Outline

Use Neuroscience in the Treatment of

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

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

Sleep and the amydgala The influence of exercise

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

Exposure as opportunities for the amygdala to learn

Combatting avoidance

When anxiety indicates that the amygdala can learn new responses

Push through anxiety to change the

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,

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 amyodala-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

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February 14, 2019

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Rewire the Anxious Brain

Neuroscience-Informed Treatment of Anxiety, Panic and Worry

Idaho Falls, ID

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Salt Lake City, UT Thursday, February 14, 2019

Boise, ID

Friday, February 15, 2019

Objectives

- 1. Ascertain the underlying neurological processes that impact anxious symptoms for clients.
- 2. Develop client engagement in treatment using personalized goals and attending to the therapeutic relationship.
- 3. Evaluate the differences between amygdala-based and cortex-based anxiety symptoms and identify how these symptoms inform treatment interventions.
- 4. Communicate strategies for calming and training the amygdala in order to alleviate symptoms of anxiety. 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 treatment implications.

than exacerbated.

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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

This course counts toward the educational hours required for certification or recertification as a Certified Clinical Anxiety Treatment Professional (CCATP). Visit icatp.com for the full certification requirements.

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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!

Speaker _

Heidi Schreiber-Pan, Ph.D., 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.

Dr. Schreiber-Pan 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 Disclosures:

Financial: Heidi Schreiber-Pan is in private practice. She receives a consulting fee from Loyola University. Dr. Schreiber-Pan receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc.

Non-financial: Heidi Schreiber-Pan is a member of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision; the American Counseling Association; and Maryland Association for Counseling and Development.

Target Audience: Social Workers - Psychologists - Counselors - Marriage and Family Therapists - Case Managers Occupational Therapists • Occupational Therapy Assistants • Speech Language Pathologists • Addiction Counselors Therapists • Nurses • Other Mental Health Professionals

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8:00 Program begins **11:50-1:00** Lunch (on your own)

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

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