieving substance (e.g., aspirin, acetaminophen).

Anorexia

Lack or loss of appetite for food.

Antabuse

Trade name for disulfiram, drug used in the treatment of alcoholism. Reactions can be severe and life-threatening if a patient on this drug ingests alcohol.

Anticonvulsant medications

Any drug used to counteract seizures.

Antihypertensive medications

Drug treatment to lower blood pressure

Antipsychotic

Drugs used to treat a psychosis.

Antisocial

Conduct indicating indifference to another's person or property; criminal behavior, dishonesty, or abuse are examples. IN DSM-IV, childhood or adolescent antisocial behavior and adult antisocial behavior are included as "other conditions that may be a focus of clinical attention."

Anxiety disorder

In DSM-IV, this category includes panic disorder without agoraphobia, panic disorder with agoraphobia, agoraphobia without history of panic disorder, specific (simple) phobia, social phobia (social anxiety disorder), obsessive compulsive disorder, post traumatic stress disorder, acute stress disorder, generalized anxiety disorder (includes overanxious disorder of childhood), anxiety disorder due to a general medical condition, and substance induced anxiety disorder.

Asperger's Syndrome

One of the PDDs, characterized by eccentric and obsessive interests, social skill deficits, and impaired social interactions, gross motor clumsiness, and speech and language difficulties.

Ataxia

Result of failure of muscular coordination or irregularity of muscle action; one can see that the patient has abnormal manner of walking.

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

A child whose inattention and hyperactivity- impulsivity cause problems may have this disorder. Symptoms appear

before the age of 7 years and are inconsistent with the subject's developmental level, and are severe enough to impair social or academic functioning. In the predominantly inattentive type, characteristic symptoms include distractibility, difficulty in sustaining attention or following through on instructions in the absence of close supervision, avoidance of tasks that require sustained mental effort, failure to pay close attention to details in schoolwork or other activities, difficulties in organizing activities, not listening to what is being said to him or her, loss of things that are necessary for assignments, and forgetfulness in daily activities. In the predominantly hyperactive-impulsive type, characteristic symptoms are that the person inappropriately leaves his or her seat in classroom or runs about, fidgets or squirms, has difficulty engaging in leisure activities quietly, has difficulty awaiting turn in games, and blurts out answers to questions before they are completed.

The two types may be combined.

Audiologist

One who studies hearing, especially of impaired hearing that cannot be corrected by drugs or surgery. Audiologists can train people to overcome problems related to hearing loss, but cannot treat infection or disease.

Augmentation

Addition of another medication to improve the initial partial therapeutic response to a medication.

Autistic disorder

In DSM-IV, this disorder is described as the presence of markedly abnormal or impaired development in social interaction and communication and a markedly restricted repertoire of activity and interests.

Benzodiazepine

Class of psychoactive drugs; included are the tranquilizers

diazepam (Valium) and chlordiazepoxide (Librium) and the sedative-hypnotic fluzepam (Dalmane). Tolerance and dependence can occur with prolonged use of benzodiazepines.

Bioethics

The ethics of medical and biological research and practice.

Biopsychosocial Model

Case formulation approach that includes consideration of the possible effects of multiple biomedical and psychosocial factors on occurrence and recurrence of challenging behaviours.

Bipolar disorder

Mental disorder characterized by episodes of *mania* and *depression*. One or the other phase may be dominant at a given time; the phases may alternate; or aspects of both phases may be present at the same time. Treatment is by psychotherapy and by the use of antidepressants and tranquilizers. Also called *manic-depressive psychosis*.

Buspirone (Buspar)

Medication used in the treatment of anxiety disorders and for short-term relief of symptoms of anxiety.

Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom

Laws regulating Human rights and freedoms.

Cardiologist

A specialist in heart function.

Case Formulation

Developing an understanding of the instigating, vulnerability and maintaining conditions pertinent to the challenging behaviour of concern.

Cerebral Palsy

loss or deficiency of muscle control due to permanent, nonprogressive brain damage occurring before or at the time of birth. Symptoms include difficulty in walking, poor coordination of the limbs, lack of balance, speech or

other sense organ difficulties, and sometimes developmental disability.

Chronological Age

Age of a person expressed as the period of time (e.g., months, years) that has elapsed since birth.

Chromosomal Abnormalities/Aberrations

Any change in the normal structure or number of chromosomes, often causing physical and mental abnormalities.

Clonidine

Antihypertensive (trade name Catapres) that may be administered either orally or via transdermal patches; has also been used in heroin and alcohol withdrawal with variable success. Adverse effects include drowsiness, dry mouth, and, rarely, sexual dysfunction.

Communication disorders

In DSM-IV, this group includes expressive language disorder, mixed receptive/expressive language disorder, phonological disorder, and stuttering. In developmental expressive language disorder, scores on tests measuring expressive language development are below those on tests of nonverbal intelligence and those on tests measuring receptive language. Symptoms may include limited vocabulary, speaking only in the present tense, errors in recalling words, and developmentally inappropriate sentence length.

Mixed receptive/expressive language disorder is characterized by testing performance on both receptive and expressive language development batteries that is substantially below performance on nonverbal intellectual batteries. The typical manifestation is an inability to understand words or sentences.

In DSM-IV, this group includes expressive language disorder, mixed receptive/expressive language disorder, *phonological disorder*, and *stuttering*.

Comorbidity

The simultaneous appearance of two or more illnesses, such as the co-occurrence of schizophrenia and substance abuse or of alcohol dependence and depression. The association may reflect a causal relationship between one disorder and another or an underlying vulnerability to both disorders. Also, the appearance of the illnesses may be unrelated to any common etiology or vulnerability.

Congenital Heart Disease

Structural defect of the heart or great vessels or both, and is present at birth. Any number of defects may occur, singly or in combination. They result from improper development of the heart and blood vessels during the prenatal period. Congenital heart defects occur in about 8 to 10 of every 1000 live-born children in the U.S.A.

Contributing stimulus events/conditions

Establishing operations or setting events. When present, a specific behaviour is more likely to occur when the person is exposed to the triggering event for that behaviour.

Craniotomy

surgical opening into the skull, performed to control bleeding, remove tumors, or relieve pressures inside the cranium.

Criminal Code of Canada

Laws adopted by Canada against criminal activity.

Cryptorchidism

Undescended testes in men.

Deinstitutionalization Movement

movement to move individuals who have intellectual disabilities into the community.

Delirium

State, usually brief, of incoherent excitement, confused speech, restlessness, and hallucinations. It may occur in

high fever, ingestion of certain toxic substances and drugs, nutritional deficiencies, endocrine imbalance, or severe stress (e.g., postoperative) or mental illness. Treatment includes bed rest, quiet, the use of drugs to quiet the patient, and treatment of the underlying causes.

Dementia

Progressive state of mental decline, especially of memory function and judgment, often accompanied by disorientation, stupor, and disintegration of the personality. It may be caused by certain metabolic diseases, drug intoxication, or injury, in which cases it is often reversible once the underlying cause is treated. If, however, it is caused by a disease such as Alzheimer's disease, by brain injury, or by degeneration brought about by aging, the changes that occur are irreversible.

Dependence on psychoactive substances

Cluster of behavioural, psychological, and physical symptoms which indicate that the person has lost control over the use of substance, and continues to use it despite experiencing its adverse consequences.

Depo Provera

Injection derived from the female hormone, progesterone used as birth control for women. Provera may be given if a female's menstrual periods have stopped or a female hormonal imbalance is causing the uterus to bleed abnormally. Provera may also be prescribed to treat endometriosis, menopausal symptoms, premenstrual tension, sexual aggressive behaviour in men, and sleep apnea

Depression

Psychiatric illness sometimes known as unipolar disorder.

Developmental Disability

Disorder characterized by a significant subaverage intellectual functioning with onset before age 18 years, and con-

current deficits or impairments in adaptive functioning.

Dexedrine

Trade name for a central nervous system stimulant (dextroamphetamine sulphate) used in the treatment of narcolepsy and some attention deficit disorders in children; it was formerly used to reduce appetite in the treatment of obesity. Adverse effects include restlessness, increased blood pressure, and other signs of central nervous system excitation, as well as nausea and loss of appetite. It must be used with caution by persons with hypertension, cardiovascular disease, and many other disorders. It is potentially addictive.

Dissociative disorder

In DSM-IV, this disorder is described as a disruption in the usually integrated functions of consciousness, memory, identity, or perception.

Down Syndrome

Most common form of developmental disability, occurring as a result of a chromosomal abnormality.

DSM- IV

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV). The American Psychiatric Association's official classification of mental disorders. The fourth edition was published in 1994.

Dual Diagnosis

When one has both a developmental disability and a mental illness. For example a person with Down Syndrome who also is depressed.

Dysarthria

Impairment of speech articulation due to disturbances of muscular control resulting from central or peripheral nervous system damage.

Dysmenorrhea

Painful menstruation; primary dysmenorrhea, intrinsic to the process of menstruation and not the result of any other disease or condition is very common. Typically cramp-like pain in the lower abdomen, sometimes accompanied by nausea, vomiting, intestinal cramps, and other discomfort begins just before or with the onset of menstrual flow. Secondary dysmenorrhea, caused by a specific disorder (e. g., uterine tumor, pelvic infection), is usually marked by pain that lasts longer and is often accompanied by bladder or bowel discomfort; treatment depends on the underlying cause.

Dysphoric Mood

Unhappy and unsettled mood.

Dysrhythmia

Disturbance of rhythm.

Eating Disorder

Marked disturbance in eating behavior. In DSM-IV, this category includes anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and eating disorder not otherwise specified.

Echolalia

Automatic, meaningless repetition of another's words, sometimes occurring in schizophrenia, autism, and other neurological and mental disorders.

Encopresis

An elimination disorder in a child who is at least 4 years of age, consisting of repeated passage of feces into inappropriate places (clothes, floor, etc.) and not due to a general medical condition.

Enuresis

An elimination disorder in a child who is at least 5 years of age, consisting of repeated voiding of urine into bed or clothing, and not due to any general medical condition.

Epilepsy

Neurological disorder characterized by recurrent episodes (ranging from several times a day to once in several years) of convulsive seizures, impaired consciousness, abnormal behavior, and other disturbances produced by uncontrolled electrical discharges from nerve cells in the brain. Trauma to the head, brain tumor, chemical imbalances, and other factors may be associated with epilepsy, but in most cases the cause is unknown. Common types of epilepsy are *grand mal* and *petit mal*.

Erotophobia

Fear of being loved or in love.

Extroversion

Directing of feelings and interests toward external things and the outside world rather than toward oneself.

Facilitation

Makes a situation easier.

Feeding Disorder

Persistent failure to eat adequately, with loss of weight or failure to gain weight, and not due to an associated gastrointestinal or other general medical condition. In DSM-IV, feeding disorders include pica and rumination disorder.

Fragile x syndrome

The most common form of inherited mental retardation, due to unusual X-linked pattern related to trinucleotide repeat expansion.

Functional Behavioral Analysis

Generated assessment of problematic behaviour(s) so that the root cause can be addressed.

Galactorrhea

Excessive flow of milk; secretion of milk not associated with breast-feeding, sometimes a sign of a pituitary gland disorder.

Gastrointestinal Disorders

Pertaining to the stomach and the intestines.

Geneticist

Medical specialist for genetic conditions.

Geriatrician/ Geriatrics

Medical specialty that deals with the problems of aging and the diagnosis and treatment of diseases affecting the aged.

Global Assessment of Functioning Scale (GAF)

Assessment for an individual's overall functioning level, according to DSM-IV (APA, 1994).

Grand-Mal

Type of seizure during which the patient becomes unconscious, may develop bluish discoloration (cyanosis) of the skin and lips due to oxygen lack, and experiences convulsions involving the entire body; also called a generalized seizure. Type of epilepsy characterized by recurrent grand mal seizures.

Gynecomastia

Enlargement of the breasts.

Hyperpyrexia

Excessive high blood temperature.

Hypertension

Persistently high arterial blood pressure; it may have no known cause or be associated with other diseases.

Hypogonadism

Small testes, small penis, inadequate testosterone production

Hypomania

A mild form of mania.

Hypothyroidism

Underproduction of thyroid hormones by an underactive thyroid gland. About 1 percent of the adult population suf-

fer from hypothyroidism. It is most common in elderly women, although it occurs at all ages and in both sexes. Treatment consists of replacement therapy with the thyroid hormone thyroxine; in most cases hormone therapy must be continued for life.

Hypotonia

Loss of muscle tone.

Iatrogenic

Pertaining to condition caused by medical diagnostic procedures, or exposure to medical treatment, facilities, and personnel (e.g., corticosteroid-induced *Cushing's syndrome*).

Idiosyncratic language

Characteristic or manner unique to an individual or group; peculiar or unusual variation, as in an unusual reaction to a drug or a particular food.

Impairment/Disability/Handicap

Injury, disability, functional loss, or weakened state (e.g., hearing impairment).

Infantilization

Condition in which childhood characteristics (mental and/or physical) continue into adulthood.

Introversion

Tendency to turn one's interests inward toward the self.

Instigating factors

Stimulus events that signal occurrence of challenging behaviours. Instigating stimulus conditions represent two subclasses of event: triggering and contributing. Terms such as cue, prompt, discriminative stimuli, primary instigating event, setting events, establishing operations, secondary instigating event, priming event, and triggering event are used by various authors to refer to antecedent instigating factors, but with different technical or descriptive

meanings.

Integrated Biopsychosocial model

Case formulation model that identifies that specific roles assumed by each modality of influence (bio-psycho-social), and the manner in which these may interact in influencing the occurrence, severity, variability, and recurrence of challenging behaviours. The model facilitates maximum integration of biomedical and psychosocial treatments designed to influence the multiple conditions producing the behavioural challenges.

Intelligence Quotient (I.Q.)

A numerical rating determined through psychological testing that indicates the approximate relationship of a person's mental age (MA) to chronological age (CA).

Interdisciplinary

Members of two or more disciplines using a systematic and integrated approach based on their respective body of knowledge working together to achieve common goals.

Klinefelter Syndrome

Genetic disorder, occurring only in males, where individuals are tall and thin with relatively long legs. Individuals appear physically normal until puberty, when signs of hypogonadism become evident.

Learned helplessness

A condition in which a person attempts to establish and maintain contact with another by adopting a helpless, powerless stance.

Luteinizing hormones

Hormone produced by the *anterior pituitary gland* that stimulates the secretion of sex hormones by the testes and ovaries and is involved in the production of mature spermatozoa and ova.

Maintaining factors

Reinforcing events or consequences that follow behaviours and increase the likelihood that those behaviours will occur again on future exposure to the instigating conditions.

Mental Illness

Conceptualized as a clinically significant behavioral or psychological syndrome or pattern that occurs in an individual, and that is associated with present distress or disability, or with a significantly increased risk of suffering death, pain, disability, or an important loss of freedom.

Multidisciplinary

A number of disciplines dealing with the same issue.

Myoclonus

Produced by shock-like contractions of a muscle or group of muscles.

Negative Reinforcement

Occurs when an unpleasant or aversive event is removed following behaviour. This contingent removal increases the likelihood that the behaviour will be repeated.

Nephrogenic Diabetes Insipidus

Excessive urine excretion due to failure of the kidney to reabsorb water.

Neuroleptic

Drug that produces neuroleptosis (altered state of consciousness marked by indifference to the surroundings; quiescence).

Neurological disorder

A disorder that affects the nervous system.

Neuropathy

Any disturbance in the peripheral nervous system.

Neurologist

A physician with postgraduate training and experience in the field of organic disease of the nervous system whose

professional work focuses primarily on this area. Neurologists also receive training in psychiatry.

Noonan Syndrome

Genetic disorder associated with congenital cardiac defects and short stature.

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder

An anxiety disorder characterized by obsessions, compulsions, or both, that are time-consuming and interfere significantly with normal, routine, occupational functioning, usual social activities, or relationships with others.

Occupational therapy/therapist

An adjunct therapy that utilizes purposeful activities as a means of altering the course of illness. The patient's relationship to staff and to other patients in the occupational setting is often more therapeutic than the activity itself.

Oppositional Defiant Disorder

A pattern of negativistic and hostile behavior in a child that lasts at least six months. Symptoms may include losing one's temper; arguing with adults or actively refusing their requests; deliberately annoying others; being easily annoyed, angry, and resentful; and being spiteful and vindictive.

Optic chiasm

Pertaining to the eye or to the sight. X shaped structure; the crossing of two lines or tracts, crossed fibers of the optic nerve.

Orthopedist

One who studies the branch of surgery concerned with disorders of the bones and joints and their associated muscles, tendons, and ligaments. Orthopedic surgeons perform many tasks, including setting broken bones and putting on casts; treating joint conditions such as dislocations, slipped disks, arthritis, and back problems; treating bone tumors

and birth defects of the skeleton; and surgically repairing or replacing hip, knee, or finger joints.

Orthostatic hypotension

Abnormally low blood pressure with a fall in blood pressure upon standing.

Ovarian Dysgenesis

Defective embryonic development.

Paraphilia

One of the major groups of sexual disorders; in DSM-IV, this group includes exhibitionism, fetishism, frotteurism, pedophilia, sexual masochism, sexual sadism, voyeurism, and transvestic fetishism. The paraphilias are recurrent, intense sexual urges and sexually arousing fantasies that involve nonhuman objects, children, or other nonconsenting persons, or the suffering or humiliation of oneself or the sexual partner.

Pedophilia

One of the paraphilias, characterized by marked distress over, or acting on, urges involving sexual activity with a prepubescent child who, more often than not, is of the same sex.

Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD)

Characterized by severe and pervasive impairment in several areas of development: reciprocal social interaction skills, communication skills, or the presence of stereotyped behaviour, interests, and activities.

Phenotype

Observable characteristics of an organism that are the result of a genetic makeup and environmental factors.

Phenylketonuria (PKU)

Genetic disorder in which the absence of, or a deficiency in, the enzyme necessary for conversion of the amino acid phenylalanine into tyrosine causes the accumulation of

phenylalanine and its metabolites in the body and in the urine. Symptoms include eczema, an unusual odor to the urine, and progressive mental retardation. Treatment includes a diet low in phenylalanine. The test is referred to as the **PKU** test.

Phonology

The phonemes or sounds of a language.

Physiotherapist

Uses techniques to prevent or reduce joint stiffness and to restore muscle strength in the treatment of arthritis or after a fracture has healed. Methods of treatment used by physiotherapists include exercises, which may be active or passive, massage, heat treatment, cold, water and electrical currents. Physiotherapists help treat severe respiratory diseases and care for the respiratory needs of patients who are on ventilators or recovering from major operations.

Polyembolokoilamania

Insertion of foreign objects into bodily orifices.

Positive reinforcement

Occurs when a pleasant or desired event follows the behaviour. As a result, the likelihood is increased that that behaviour will be repeated.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

An anxiety disorder in which exposure to an exceptional mental or physical stressor is followed, sometimes immediately and sometimes not until three months or more after the stress, by persistent re-experiencing of the event, avoidance of stimuli associated with the trauma or numbing of general responsiveness, and manifestations of increased arousal. The trauma typically includes experiencing, witnessing, or confronting an event that involves actual or threatened death or injury, or a threat to the physical integrity of oneself or others; with an immediate reaction

of intense fear, helplessness, or horror.

Prader-Willi Syndrome

Genetic disorder due to deletion on paternal chromosome 15. This affects both males and females and all races. The major characteristics include hypotonia, hypogonadism, hyperphagia, cognitive impairment and difficult behaviors. One major medical concern is morbid obesity.

Priapism

Prolonged, painful erection.

PRN's

Prescriptions, abbreviation for *pro re nata*, meaning as needed.

Prozac

Medication prescribed for the treatment of depression. Prozac may also be prescribed to treat Obsessive Compulsive Disorder. It has also been used to treat obesity and eating disorders.

Psychiatrist

Physician who specializes in psychiatry; the branch of medicine concerned with the study of prevention and treatment of mental illness and emotional and behavioural problems.

Psychologist

One who specializes in the study of mental activity, especially as it relates to behaviour. Psychologists make an important contribution to the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional problems. They play a major part in the use of behaviour therapy, counseling, and in the treatment of behaviour disorders affecting people with a mental handicap.

Psychopathology

Study of the causes and manifestations of mental disorders.

Psychotherapy

Treatment of mental disorders by psychological, not physical techniques. There are many approaches to psychotherapy including *behavior modification*, *psychoanalysis*, and *group therapy*.

Psychotropic Medication

Any drug prescribed to stabilize or improve mood, mental status, or behaviour.

Reciprocal relationships

Relationships in which both parties benefit.

Recovery

Coping with the reality of who you are and moving on to live a satisfying life.

Resilience

The capacity to withstand problems and rebound from them with minimal negative impact, adaptability, durability, stamina.

Rett Syndrome

Genetic disorder virtually always diagnosed in females, thought to be caused by an X-linked dominant gene that is lethal to male offspring who inherit it. Characterized by stereotypical hand movements, impaired expressive and receptive language, and psychomotor delay.

Risperidone/Risperdal

Medication prescribed to treat mental illnesses, such as schizophrenia.

Ritalin

Trade name for the central nervous stimulant methylphenidate, used in the treatment of attention deficit disorders in children.

Rubinstein-Taybi Syndrome

A genetic disorder due to deletions on the short arm of chromosome 16.

Savant Syndrome

Very high intellectual ability in certain areas, such as math, music, etc.

Schizoid

Personality disorder described in the DSM-IV. Characterized by detachment from social relationships and restricted emotional range in interpersonal settings. Some examples are that the person neither desires nor enjoys close relationships, prefers solitary activities, appears indifferent to praise or criticism, has no (or only one) close friend or confidants, and is emotionally cold or detached.

Schizophrenia

Group of idiopathic psychotic disorders characterized by both positive and negative symptoms associated with disturbance in one or more major areas of functioning such as work, academic development or achievement, interpersonal relations, and self-care. Positive symptoms may include delusions, which may be bizarre in nature; hallucinations, especially auditory; disorganized speech; inappropriate affect; and disorganized behavior. Negative symptoms include flat affect, *avolition*, *alogia*, and *anhedonia*. Duration is variable: DSM-IV requires a minimum of six months.

Schizotypal

Characterized by a combination of discomfort with and reduced capacity for close relationships, and cognitive or perceptual distortions and eccentricities of behavior. Possible manifestations include odd beliefs or *magical thinking* inconsistent with cultural norms; unusual perceptual experiences including bodily *illusions*; odd thinking and speech; no (or only one) close friends because of lack of desire, discomfort, with others, or eccentricities; and persisting, excessive social *anxiety* that tend to be associated

with paranoid fears rather than negative judgments about oneself.

Sedation

Induced state of reduced activity and excitability; a state of calm and quiet, sometimes with sleep.

Seizure

Convulsion or sudden attack due to various causes, including epilepsy.

Sign

Any objective evidence (i.e. perceptible to the examining health care worker) of a disease or of a patient's condition.

Sleep Apnea

Temporary failure to breathe while sleeping.

Smith-Magenis Syndrome

Genetic syndrome due to deletion on chromosome 17. This syndrome is associated with speech delay, psychomotor and growth retardation and behavioural problems.

Social support

Positive or helpful interpersonal transactions or exchanges that occur between people.

Somatoform Disorders

Group of disorders with symptoms suggesting physical disorders, but without demonstrable organic findings to explain the symptoms. There is positive evidence, or a strong presumption, that the symptoms are linked to psychological factors or conflicts. In DSM-IV, this category includes *somatization disorder*, *conversion disorder*, *hypochondriasis*, *body dysmorphic disorder*, and *pain disorder*. Included as a somatoform disorder not otherwise specified is *pseudocyesis*.

Speech Language Pathologist

A specialist dealing with speech and language

Statutes

Laws

Sterilization

Surgical procedure in which a man or woman is rendered incapable of reproducing; in males the procedure is vasectomy; in females a form of tubal ligation.

Stimulants

Agent, such as a drug, that activates or increases the activity of a body part or system. Amphetamines and caffeine are central nervous system stimulants.

Stimulus complex

Certain behaviours occur only when several instigating conditions combine to trigger the challenging behaviour. A particular stimulus event on its own may be insufficient to trigger the challenging behaviour and become effective only when included in a stimulus complex, that is, when combined with other instigating conditions.

Substitute Decisions Act

Act referring to the rights of a substitute decision maker to give consent.

Symptom

Any subjective evidence (i.e. perceived by the patient) of a disease or of a patient's condition.

Symptomatic Behavior

Exhibiting the symptoms of a particular disorder.

Tachycardia

Abnormally rapid heart rate.

Tardive Dyskinesia

Difficulty, distortion or impairment of movement (facial and or extremities) produced by long-term administration of antipsychotic drugs.

Tolerance

Decrease in susceptibility to the effects of a drug due to its

continued administration; in other words, it takes an increased amount of the medication in order to produce the same effects.

Tourette's Syndrome

Tic disorder consisting of multiple motor and vocal tics that occur in bouts, either concurrently or separately, mostly every day or intermittently over a period of twelve months.

Triggering stimulus

Events/conditions are called discriminative stimuli or antecedents. The challenging behaviour does not occur unless the triggering events are present. A number of different events may serve a triggering event role for any specific challenging behaviour.

Turner Syndrome

Genetic disorder specific to females, consisting of sexual infantilism, short stature, and webbed neck.

Williams Syndrome

Genetic syndrome associated with a distinct behavioural phenotype, caused by an abnormality on chromosome 7.

World Health Organization (WHO)

Established in 1948 as an agency of the United Nations with responsibilities for international health matters and public health. Its headquarters are in Geneva, Switzerland. Its other functions include sponsoring medical research programs, organizing a network of collaborating national laboratories, and providing expert advice to its 160 member states on matters such as health service organizations, family health, and mental health.