



The American College of Psychiatrists

2023-2024 Psychiatry Resident In-Training Examination[®] (CHILD PRITE[®]) Annotated Content Outline



This document provides the current CHILD PRITE content outline with annotated remarks. This document is organized by major content area. Each content area can be accessed by clicking on the area of interest from the Table of Contents.

This guide can be used to facilitate item writing in the content area by providing item writers with additional information specific to each content area. In addition to the annotated content area information, this content outline also provides a mapping of the respective milestone(s) to each content area.

Note that the annotations and milestones listed below are suggestions to guide question writing. They may not be the only valid options. Since this exam is a cognitive assessment, in general, the MK milestones are the most appropriate. All items must have one milestone; and a maximum of two per item.



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| Domain/Subdomain | Items |
|--|----------------------------|
| A. Clinical Neurosciences | MK3 all subheadings |
| Emphasis on basic science, structure & processes, general, not related to specific disorders/pathology. | |
| A.1 Neurodevelopment (across the lifespan) | MK3 & MK1 |
| A.2 Neuroanatomy | MK3 |
| A.3 Neurophysiology: Cells and Circuits | MK3 & MK1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognized circuits with clinical relevance Neurotransmitters and receptors Modulators (hormones, inflammatory responses) Neurobiological basis of basic behaviors (e.g., appetite, sleep, sex, aggression, attachment, attention, pain and pleasure) | |
| A.4 Genetics | MK3 |
| A.4.a Types of genetic abnormalities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mechanisms, not clinical syndromes (e.g., <i>trinucleotide repeats, translocations, etc.</i>) | MK3 |
| A.4.b Methods to identify genes and genetic disorders | MK3 |
| A.4.c Epigenetics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-DNA factors including gene expression | MK3 |



| Domain/Subdomain | Items |
|--|----------------------------|
| B. Clinical Neurology | MK3 all subheadings |
| B.1 Diagnostic procedures | MK3 |
| B.1.a Neurological interview and examination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to conduct a neuro interview and exam in general (e.g., how to assess for apraxia) | MK3 |
| B.1.b Neuroimaging <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structural and functional | MK3 |
| B.1.c Neurophysiological testing for neurological evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EEG, evoked potentials, sleep studies | MK3 |
| B.2 Diagnostic and clinical evaluation of neurologic disorders/syndromes | MK3 & MK2 |
| B.2.a Common neurological disorders/syndromes | MK3 & MK2 |
| B.2.b Comorbid psychiatric disorders associated with neurological disorders/syndromes | MK3 & MK2 |
| B.3 Management and treatment of neurological disorders/syndromes | MK3 & MK2 |



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|---|----------------------------|
| C. Clinical Psychiatry | |
| C.1 Development and Maturation (Fetus through adolescence/early adulthood) | MK1 all subheadings |
| <p>Growth and development, relationship to functioning at various stages, changes and growth relevant to clinical assessment and treatment; clinical vignettes useful; avoid name that theory/name that age</p> | |
| C.1.a Physical (other than neurodevelopmental) | MK1 |
| C.1.b Cognitive/Language | MK1 |
| C.1.c Psychological/Emotional/Personality | MK1 |
| C.1.d Social | MK1 |
| C.1.e Sexual | MK1 |
| <p>C.1.f Environmental influences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethnic, cultural, family, social, spiritual influences | MK1 |
| <p>C.1.g Life transitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Becoming an adult, becoming a parent, change in relationship status, getting or losing a job, gender transitions, role transitions, aging, death | MK1 |



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| C. Clinical Psychiatry | |
| C.2 Behavioral and Social Sciences | MK4 all Subheadings |
| May overlap with other areas | |
| C.2.a Psychology | MK4 |
| C.2.a.1 Behavioral/Cognitive psychology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes behavioral, cognitive, and cognitive-behavioral theory | MK4 |
| C.2.a.2 Neuropsychology/Learning theory | MK4 |
| C.2.a.3 Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic theory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid questions that simply match names with theories – should test for understanding of significance and meaning) | MK4 |
| C.2.a.4 Social psychology/Sociology/Anthropology/Ethnology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes social factors influencing attitudes and behaviors (e.g., bias and prejudice, as well as theories of group/family organization and dynamics) Sociology Anthropology and Ethnology (incl. religion, spirituality, culture, includes cross-cultural factors important for clinical practice) | MK4 |
| C.2.b Other behavioral/social sciences | MK4 |



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| C. Clinical Psychiatry | |
| C.3 Epidemiology | MK2 all Subheadings |
| <p>Avoid questions where answers may vary over time such as prevalence of substance use. The epidemiology of specific disorders goes in C5. Focus on methodology and statistics essential to understanding research reports</p> | |
| C.3.a Core concepts and major research studies | MK2 |
| <p>C.3.b Prevention/Risk Factors/Resilience/Protective factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary, secondary, tertiary; examples and clinical vignettes useful • Risk Factors (General risk factors rather than risk for a particular disorder) • Resilience/ Protective factors (General protective factors rather than risk for a particular disorder) | MK2 |
| C.3.c Other epidemiology | MK2 |



| C. Clinical Psychiatry | |
|--|----------------------------|
| C.4 Diagnostic Procedures | MK2 all Subheadings |
| Where appropriate, ask questions specific to different age groups, e.g., children, adolescents, or special populations | |
| C.4.a Interview | MK2 |
| C.4.b Mental Status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All aspects of formal MSE including differences for specific age groups and special populations | MK2 |
| C.4.c Diagnostic assessments and rating scales <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test for understanding clinical relevance of specific instruments | MK2 |
| C.4.d Psychological/Neuropsychological testing | MK2 |
| C.4.e Laboratory testing/Monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test for understanding and clinical relevance of specific tests | MK2 |
| C.4.f Imaging | MK2 & MK3 |
| C.4.g Neurophysiological testing | MK2 & MK3 |
| C.4.g.1 EEG | MK2 & MK3 |
| C.4.g.2 EMG | MK2 & MK3 |
| C.4.g.3 Sleep | MK2 & MK3 |
| C.4.h Other diagnostic procedures | MK2 & MK3 |



| C. Clinical Psychiatry | |
|--|----------------------------|
| C.5 Psychopathology and Associated Conditions (Fetus through Adolescence/Early Adulthood) | MK2 all Subheadings |
| Clinical vignettes useful, differential diagnosis, contributing factors and characteristics, comorbidity but not indicated treatment | |
| C.5.a Disorders (includes substance-, medication-, medical condition-induced) | MK2 |
| C.5.a.1 Neurodevelopmental | MK2 |
| C.5.a.2 Schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.3 Bipolar and related disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.4 Depressive disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.5 Anxiety disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.6 Obsessive-compulsive and related disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.7 Trauma and stressor-related disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.8 Dissociative disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.9 Somatic symptom and related disorders (may include pain syndrome) | MK2 |
| C.5.a.10 Feeding and eating disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.11 Elimination disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.12 Sleep-wake disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.13 Sexual dysfunctions | MK2 |
| C.5.a.14 Gender dysphoria | MK2 |
| C.5.a.15 Disruptive/Impulse control/Conduct disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.16 Substance-related and addictive disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.17 Neurocognitive disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.18 Personality disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.a.19 Paraphilic disorders | MK2 |



| C. Clinical Psychiatry | |
|---|----------------------------|
| C.5 Psychopathology and Associated Conditions (Fetus through Adolescence/Early Adulthood) | MK2 all Subheadings |
| C.5.a.20 Reproductive Psychopathology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Premenstrual, perinatal, perimenopausal disorders, as experienced by all genders) | MK2 |
| C.5.a.21 Other mental disorders | MK2 |
| C.5.b High Risk Behaviors | MK2 |
| May overlap with other areas, especially psychopathology; identification and management of these types of behaviors; characteristics of affected individuals; significance of these behaviors for diagnosis, treatment response, outcome; child, adolescent and variou patient populations; clinical vignettes useful | MK2 |
| C.5.b.1 Suicidality/Self-injurious behavior | MK2 |
| C.5.b.2 Aggression/Interpersonal violence and homicide/Social aggression (gangs, terrorism) | MK2 |
| C.5.c Environmental factors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family/Social/ Education/ Employment/ Housing/ Financial/Legal/ Health; impact and relationship of environmental factors to functioning and psychopathology. • Clinical vignettes useful • Avoid listing of statistics | MK2 |



| C. Clinical Psychiatry | |
|--|----------------------------|
| C.6 Treatment from Infancy through Adolescence/Early Adulthood | MK2 all Subheadings |
| Should include questions relevant to specific age groups and special populations | |
| C.6.a Patient Engagement: The Therapeutic Alliance and the Physician/Patient Relationship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical vignettes preferred, when possible, not ethical issues | MK2 & PC4 |
| C.6.b Case Formulation/Differential Diagnosis/Treatment Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should focus on clinical reasoning and integration of data from multiple domains, e.g., the biopsychosocial formulation Treatment Planning should focus on factors related to selecting specific treatment(s) based upon diagnostic formulation and other considerations, e.g., access to care, systems of care, cost-effectiveness | MK2 |
| C.6.c Management of difficult patients and nonadherence to treatment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preferable to use clinical vignettes | MK2 |
| C.6.d Somatic Therapies | MK2 & PC5 |
| C.6.d.1 Psychopharmacology | MK2 & PC5 |
| C.6.d.1.a Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical vignettes encouraged | MK2 & PC5 |
| C.6.d.1.b Drug Interactions | MK2 & PC5 |
| C.6.d.1.c Age/Gender/Racial issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pharmacokinetic/dynamic factors specific to different age, gender and racial groups | MK2 & PC5 |
| C.6.d.1.d Pharmacogenomics | MK2 & PC5 |
| For categories below, focus on mechanisms of action, indications, selection, side effects etc.; NOT differential dx. Use generic names of medications. | |



| C. Clinical Psychiatry | |
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| C.6 Treatment from Infancy through Adolescence/Early Adulthood | MK2 all Subheadings |
| C.6.d.1.e Antipsychotics | MK2 |
| C.6.d.1.f Antidepressants | MK2 |
| C.6.d.1.g Antianxiety/Sedative-hypnotics | MK2 |
| C.6.d.1.h Mood stabilizers | MK2 |
| C.6.d.1.i Cognitive enhancers | MK2 |
| C.6.d.1.j Psychostimulants | MK2 |
| C.6.d.1.k Medications to treat substance use | MK2 |
| C.6.d.1.l Reproductive Treatment Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PMDD, pregnancy, aging-related phenomena, lactation, perimenopause as relevant to all genders | MK2 |
| C.6.d.1.m Augmentation agents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applies to all augmentation strategies for all medications and all diagnoses | MK2 |
| C.6.d.1.n Medications for side effects | MK2 |
| C.6.d.1.o Adverse medication effects | MK2 |
| C.6.d.1.p Other psychopharmacology (e.g. medications for addiction) | MK2 |
| C.6.e Other somatic therapies | MK2 & PC5 |
| C.6.e.1 Neuromodulation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECT, TMS, Neurosurgery, Vagal nerve stimulation, Deep brain stimulation, Biofeedback) | MK2 & PC5 |
| C.6.e.2 Phototherapy/Chronotherapy | MK2 & PC5 |



| C. Clinical Psychiatry | |
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| C.6 Treatment from Infancy through Adolescence/Early Adulthood | MK2 all Subheadings |
| C.6.e.3 Complementary/Alternative medicine | MK2 |
| C.6.e.4 Other somatic therapies | MK2 |
| C.6.f Psychotherapy and Psychoeducational Interventions <i>Where appropriate, should cover full range of age groups and other special populations; should emphasize treatments that have evidence supporting effectiveness and efficacy, taking into account that a wide range of therapies are considered clinically relevant</i> | MK2 & MK4 |
| C.6.f.1 Supportive | MK2 & MK4 |
| C.6.f.2 Behavioral/Dialectical Behavioral | MK2 & MK4 |
| C.6.f.3 Cognitive/Cognitive-Behavioral | MK2 & MK4 |
| C.6.f.4 Interpersonal | MK2 & MK4 |
| C.6.f.5 Dyadic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes couples tx. parent-child tx | MK2 & MK4 |
| C.6.f.6 Psychoeducation (<i>including parenting</i>) | MK2 & MK4 |
| C.6.f.7 Psychodynamic/Psychoanalytic | MK2 & MK4 |
| C.6.f.8 Family | MK2 & MK4 |
| C.6.f.9 Group | MK2 & MK4 |
| C.6.f.10 Motivational Interviewing | MK2 & MK4 |
| C.6.f.11 Other Psychotherapy/Psychoeducational interventions | MK2 & MK4 |



| C. Clinical Psychiatry | |
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| C.6 Treatment from Infancy through Adolescence/Early Adulthood | MK2 all Subheadings |
| C.6.g Psychosocial/Milieu Treatments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indication for and management of treatment interventions; clinical vignettes useful; focus on patient/disorder characteristics for various interventions, unique aspects of interventions, role of psychiatrist; cover child, adolescent and different patient populations; should include rationale for selections of various interventions | MK2 & SBP2 |
| C.6.g.1 Rehabilitation/Relapse prevention/Harm reduction; Self-Help/Peer Support Programs; Case Management | MK2 & SBP2 |
| C.6.g.2 Inpatient/Residential; Partial/Day Rx; In-home/Community-Based services | MK2 & SBP2 |
| C.6.g.3 Outpatient | MK2 & SBP2 |
| C.6.g.4 Emergency/Crisis Interventions/Seclusion/Restraints | MK2 & SBP2 |
| C.6.g.5 Other Psychosocial/Milieu treatments | MK2 & SBP2 |



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| C. Clinical Psychiatry | |
| C.7 Consultation and Collaborative-Integrated Care | PC6, SBP2 all Subheadings |
| Applies to patient care issues in consultative systems and models; does not cover questions of specific diagnoses (5a) or treatments including pain, medication, interactions (6d), etc. Clinical vignettes useful; focus on the role of the psychiatrist in each setting | |
| C.7.a Medical <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on the role of the psychiatrist in medical settings | PC6 & SBP2 |
| C.7.b Court/Justice system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psychiatric consultation to the courts. Avoid name that case | PC6 & SBP2 |
| C.7.c Community Mental Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community mental health-based care | PC6 & SBP2 |
| C.7.d School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May include basic questions about educational law | PC6 & SBP2 |
| C.7.e Other consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religious organizations, patient advocacy organizations, employment-based services | PC6 & SBP2 |



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| C.8 Issues in Practice | |
| C.8.a Quality improvement/Patient safety/Risk management/Use of Technology | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality Assurance/Improvement Patient Safety Risk Management (Different QA approaches; hospital patient safety goals; Root cause analyses, when to notify, incident reporting) Clinical vignettes useful | SBP1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of Technology (refers to use by an individual in practice) Does not include EMR, electronic billing, e-mailing, texting, internet, etc. NOT professionalism concerns (see 8b) | SBP3 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching and education (includes teaching patient/family groups as well as colleagues) Advocacy (Advocating on behalf of patients, organizations and the profession to insurance carriers, other professionals, government, etc.) | SBP3 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-assessment and lifelong learning (Maintenance of certification, etc.) | PBL1 & PBL2 |
| C.8.b Ethics/Professionalism | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical (professionalism issues in practice (e.g., billing, CPT codes, working with insurance, etc.) Research/Scholarly Activity (the ethics of conducting research, writing up case reports, etc.) Organizational & Administrative (ethical issues in systems of care, leadership, accrediting bodies, etc.) | PROF1 & PROF2 |
| C.8.c Forensics/Legal issues | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As they apply to practice (mandated reporting requirements, landmark case precedents that impact clinical care) Avoid 'name that case' Emphasize key content of important cases | PROF1, PROF2, PC6 |
| C.8.d History of psychiatry | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid name recognition questions Focus on landmark thinkers, specific contributions Avoid 'name that case' Emphasize key content of important cases | PROF1, PROF2, & SBP3 |
| C.8.e Other issues in practice | |
| | PROF1 & PROF2 |



| C.9 Research and Scholarship Literacy | PBL1 all subheadings |
|--|----------------------|
| <p>C.9.a Research design/Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study design | PBL1 |
| <p>C.9.b Accessing/Evaluating/Applying evidence to practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Validity, reliability, generalizability, etc. | PBL1 |
| <p>C.9.c Statistics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core concepts, e.g., NNT | PBL1 |



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| C.10 Administration and Systems | SBP2, SBP3 all Subheadings |
| <p>Structures, organization, processes, and policies that govern the delivery of psychiatric care in various settings, impact functioning of psychiatrically ill individuals, determine type and extent of services available, control/manage information collection and dissemination. Should be relevant to psychiatry and cover child, adolescent as well as different populations.</p> | |
| <p>C.10.a Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Policy • Information Management and Electronic Medical Record • Organizational theory and structure • Health Care Economics • Other administration duties | SBP2 & SBP3 |
| <p>C.10.b Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including Community, Justice, educational and other systems • Global • Other | SBP2 & SBP3 |