



Presentation Title: The Role of Discrimination and Social Defeat in Explaining the Relationship between Race and Psychosis

Presentation Time: 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM US Eastern Time

Content Level:

Abstract: There is an elevated rate of psychotic symptoms in inner-city Black populations worldwide that is long-established. This paper will present evidence to support the theory that this amplification in the incidence of psychosis is mediated by childhood trauma, social defeat, and dissociation and that it is the prevalence of undiagnosed dissociative spectrum illness that accounts for much of the increased rates to psychosis in these underprivileged, minority communities.

Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

- Summarize the disparities in the prevalence of psychotic symptoms in Black populations world wide
- Explain the role of discrimination and social defeat in the development of psychotic symptoms
- Describe the overlap in symptoms between dissociative disorders and psychotic disorders
- Recognize the importance of including dissociative spectrum illness in the differential when all patients with mental illness

Presenter(s)

Heather Hall, MD

Dr. Hall is a board-certified adult psychiatrist. She has over thirty years of experience. She combines her expertise in psychopharmacology and psychotherapy in developing a treatment plan tailored to the needs of each individual. Before establishing her private practice, Dr. Hall was an associate clinical professor of psychiatry at UCSF and then UC Davis. She is currently on the board of directors of the International Society for the Study of Trauma and Dissociation and specializes in the treatment of complex trauma. Dr. Hall is a graduate of Smith College in Northampton MA. She completed her medical training at Drexel University in Philadelphia PA and her psychiatric training at The Institute of Pennsylvania hospital, also in Philadelphia. She lives in the Sacramento area with her husband of twenty-five years and enjoys playing classical piano.

Continuing Education

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