



Basic Psychiatry

Second Edition - 2011.

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Preface to the second edition

In this edition of Basic Psychiatry the entire text has been revised. I have tried throughout to maintain the style of the previous edition bearing in mind that this book is designed to undergraduate medical students. A new chapter on Evidence-Based Psychiatry has been added. Test 1 and Test 2 have been enriched with more case- oriented questions.

Acknowledgement

I should record my gratitude to all of my colleagues at the Psychiatry Department, College of Medicine, King Saud University for their encouragement, support and suggestions.

Special thanks are due to my teachers Professor Abdulrazzak Alhamad and Professor Abdullah Al-Subaie for their effort in reviewing the book.

Thoughtful suggestions and remarks have been provided by undergraduate students and deserve appreciation.

Foreword

It has been recognized worldwide that psychiatry is an integral part of medicine. This has made psychiatry an essential component of the undergraduate teaching curriculum of medical colleges. Therefore, teaching psychiatry to undergraduate students drew attention of academicians from many aspects such as the aims, scope and depth. Hence, appropriate references for medical students in psychiatry presented a difficulty and many teaching staff contributed their efforts in this field as this book written by Prof. M. Al-Sughayir.

Even though many books written for students fulfilled their purposes to a great extent, this book was formulated in a new shape where the display of knowledge, the organization of text and the teaching aids used achieved the intentions of many teachers of psychiatry towards their students.

This book covers comprehensively the whole continuum of basic sciences relevant to psychiatry and all subjects of clinical psychiatry. It also focuses on basic factual knowledge of the field in a clinically applied sense. The use of tables, lists and diagrams helps students efficiently. A complementary effort to the excellence of this book, is the addition of a series of clinical case vignettes with questions and answers and an Arabic glossary for psychiatric terminology. At last, all the above admirable features were expressed by a simple, clear and scientific language.

This book is unique for medical students and of a special interest to residents and primary care physicians, and its value will remain.

Prof. Abdulrazzak Alhamad

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INTRODUCTION

Knowledge of psychiatric disorders is essential to medical doctors in any branch of medicine.

This book is directed to make the undergraduate medical students understand the basic concepts of psychiatry. Efforts have been made to make the book brief, readable in a clear layout. It contains basic information in the form of focused format, key facts, definitions, figures and lists to fulfill the need for clarity.

“Basic Psychiatry” covers the main areas of knowledge required for undergraduate medical students. It also can be useful for trainees in psychiatry, other mental health professionals and allied disciplines.

Prof. Mohammed Alsughayir

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