

wellness as an example and illustrating how these traditional views can lead to culturally specific presentations of panic disorder, GAD, and PTSD.

In conclusion, the editors note the concerns associated with making diagnostic classification systems based on expert consensus rather than clear data, and the difficulties associated with developing these systems by committee. Interestingly, the editors note the likelihood that external influences, including sociopolitical factors, financial factors, and lobbying by such groups as insurers, research funding sources, and pharmaceutical companies will influence DSM workgroup behavior to at least some degree. Unfortunately, the issues related specifically to the role of external factors in the development and maintenance of PTSD, the somatoform disorders, and hypochondriasis remain unaddressed.

The editors recommend re-grouping the mood and anxiety disorders into fear, distress, and obsessive-compulsive disorders, a reclassification that is likely to offer benefits for

both research and clinical practice. At this point, the editors believe that it is premature to move to either a mechanism-based or a laboratory test-based diagnostic system. They note the conflicting needs of researchers and clinicians in diagnostic systems. Their book supports the conclusion that diagnostic revision should be slow and gradual.

While this book may be of interest to neuropsychologists who are heavily involved in anxiety disorder research or neuropsychologists who are intrigued by the arguments surrounding the upcoming DSM-V, those readers seeking a clinically relevant current perspective on the anxiety disorders would do best to look elsewhere.

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RECENT AND RELEVANT

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