

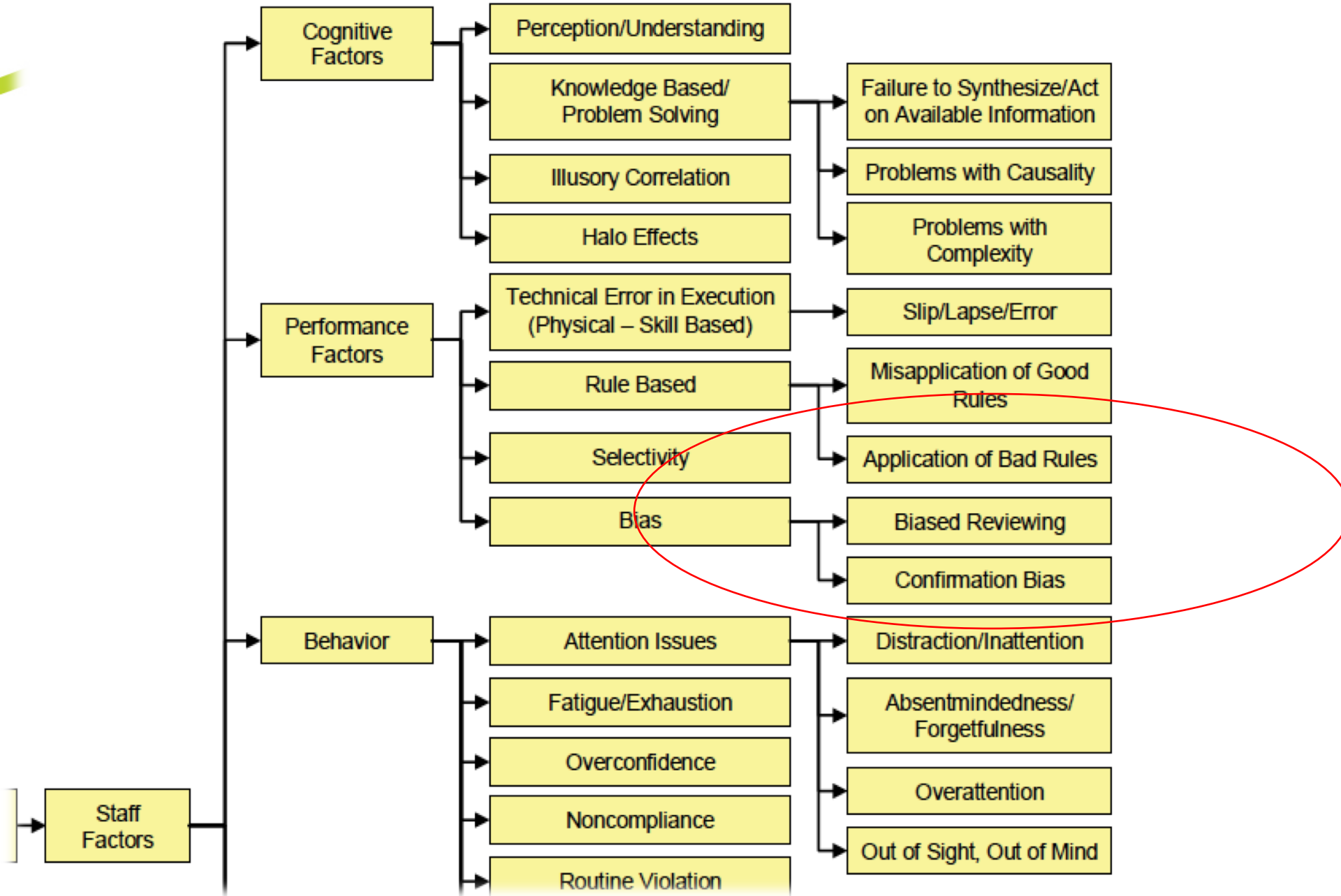
Topic 1: How we think determines how we make decisions

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Objectives

- By the end of this lecture, the learners will be able to
 1. Describe the importance of our cognitive processes in influencing the way we make decisions

Contributing Factors/Hazards - Staff Factors



Quiz

Jack is looking at Anne, but Anne is looking at George. Jack is married, but George is not. Is a married person looking at an unmarried person?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Cannot be determined



In clinical practice

How we THINK determines...

How we MAKE DECISION which determines

Patient care – Establishing diagnosis and implementing a therapeutic plan

Why high diagnostic error rate?

- Sources of diagnostic errors: system-related factors and cognitive factors
- For cognitive factors, usually not because of a lack of knowledge, but problems with the clinician's thinking (cognitive biases/errors)
- Hovers round ~ 15% (Elstein 2009; Graber et al, 2012)



A Broader Definition

- Diagnostic errors is defined as the failure to (a) establish an accurate and timely explanation of the patient's health problem(s) or (b) communicate that explanation to the patient.

