CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY

“The mental health of children foreshadows the mental health of future generation of adults”

Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services-Together We Stand
HMSO 1995

“At any one time a secondary school with 1000 pupils is likely to have around 50 students who are seriously depressed, with a further 100 suffering significant distress. Eating disorders will affect between 5 and 10 girls at the school. 10 to 20 pupils will have an obsessive-compulsive disorder and as many as 10 students are likely to make an attempt on their own life”.
‘Young Minds’ - the Children’s Mental Health Charity.

Improving the mental health of children and young people will reduce their and their families’ suffering. Mental health problems in children and young people may be linked with family relationship problems and breakdown, poor school attendance, chronic illness, child abuse, juvenile crime and subsequent mental health problems in adulthood.

On the following pages are the main points of the lecture usually given during the introductory days, a reading list and a couple of useful web sites.

During your 4th year, in COMP 1, you will receive further teaching on child mental health.

1. EFFECTS OF PARENTAL MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS ON CHILDREN

Environment

Parental Mental Health

Parental Characteristics  Parent Child relationship  Marital Functioning

Child Characteristics

Child Development  Child Behaviour
Also consider:

- Parental Depression
- Childhood Neglect
- Parental substance mis-use
- Parental anxiety disorders
- Munchausen’s by proxy

2. SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PRACTICE OF ADULT AND CHILD PSYCHIATRY

- Assessment
- Who is the patient?
- Classification of psychiatric disorders
- Legislation

3. PSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS THAT PRESENT IN CHILDHOOD AND CONTINUE INTO ADULTHOOD

- Depression
- Obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD)
- Eating disorders
- Attention–deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Conduct disorders
Suggested Reading List

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services – Together We Stand, an NHS Health Advisory Service Thematic Review. HMSO 1995

Web addresses
www.youngminds.org.uk
Website of Young Minds, a UK children’s mental health charity pages for parents, young people and professionals. Useful list of links to other related web pages.

Faculty of child and adolescent psychiatry within the Royal College of Psychiatry website, www.rcpsych.ac.uk