



What do you hope The Catatonia Foundation can accomplish?

Dr. Fricchione:

One thing you might pick up at The Catatonia Foundation is, wouldn't it be good to have nodes of catatonia clinical centers affiliated with academic medical centers where these patients, I mean, they would have to travel, but they could at least be evaluated at these centers and the social service people could try to get them back at their area with providers who could be part of a network of prescribers. You could even do educational programs over Zoom for clinicians who want to work in this area.

We should have a clinical catatonia consult service, and having an outpatient arm would be ideal. We see a lot of patients inpatient — you know, everybody's so busy and access is so hard and reimbursement's so hard that those become the impediments. But I do think that since you're getting a lot of requests, it would be nice to have certain clinical nodes, which could actually do the consultations and have enough resources to recommend where those patients could go in their local areas to receive ongoing care. I think that would make sense to me.

It could actually become a model for other conditions. The idea is you're actually building a connectome across the country where all these people who are manning the different nodes could learn from each other and from the experience. I think you've done marvelous work with the foundation, but maybe the foundation could be the kind of clearinghouse for ideas like that.