

Chapter 1 Review

Questions

1. Most states employ some variation of the *Dusky* standard to form their jurisdictions' competency standards.
True False
2. It is important for offenders to be competent to stand trial in order to:
 - A. Ensure accurate results
 - B. Maintain the dignity of the legal system
 - C. Justify the imposition of punishment
 - D. All of the above.
3. List the five main phases for determining and disposing of competence cases according to Grisso (2003).
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
 - 4)
 - 5)
4. Which of the following is a guideline for the admissibility of evidence under the Daubert standard?
 - A. Whether a theory or technique is scientific knowledge that will assist the trier of fact will be whether it can be (and has been) tested.
 - B. Whether the theory or technique has been subjected to peer review and publication.
 - C. In the case of a particular scientific technique, the court ordinarily should consider the known or potential rate of error.
 - D. General acceptance.
 - E. All of the above.
5. Discuss the Frye and Daubert standards and how they might affect the admissibility of psychological evidence.
6. The GBMI verdict is becoming more popular in all states.
True False
7. NGRI verdicts are rarely raised and rarely successful.
True False
8. In order to complete a risk assessment, information is gathered from what source(s)?
 - A. Legal history
 - B. Psychiatric diagnosis
 - C. Demographic characteristics
 - D. All of the above
9. What is the difference between clinical prediction and actuarial prediction? Which method has been proven by research to be a more reliable predictor of violence?

Chapter 1 Review—cont'd

10. The MacArthur Study has revealed that within the major mental disorders, that a diagnosis of depression or bipolar disorder is associated with lower rates of violence than a diagnosis of schizophrenia.
True False
11. The predictive validity is higher for child molesters than rapists in which assessments?
A. VRAG and Static-99
B. RRASOR and SORAG
C. Static-99 and RRASOR
12. The majority of the patients in maximum-security hospitals have not experienced trauma in their lives?
True False
13. Violence risk assessments are frequently conducted in maximum-security forensic hospitals because many risk factors are present, including a history of violent crime.
True False
14. Psychologists working in maximum-security hospitals would benefit from having specialized knowledge in the area of criminal mental health law.
True False

Answer Key

1. True
2. D. All of the above
3. 1) Requesting a competence determination (often called “raising the question”);
2) The competence evaluation stage;
3) The judicial determination of competence or incompetence: and in some cases,
4) Disposition and provision of treatment; and
5) Rehearings on competence
4. E. All of the above
5. According to the ruling from Daubert, judges may consider the following factors when determining whether scientific evidence is admissible: (1) Has the technique been tested in actual field conditions? (2) Has the technique been subject to peer review and publication? (3) What is the known or potential rate of error? (4) Do standards exist for control of the technique’s operation? (5) Has the technique been generally accepted within the relevant scientific community? In the Frye ruling, it was held that techniques should be generally accepted by the corresponding scientific community. These standards may affect the admissibility of psychological evidence in many ways. For example, methodologies and techniques used in social sciences such as psychology may be less apt to meet the criteria for Daubert, particularly criteria 1 and 2, than other sciences. Additionally, the general acceptance standard contained in both decisions may be difficult to prove or meet with psychological evidence, as there is frequent controversy regarding the appropriate application of psychological techniques, and what constitutes “general acceptance” is subjective and left open to interpretation.
6. False
7. True
8. D. All of the above

Chapter 1 Review—cont'd

9. Possible response:
Clinical prediction is based on professional training and experience and actuarial prediction is based on statistical models that are used to determine the commonalities between a particular individual and others with similar characteristics who have engaged in violent behavior. Actuarial prediction has been proven to be a more reliable predictor of violence based on the research.
10. False
11. C. Static-99 and RRASOR
12. False
13. True
14. True