

HUMAN BEHAVIOR COURSE 2004
VIGNETTE 1:1 DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Questions for Discussion 1:1

This small group will tackle two basic elements psychiatrists use to understand patients, predict their prognosis, and develop appropriate treatment strategies. These two elements are the **multiaxial diagnostic assessment** and the **patient formulation**. This clinical vignette will be used to discuss multiaxial diagnostic assessment as it is described in DSM-IV.

First, let's review the diagnostic axes and assess Ms. S. on each axis using the information we've been given.

1. Axis I:

- A. What diagnostic information is generally recorded on Axis I?

- B. What diagnosis or diagnoses seem most appropriate for Ms. S. on Axis I?

2. Axis II:

- A. Personality disorders and mental retardation are recorded on Axis II when appropriate.
 - 1) What is a "personality disorder"?

 - 2) How is a personality disorder different from the type of diagnoses commonly recorded on axis I?

- B. What diagnosis or diagnoses seem most appropriate for Ms. S. on Axis II?

3. Axis III:

- A. What diagnostic information is generally recorded on Axis III?

- B. What diagnosis or diagnoses seem appropriate for Ms. S. on Axis III?

4. Axis IV:

- A. What information is generally recorded on Axis IV?

- B. What information seems appropriate to record for Ms. S. on Axis IV?

5. Axis V:

- A. What information is generally recorded on Axis V?

- B. What information seems appropriate to record for Ms. S. on Axis V?