Outline

Use Neuroscience in the Treatment of Anxiety

Positives: We know more about anxietybased disorders than any other disorders Science gives explanations, evidence, authority, destigmatizes difficulties Concerns: It can be difficult to explain, answer questions

Clients may feel a lack of responsibility Oversimplification is inevitable

Enhancing Engagement in Treatment

Don't neglect the therapeutic relationship! Address the challenges of anxious clients Remember that strategies are effortful Guide the process using client's goals Maintain motivation

Neuroplasticity

Define Neuroplasticity in everyday language Therapy is about creating a new self "Rewiring" as an accessible concept for change

Re-consolidation: the modification of emotional memories

Identify Two Neural Pathways to Anxiety

Amygdala – bottom-up triggering of emotion, physicality of anxiety

Cortex – top-down emotion generation

based in cognition
Explain the two pathways to clients

How anxiety is initiated in each pathway and how pathways influence each other

Client Friendly Explanations

Use illustrations to create concrete understanding Fight/flight/freeze responses The "language of the amygdala" Anxiety and the cortex Help clients recognize the two pathways to anxiety

Neuroplasticity in the Amygdala (Essential for all Anxiety Disorders, PTSD, OCD, Depression)

Sleep and the amydgala The influence of exercise

therapeutic relationship.

treatment implications.

Breathing techniques to reduce activation Relaxation, meditation, and yoga to modify responses

Exposure as opportunities for the amygdala to learn

1. Ascertain the underlying neurological processes that impact anxious symptoms for clients.

3. Evaluate the differences between amygdala-based and cortex-based anxiety symptoms and

4. Communicate strategies for calming and training the amygdala in order to alleviate symptoms

5. Implement methods for teaching clients to retrain the cortex so that anxiety is resisted rather

6. Analyze how psychotropic medication impacts neuroplasticity in the brain; identify related

2. Develop client engagement in treatment using personalized goals and attending to the

identify how these symptoms inform treatment interventions.

Combatting avoidance

When anxiety indicates that the amygdala can learn new responses

Push through anxiety to change the amygdala

Neuroplasticity in the Cortex (Essential for GAD, SAD, OCD, PTSD, Depression)

"Survival of the busiest" principle strengthen or weaken specific circuitry The healthy (adaptive) use of worry in the cortex

"You can't erase: You must replace." Recognize and modify the impact of uncertainty

Training correct uses of distraction Left hemisphere techniques- cognitive defusion, coping thoughts, fighting anticipation

Right hemisphere techniques – imagery, music

Mindfulness and anxiety resistances

Neuroplasticity and Medications for Anxiety Disorders, OCD, PTSD, Depression

Medication's effects in the rewiring process The myth of the chemical imbalance The danger of sedating the brain with benzodiazepines

Promoting neuroplasticity with SSRIs, SNRIs The effectiveness of CBT and meds

Moving Beyond Diagnostic Categories to Focus on Anxiety Pathways

Anxiety is a component of many diagnoses (depression, substance abuse, etc.)

Amygdala- and cortex-based techniques help in other disorders

Targeting brain-based symptoms rather than disorders

Worry, obsessions, rumination respond to similar cortex-based techniques Panic, phobic responses, and compulsions

respond to amygdala-based techniques

Research, Risks and Limitations

Empirical versus clinical and anecdotal evidence

Clinical considerations for specific clients and settings

Efficacy of particular interventions may vary

Obiectives

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Rewire the Anxious Brain

Neuroscience-Informed Treatment of Anxiety, Panic and Worry

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Rewire the Anxious Brain

Neuroscience-Informed Treatment of Anxiety, Panic and Worry

- Apply brain-based strategies for Panic, Social Anxiety, OCD, GAD and PTSD
- Understand the difference between cortex-based and amygdala-based anxiety
- Motivate clients and calm the anxious brain using the power of neuroplasticity
- Increase client engagement by focusing on changing the brain - not simply decreasing anxiety

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Rewire the Anxious Brain

Neuroscience-Informed Treatment of Anxiety, Panic and Worry

Join Dr. Heidi Schreiber-Pan and learn her keys for successful anxiety treatment. Dr. Schreiber-Pan integrates brain-based strategies for calming the anxious mind with client communication techniques that motivate change in your clients. Heidi's approach promotes adherence to treatment and strengthens the therapeutic alliance - which is essential when working with anxious, worried, traumatized, or obsessive clients. Dr. Schreiber-Pan will give you tools and techniques to:

- Identify and treat the roots of anxiety in both the amygdala and the cortex
- Explain "the language of the amygdala" in an accessible, straight forward way
- Identify how the cortex contributes to anxiety, and empower clients with strategies to resist anxiety-igniting cognitions

Register today for this workshop and put the power of neuroplasticity to work for you and your anxious clients!

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 request.

Target Audience:

Social Workers • Psychologists • Psychiatrists • Counselors • Case Managers

Marriage and Family Therapists • Occupational Therapists • Occupational Therapy Assistants

Speech Language Pathologists • Addiction Counselors • Therapists • Nurses

Physicians • Other Mental Health Professionals



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Meet Your Speaker

Heidi Schreiber-Pan, PhD, LCPC, NCC, is a successful psychotherapist, author, clinical director and sought-after nationwide speaker on topics of resilience, anxiety, neuroscience, and occupational burnout. As an affiliate and former faculty member of Loyola University, Maryland, her past research has focused on resiliency and psychological well-being, including nature-based mental health.

Dr. Schreiber-Pan has worked with various organizations, schools and corporations to reduce stress on a communal level and to increase structural well-being through training in positive psychology as well as emotional intelligence coaching.

She has developed unique continuing education courses that combine established clinical methods such as CBT with innovative treatment approached including nature-based psychotherapy and neuro-counseling. She is the author of *Taming the Anxious Mind: A guidebook to relieve stress and anxiety*.

Speaker Disclosure:

Financial: Heidi Schreiber-Pan maintains a private practice and has an employment relationship with Chesapeake Mental Health Collaborative. She receives royalties as a published author. Heidi Schreiber-Pan receives a speaking honorarium, recording royalties, and book royalties from PESI, Inc. She has no relevant financial relationships with ineligible organizations.

Non-financial: Heidi Schreiber-Pan is a member of the American Counseling Association (ACA) and Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES).

CE CREDITS AVAILABLE FOR LIVE WEBINAR

This continuing education activity is designed to meet state board requirements for the following professionals: Addiction Counselors, Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, Nurses, Occupational Therapists, Occupational Therapy Assistants, Physicians, Psychologists, Social Workers, and Speech-Language Pathologists.

For specific credit approvals, details, and planning committee disclosures, please see the "credit approvals and details" URL below. For speaker disclosures, please see speaker bios.

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Recommended Reading:



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Meditation Interventions to Rewire the Brain Integrating Neuroscience Strategies fo

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