

Modified Essay 5

(20 marks)

Each question within this modified essay will be marked by a different examiner. The examiner marking this question will not have access to your answers to the other questions. Therefore, please ensure that you address each question separately and specifically. Answer this question fully, even if you believe that you have partly covered its content in your answers to other questions.

You are a junior consultant psychiatrist. You are contacted by the after-hours Stage 1 registrar who has reviewed Brooke in the emergency department. Brooke, a 22-year-old receptionist, was admitted overnight following a non-toxic overdose of paracetamol. She has been medically cleared.

She was due to attend a family reunion, on the day of admission, at which her maternal grandfather was expected to be present. She was sexually abused by this grandfather between the ages of six and nine years. Her family has known of the abuse for five years but expected her to attend for the sake of the family.

Brooke gives a history from her teens of suicidal ideas and of cutting her thighs. However, she has not made any previous suicide attempts.

The registrar asks for advice on management of this presentation.

Question 5.1

Outline (list and justify) the goals of IMMEDIATE treatment for this patient.

Please note: a list with no justification will not receive any marks.

(6 marks)

Question 5.2

Describe (list and explain) the disadvantages of continuing inpatient treatment.

Please note: a list with no explanation will not receive any marks.

(4 marks)

Modified Essay

QUESTIONS

Modified Essay 5 (cont.)

Brooke has been attending a counsellor for six months for therapy for sexual abuse. A few days following the presentation, her counsellor telephones the registrar at Brooke's request to discuss current therapy and follow-up. The counsellor tells the registrar that in Brooke's Recovered Memory Therapy (RMT), she is focussing on uncovering Brooke's repressed memories of sexual abuse by extended family members.

The registrar contacts you for advice.

Question 5.3

Discuss (list and debate) the pertinent ethical dilemmas that arise from the telephone conversation between the registrar and the counsellor.

Please note: a list with no debate will not receive any marks.

(10 marks)