

Module 10 - Clinical Intuition

1. Are clinical judgments social judgments?
 - a. Illusory correlations
 - b. Illusory thinking
 - c. Overconfidence bred by hindsight
 - d. Self-confirming diagnoses

2. Illusory Thinking
 - a. Facilitated Communication
 - i. Circa 1992 -- Facilitator places his/her hand on an autistic child's and "facilitates" the typing or pointing in response to target stimuli
 - ii. Prisoners of Silence - PBS Frontline 1993, debunked the technique

 - b. EMDR "eye movement and desensitization reprocessing"
 - i. Therapist waves finger in front of patients eyes as patient recall traumatic effect, purpose is to allow brain to reprocess the sensory input and memory
 - ii. Used to treat PTSD
 - iii. Little scientific support or evidence

3. Design an experiment to test this hypothesis :
 - a. "Women are particularly susceptible to flattery and thus tend to comply with requests when smiled at and when given compliments."
 - b. How did you do? The design should include these observations
 - i. Women/Flattery
 - ii. Women/No Flattery
 - iii. Men/Flattery
 - iv. Men/No Flattery
 - c. Did you include all, why or why not?
 - d. Result of self-confirming diagnosis – find what you seek...

4. Clinical versus statistical Prediction
 - a. Statistical predictions are unreliable
 - b. Human predictions are more unreliable
 - c. Can you predict behavior or personality?

5. Implications
 - a. Clinicians are vulnerable to errors and biases
 - i. Illusory correlations
 - ii. After the fact analysis
 - iii. Self-confirming diagnosis
 - iv. Overestimate predictive powers of clinical intuition