Outline

Recognizing and Targeting Common Social Deficits in Serious Mental Illness

What are some of the major factors that can impair functioning for your client?

- Social disinterest
- Defeatist attitudes and beliefs
- Negative emotions
- Amotivation

Address the common social deficits of your clients with a serious mental illness

- Managing the difficulty of initiating and maintaining conversations
- Strategies for achieving goals in social
- · Become aware of and learn how to navigate odd interpersonal behaviors

Improving Functioning for Clients with Serious Mental Illness: Utilizing Social Skills Training (SST) and Cognitive **Behavioral Social Skills Training (CBSST)**

Assessing a client's social skills:

- Using recovery goal planning
- Social Functioning Interview
- Social Adaptive Functioning Evaluation (SAFE)
- Social skills checklist

Understanding Social Learning Theory and how it applies to SST

Targeting and Treating Social Skill Deficits

- Empirical evidence supporting SST and
- Limitations of the research
- Fostering an attitude and expectation of success in clients to aid in the engagement of new tasks, harder activities, and expend more effort

• Utilizing Social Skills Training (SST) as a safe place to practice real-life skills with a trained therapist(s) and peers to practice building interests and motivation in life

Recovery goal setting in SST

• Some common recovery goals include making a friend(s), getting a job, being a better parent, start dating and more

Working with clients on bettering their:

- Basic social and interpersonal skills
- Health management skills
- Work and professional abilities
- Coping skills for drug and alcohol use

Effectively use role playing to help your client build the skills to initiate conversations, ask for help, and disagree with another's opinion without arguing

Learn the three modules and applications of CBSST: Cognitive skills, social skills, and problem-solving

Working with Your Clients on Problem-Solving and Cognitive Skills

Using behavioral experiments to test

Using the SCALE method to help patients

- Specify the problem
- Assess the best solution
- Lav out a plan
- Execute and evaluate

Using the 3 C's (Catch It, Check It, Change)

method to explore negative and delusional beliefs

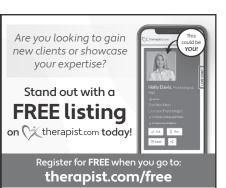
delusional beliefs

identify and solve problems:

- Consider all possible solutions

Objectives

- 1. Evaluate current evidence-based psychosocial treatments for Serious Mental Illness (SMI) that can be put to practical use in-session.
- 2. Determine common social deficits in clients with schizophrenia-spectrum disorders.
- 3. Apply Social Learning Theory to help your clients improve their social functioning.
- 4. Enhance therapeutic alliance and client engagement through setting recovery-
- 5. Effectively assess clients' social functioning to inform the clinician's choice of treatment interventions.
- 6. Employ Social Skills Training (SST) with your clients to improve client engagement.
- 7. Create an implementation process using Cognitive Behavioral Social Skills Training (CBSST) with your clients to improve treatment outcomes.



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Building Social Skills for Clients with Serious **Mental Illness**

Moving Beyond Medication to Address Social Deficits

- Get tools to go beyond medication and help clients make new friends, address substance abuse, improve the quality of their work-life, and more!
- Role-playing skills for initiating conversations, navigating disagreements, and asking for help
- Improve goal setting and practice real-life skills with clients utilizing Social Skills Training (SST) and Cognitive Behavioral Social Skills Training (CBSST)

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Building Social Skills for Clients with Serious Mental Illness

When it comes to serious mental illness (SMI), so many of us were taught that medication is the biggest part of the solution.

No matter the prescription though, most of your clients still seem to struggle when it comes to building social skills and interacting with others.

You need a plan to **help them thrive** in the workplace, make new friends, start dating or improve existing relationships, just to name a few.

That's where senior psychologist specialist from the California Department of State Hospitals, Dr. Megan Pollock, can help! Dr. Pollock is certified in Social Skills Training (SST) and has trained many clinicians just like you to use social skills to treat persons with serious mental illness.

She has assembled a user-friendly guide based on SST and Cognitive Behavioral Social Skills Training (CBSST) that will afford you the **skills to work in a much** more effective manner with persons diagnosed with a psychotic disorder.

You'll come away from this training with:

- Techniques to **overcome social disinterest** and defeatist beliefs
- Role plays to build conversation and conflict resolution skills
- Specific clinical approaches to improve cognitive and problem-solving skills
- Ways to help clients set meaningful recovery goals

Don't miss this opportunity to **expand your clinical skillset** and **help your** most serious clients find the connections and relationships they desire.

Register today!

Target Audience:

Social Workers • Psychologists • Psychiatrists Counselors • Nurses (nurse practitioners, advanced practice, behavioral health)

Live Webinar Schedule (Times listed in Central)

8:00 Program begins 11:50-1:00 Lunch Break

4:00 Program ends

There will be two 15-min breaks (mid-morning & mid-afternoon). Actual lunch and break start times are at the discretion of the speaker A more detailed schedule is available upon reques



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Meet Your Speaker

Dr. Megan Pollock, is a senior psychologist specialist and forensic needs assessment psychologist at California Department of State Hospitals (DSH) in the newly developed enhanced treatment program, which provides an enhanced level of care for the most aggressive patients in the state. Dr. Pollock is certified in Social Skills Training (SST) for schizophrenia and was supervised directly by the developer of Cognitive Behavioral Social Skills Training (CBSST) during her time as a therapist in the active research trial of Combined Oxytocin and Cognitive Behavioral Social Skills Training (CBSST) for Social Dysfunction with Schizophrenia. During her time at DSH, Dr. Pollock has given several trainings on social skills in treating persons with schizophrenia-spectrum disorders and authored the social skills section of California's DSH diversion guidelines.

Speaker Disclosure:

Financial: Dr. Megan Pollock maintains a private practice. She receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc. She has no relevant financial relationships with ineligible organizations.

Non-financial: Dr. Megan Pollock has no relevant non-financial relationships.

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Seth J. Gillihan, PhD

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