

Book Review: Essential evidence-based psychopharmacology, 2nd edition

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KEYWORDS

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Book: [Essential Evidence-Based Psychopharmacology, 2nd edition](#)

Book by: Dan Stein, Bernard Lerer, Stephen Stahl

Review by: Jonathan G Leung, PharmD, BCPS, BCPP

From the publisher

This volume presents up-to-date, comprehensive and high quality reviews of the psychopharmacological evidence-base for each of the major psychiatric disorders, written by expert psychopharmacologists from around the world. Building on the success of the first edition, the volume summarizes the wealth of new developments in the field and sets them within the context of day-to-day clinical practice. All chapters have been fully updated and new contributions on personality disorders and substance dependence added. Each chapter provides information about optimal first line pharmacological interventions, maintenance pharmacotherapy and the management of treatment-refractory patients. The content is organized according to the DSM-V listing of psychiatric disorders, and covers all major conditions including schizophrenia, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, eating disorders and Alzheimer's disorder. These issues lie at the heart of clinical psychopharmacology, making this book invaluable to all practicing and trainee clinicians, in a mental health setting or a less specialized environment.

From the CPNP member

Essential Evidence-Based Psychopharmacology is a condensed review of literature covering a wide variety of psychiatric diagnoses. The editors' goals for the book are to address the following: 1) what is the best first-line

intervention, 2) what is the ideal length of a first line intervention and 3) what intervention should follow a failed first option. Topics covered include attention deficient hyperactivity disorder, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, anxiety disorders, eating disorders, substance use disorders, personality disorders and Alzheimer's dementia. Psychopharmacologic treatment modalities specific to patients with intellectual disabilities or pervasive developmental disorders are not covered. Each section (~10-20 pages) is a brief review of literature and readers will find plentiful references in each section. Primary literature mentioned will need to be sought out as they are often only summarized briefly and/or in table format. This book is not for those wanting detailed reviews of trials or background information on different diagnoses. However, this book may be ideal to use as a teaching resource for those who precept students and residents on psychiatric rotations. New practitioners who would like to expand their knowledge of primary literature may also find this book useful. Overall this book is well written and provides a concise review of literature as of 2012.

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