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Forensic, Child, Adolescent, and Adult Psychiatry

INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGIC TREATMENT OF:

- MOOD AND ANXIETY DISORDERS • OBSESSIVE-COMPULSIVE DISORDER
- PERVASIVE DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS/AUTISM
- ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER • MENTAL RETARDATION • TOURETTE'S DISORDER
- TRAUMATIC PSYCHIATRY • TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY
- POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER • CHRONIC PAIN MANAGEMENT

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DEPRESSION-INDUCED MEDICAL COMPLICATIONS

There are other medical complications associated with depression in addition to the cardiovascular complications which are outlined in my separate synopsis, *Association Between Depression and Increased Risk of Cardiovascular Disease, Premature Death, & Suicide.*"

Other serious medical complications associated with depression include the following:

Depression - Immunologic Effects

1. Depression can cause decreased immune response.
2. Depression-induced decrease in killer T-Cells and function of T-Cells has been reported. This increases susceptibility to infection. Since cancer cells are constantly being made but are destroyed by the immunologic system, it is medically probable that a person may be at higher risk for cancer if they have this depression-induced immunologic T-Cell response/dysfunction.

Depression - Fibromyalgia

Depression or pain-induced sleep deficit may predispose a person to the development of fibromyalgia and may also compromise immunologic alterations which may predispose a patient towards development of fibromyalgia.

Depression - Sleep Disturbance

Depression-associated sleep disturbance further impairs the immunologic competence. In addition, resulting fatigue impairs coordination, increasing the risk of serious accident, such as auto accidents.

Depression - Endocrine Disorder

Depression reduces cortisol levels, thus worsening preexisting diabetes mellitus and decreasing immune response.

Depression - Osteoporosis

Depression has been associated with osteoporosis (*New England Journal of Medicine*).