MEDICAL SOCIAL WORK

I. Medical Social Work: Definition, concept, objectives, its nature, need and scope; The roles and functions of a Medical Social Worker; Historical development in India and abroad; Medical Sociology and its relevance to Medical Social Work practice. Practice of Social Work methods in hospital settings: Their need and Importance in working with patients and families: Scope and limitations of practice.

II. Psychological, Social and economic implications of illness and disability for the patient and his family; Concepts of patient as a person, patient as a whole, the psychosomatic approach. Multidisciplinary team work: Need, importance and principles; Role of Social Worker as a member of the team.

III. The hospital as a formal organisation, its goals, technology, structure and functions, departments, administrative procedures, Implications of hospitalization for the patient and his family. Medical Social Work Department: Staffing, organisation and functions; Extension services; Public Relations.

IV. Impairment, Disability and Handicap: Causes, types and classification of Physical handicaps: Orthopedic disability, Visual handicap, Aural impairment and speech disability; Psychosocial problems and implications for each specific handicap and role of the Medical Social Worker in intervention; Physical medicine, Physiotherapy and Occupational therapy: Objectives and types. Rehabilitation: Definition, concept, principles and process; Role of the Medical Social Worker in rehabilitation planning, resource mobilisation and follow-up.

V. Specific needs and problems of patients and their families; Need for assistance and role of the medical social worker in the following settings: Out patient unit, Intensive care unit, Pediatric ward, Maternity ward, Abortion clinic, Family planning centre, STD clinic, HIV clinic, Orthopedic department, Cardiology department, Blood bank, Hansenorium, TB Sanatorium and Cancer hospitals, Training of the volunteers to work with the chronically ill in the community, Special focus on Rural/Tribal Areas.

References:

Pathak S.H. : Medical social work, Delhi School of Social work, Delhi.