CPA New Frontiers Summit:

The Role of Psychologists in Solid Organ Transplant Candidacy Decisions in VA

Presented by: Madison Bailey, PsyD, HSP

Description:

Psychologists can play a central role in interdisciplinary solid-organ transplant care. Using the Veterans Health Administration as a practice context, this session examines psychologists' roles in transplant candidacy, psychosocial assessment of readiness and contraindications, culturally responsive formulation, adherence and health-behavior considerations, and interventions that may strengthen readiness. Applied examples illustrate consultation and interdisciplinary decision-making.

After attending this event, participants will be able to:

1. Identify at least three psychosocial factors relevant to evaluating solid-organ transplant candidacy and readiness.
2. Apply a culturally responsive framework to assess how cultural, contextual, and behavioral factors may influence transplant readiness and adherence.
3. Differentiate modifiable psychosocial barriers from more persistent risk factors when developing psychological recommendations for transplant candidates.
4. Develop at least one evidence-informed psychological intervention or recommendation to address a modifiable barrier to transplant readiness within an interdisciplinary care plan.
5. Select at least one psychologically informed intervention or recommendation to address a modifiable barrier to transplant readiness.

Madison Bailey, PsyD, HSP, is a clinical health psychologist in Behavioral Medicine at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System. She earned her MS and PsyD in Clinical Psychology at California Lutheran University, with clinical emphases in health psychology, integrated care, and military and first-responder populations. Dr. Bailey completed her predoctoral internship at the VA Maine Healthcare System and a postdoctoral fellowship in Integrated Care Psychology with an emphasis in HIV/Liver Care at the San Francisco VA Health Care System. Her clinical interests include transplant psychology, coping with complex chronic medical conditions, health behavior change, mindfulness-based interventions, supervision and training, and interdisciplinary education. At VA Palo Alto, she supervises clinical work involving advanced kidney disease and renal-transplant care, including mental health readiness evaluations, brief interventions to strengthen transplant readiness, and consultation with interdisciplinary teams. She also currently serves on the interdisciplinary Cardiac Transplant Team at VA Palo Alto in partnership with Stanford Health Care's Cardiac Transplant Program. She has previously presented continuing education on psychologists' roles in solid-organ transplant candidacy decisions in VA.