NR547 Week Seven Quiz Summary

- Personality disorders are characterized by unhealthy thoughts and actions, which interrupt one's day-to-day living. These disorders can be further divided into three clusters: A, the odd and eccentric; B, the dramatic or erratic; and C, the anxious or fearful.
- Narcissistic personality disorder is characterized by a heightened sense of self-importance, lack of empathy, and grandiose feelings of uniqueness, though self-esteem may be fragile. Individuals with dependent personality disorder exhibit an excessive dependence on others, feeling the need to have others assume responsibility for significant portions of their lives. Individuals with borderline personality disorder stand on the border between neurosis and psychosis, exhibiting unstable affect, mood, behaviors, object relations, and self-image.
- Individuals with borderline personality disorder stand on the border between neurosis and psychosis, exhibiting unstable affect, mood, behaviors, object relations, and self-image. They often engage in risky behaviors. They are intensely fearful of abandonment, and their relationships are often intense and unstable. Stress-related mood swings and paranoia, and suicidal behavior or threats of self-harm are common.
- Some patients are helped by β-adrenergic receptor antagonists, such as atenolol, to manage autonomic nervous system hyperactivity, which tends to be high in patients with avoidant personality disorder, especially when they approach feared situations (p.573). Lithium can help patients whose clinical picture includes mood swings. There is limited evidence for the pharmacologic treatment of obsessive- compulsive personality disorder. Some studies have suggested benefits from fluvoxamine and carbamazepine.