SUMMARY FOR GENERALIZED ANXIETY DISORDER

Clinical Presentation		
A	Anxious, nervous, or worried on most days about a number of events or activities	
N	No control over the worry	
D	Duration of 6 months	
1	Irritability	
С	Concentration impairment	
R	Restlessness	
E	Energy decreased	
s	Sleep impairment	
Т	Tension in muscles	

^{*}Consider ethnic, religious, cultural factors, life event stressors

Medications associated with Depression

Anticonvulsants: Carbamazepine, phenytoin

Antidepressants: SSRIs, TCAs

Antihypertensives: Felodipine, clonidine

Corticosteroids: Prednisone

Bronchodilators: Salbutamol, theophylline

Dopamine agonists: Levadopa

Herbals: Ma Huang, ginseng, ephedra

Sympathomimetics: Pseudoephedrine, phenylephrine

Thyroid hormones: Levothyroxine

Others: Elicit substances (marijuana, ecstasy), ibuprofen, antibiotics (quinolones, isoniazid), Toxicity (anticholinergics, antihistamines, digoxin), Withdrawal (Alcohol, sedatives)

Assessment:

- 1. Review of systems
- 2. PMHx
- 3. Medications: prescribed, OTC
- 4. Family Hx: anxiety, mood disorder
- 5. Social Hx: EtOH use, caffeine intake, illicit drug use
- Labs: CBC, Lipid profile, lytes, TSH, LFTs, FBG
- If warranted, urine toxicology screen for substance use

GAD-7 Tool (mdcalc link)

Score	GAD Severity
0-4	None
5-9	Mild anxiety
10-14	Moderate anxiety ≥10 possible diagnosis of GAD; confirm by further evaluation
15-21	Severe anxiety

Management (CANMAT GUIDELINES) - Short term (8-12 weeks) vs. Maintenance (>3 months after remission)

- Consider drug-drug interactions, tolerability, particular side effects
- Onset may be delayed: 2-8 weeks for symptom relief/onset
 - Increase dose every 1-2 weeks depending on tolerability; consider adjunct or switching agents if no/partial response
 - Will likely need higher doses than used with MDD
- Non-pharm: Psychotherapy (CBT), resistance and aerobic training, Bright light therapy not recommended

Monitoring Response - (also take note of Adverse Effects, Functional Quality of Life, Relapse Hx)

Level of Response	Level of Response (% Reduction from Baseline Rating Scale Score)
Response	≥ 50%
Partial Response	25-49%
Remission	Loss of diagnostic status (ie. GAD-7 <5); No functional impairment

^{*}Increase dose every 1-2 weeks depending on tolerability. Delayed onset of 2-8 weeks for symptoms relief/onset