

# SAINT SOPHIE'S

**PSYCHIATRIC CENTER** 





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PRESENTING TO

### **Caregiver Burnout**

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- Identify the importance of focusing on Caregiver Burnout.
- 2. Discuss risk factors/Signs for Caregiver Burnout.
- 3. Discuss Healthcare provider's/Caregiver role in managing Burnout

### Identify the importance of focusing on Caregiver Burnout

- Caregiver burnout occurs as a result of the constant focus of fulfilling other's needs while neglecting one's own needs and this leads to mental, emotional, and physical exhaustion.
- All of us here to some extent are caregivers
- Caregiver's have one of the highest level of stress.
- Caregiver burnout has a trickle-down effect.



### Discuss some risk factors for Caregiver Burnout

- Any caregiver especially those caring for patients or family members with complex or multiple issues with mental/ physical illness.
- Normalizing chronic stress while limiting self-care
- Lack of awareness of caregiver burnout
- Mentality of "I can do it all"

## Signs of Caregiver Burnout

- A short fuse/emotional outburst (can be directed to friends, family, or individual being cared for.
- . Sleeping problems
- · Significant weight change (loss or gain)



### Cont.

- Physical illness (frequent cold, elevated BP, Pains, fatigue, digestive issues)
- · Substance abuse/recreational drug use
- . Self-isolate

# Questions that can foster dialogue in assessing Caregiver Burnout

- What is it like for you to have others depend on you?
- Do you have concerns about others burdening you? How do these affect you?
- What are some things that are important to you, are you still able to do those things?
- What have you had to give up?



### Cont.

- What are your concerns about controlling patients' symptoms?
- Do you feel you have been able to express your concerns and are they being address?
- What kinds of situations do you worry about that might be overwhelming for you?

### Discuss Healthcare provider's role in managing Burnout

- Be cognizant of your risk for caregiver burnout
- Always assess signs of caregiver burnout in your patient and family members
- Be aware of suppressed or repress feelings.
- Know your "breaking point" and avoid it.



### Healthcare provider's role

- Foster a supportive clinician-patient relationship
- Recognize unhealthy coping skills (self isolate, substance use)
- Identify and address other contributing factors that may impact the patient's overall mental health (financial, emotional, physical, and spiritual stressors).



### Cont.

- Learn to utilize other healthcare team members for support
  Be aware that burnout can foster ineffective care and diminishes the providers' compassion.
- Avoiding normalizing chronic stress and limited self-care

### **Strategies for Caregivers**

- Acquiring better coping skill and managing stress through:
- Set realistic goals
- Seeking professional help and support (therapist, psychiatrist, PCP)
- Utilize your local resources including support groups





- Talk to your employer
- Listen to your body/self-care
- Find healthy outlet (diary, eat healthy, good sleep, exercises, hobbies, meditation, vacation, set boundaries, and support groups)
- SAY NO



### Resources

- Caregiver Assistance and Support Groups
- . <u>AARP</u> (1-888) 687-2277
- . Family Caregiver Alliance (1-800) 445-8106
- . <u>Caregiver.com</u> (954) 893-0550
- . <u>Caregiver Action Network</u> (202) 454-3970
- . <u>Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving</u> (229) 928-1234
- . <u>Well Spouse Association</u> (1-800) 838-0879

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