REVIEW 17.5: Biomedical Therapies

Jessica’s therapist has diagnosed her with major depressive disorder and has suggested that her recovery may be expedited if

\[
she \text{ takes an } 1 \text{ drug such as Prozac.}
\]

Because

\[
her \text{ therapist is a } 2 \text{ he can prescribe drugs to his patients.}
\]

Unlike the 3 drugs, which depress central nervous system activity,

these drugs

work by increasing the availability of

\[
4 \text{ or } 5
\]

Prozac is called a 8 inhibitor (SSRI)

because

it partially blocks the reabsorption

\[
9 \text{ from neural } 10
\]

If the drugs and psychotherapy together don’t work for Jessica, her therapist may suggest the most controversial treatment for depression,

11

which involves sending a brief electrical current through the patient’s brain.

Alternatively,

Jessica might try 12 stimulation (rTMS), which produces fewer side effects such as 13 or 14 loss.

Answers may be found in the Appendix at the end of this booklet.