Assessing and Treating Patients with Psychosis and Schizophrenia... According to the Schizophrenia and Related Disorders Alliance of America, approximately 3.5 million people in the United States are diagnosed with schizophrenia (n.d.), and it is one of the leading causes of disability. In practice, patients may present with delusions, hallucinations, disorganized thinking, disorganized or abnormal motor behavior, as well as other negative symptoms that can be disabling for these individuals. Not only are these symptoms one of the most challenging symptom clusters you will encounter, many are associated with other disorders, such as depression, bipolar disorder, and disorders on the schizophrenia spectrum. As a psychiatric nurse practitioner, you must understand the underlying neurobiology of these symptoms to select appropriate therapies and improve outcomes for patients. This week, as you examine antipsychotic therapies, you explore the assessment and treatment of patients with psychosis and schizophrenia. You also consider ethical and legal implications of these therapies. Reference: Schizophrenia and Related Disorders Alliance of America. (n.d.). About schizophrenia.https://sardaa.org/resources/about-schizophrenia/#:~:text=Quick%20Facts%20About%20Schizophrenia.%20Schizophrenia%20can%20be%20found,is%20one%20of%20the%20leading%20causes%20of%20disability Learning Objectives Students will: Assess client factors and history to develop personalized therapy plans for patients with insomnia Analyze factors that influence pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic processes in patients requiring therapy for insomnia Assess patient factors and history to develop personalized plans of antipsychotic therapy for patients Analyze factors that influence pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic processes in patients requiring antipsychotic therapy Synthesize knowledge of providing care to patients presenting for antipsychotic therapy Analyze ethical and legal implications related to prescribing antipsychotic therapy to patients across the lifespan