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With each issue, participants review current knowledge, recognize gaps in learning, and increase their understanding of an important topic in the field of psychiatry.

Participants also can prepare for an annual self-assessment designed to aid the physician in addressing areas where more study is needed to enhance management of patients.

TO EARN CME CREDIT

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In support of improving patient care, the American Psychiatric Association is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

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Focus

The Journal of Lifelong Learning in Psychiatry

"Lifelong Learning in Psychiatry" is an evolving series of educational initiatives developed by the American Psychiatric Association to meet the changing needs of psychiatrists for the 21st century.

Focus offers clinical reviews and original research for practicing psychiatrists to keep abreast of significant advances in the field. Developed as part of APA's "Lifelong Learning in Psychiatry" series—educational initiatives to meet the changing needs of psychiatrists for the 21st century—*Focus* has as its goal the dissemination of up-to-date information while facilitating lifelong study skills and critical self-assessment for improving patient care and preparation for maintenance of certification. Each issue is designed as a personal study resource with particular attention to clinical practice and offers opportunities to earn *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*[™].

The American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology

The American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology has reviewed *Focus: The Journal of Lifelong Learning in Psychiatry* and the *Focus Self-Assessment Examination* and has approved this program as part of a comprehensive lifelong learning and self-assessment program, which is mandated by the American Board of Medical Specialties as a necessary component of maintenance of certification.

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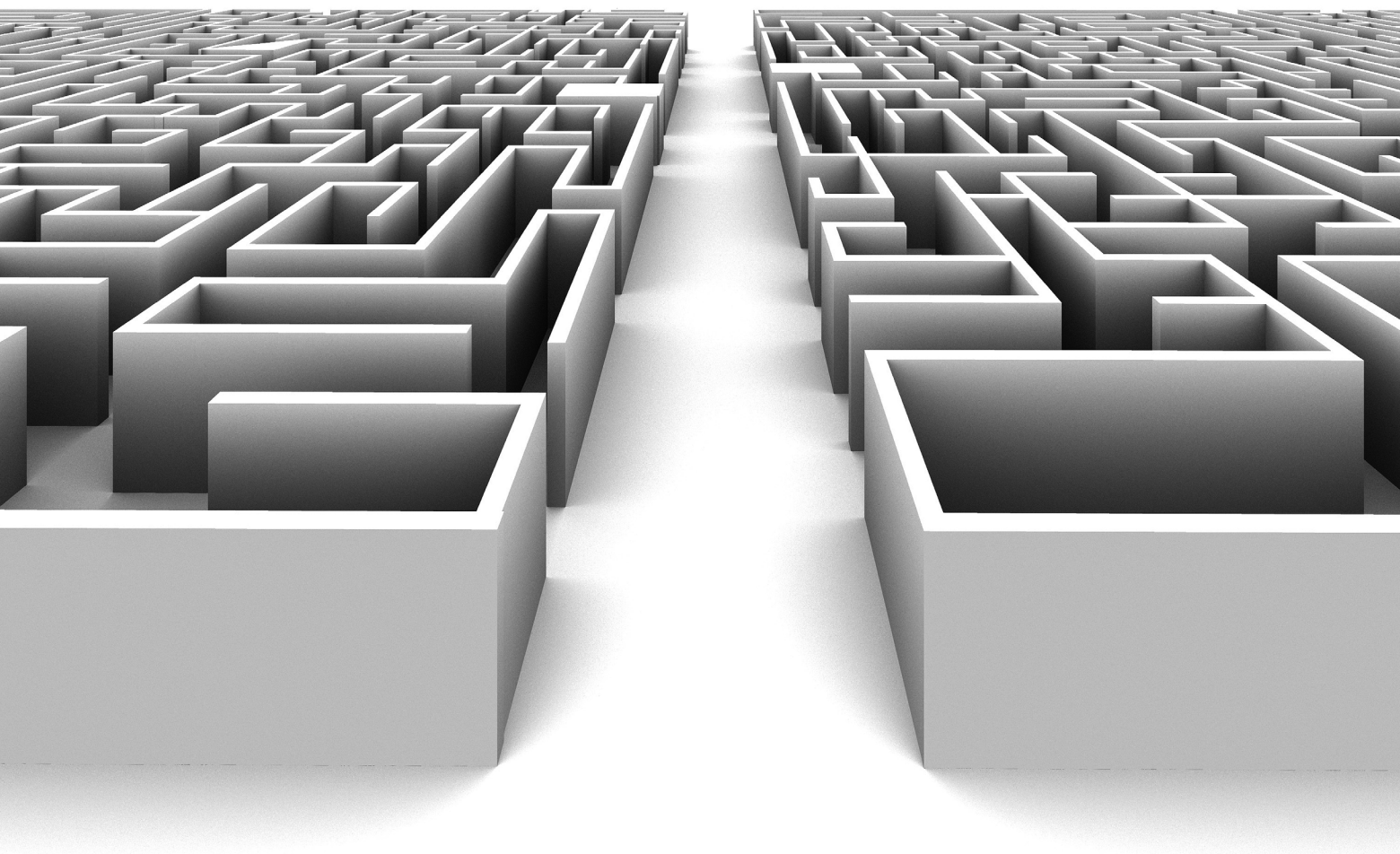
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Due to a number of factors, accurate and timely identification of bipolar disorder often remains elusive, with many individuals not receiving an accurate diagnosis for several years after onset of symptoms. This issue of *Focus* examines the assessment and treatment of this complex psychiatric condition. (Photo: glamstock/Imazins, via Getty Images)