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## Section D

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Summary and Case Examples

# Summary

- Syndromes defined as a constellation of signs and symptoms occurring concurrently within the same individual
- Western-based psychiatry has a diagnostic structure—DSM—that defines the syndrome structures and criteria
- Overlap between syndromes is common (comorbidity)—but challenges diagnosis decisions

# Activity



- Two case examples—description of an adult and a child
- Post your thoughts on which diagnosis might fit these clients, and why

# Case Example 1: Adult



- 40-year-old woman who came into a medical clinic
- Complaints of stomach aches and diarrhea
- Looking thin, losing appetite
- Quiet
- Keeping to herself
- Bouts of outrage on her children
- Says she can't concentrate and often "zones out"



## Case Example 2: Child



- 8-year-old child
- Cries often
- Stays alone
- Doesn't listen to parents
- Refuses to go to school
- Enuresis
- Irritable
- Easily agitated



# Activity Instructions



- What type of diagnosis would you first move toward?
- What additional questions do you have? For the woman? For the child's parents?
- What more information do you need to start to understand the mental health problem?
- Post your thoughts in the BBS areas marked Lecture 2. There are separate conversation areas for Case Study 1 and Case Study 2.