matter, any reference to the term itself in the index. A more substantive critique might be that the textbook generally seems to avoid controversy or to critique areas of research that are methodologically weak and thus far disappointing in their progress. One exception is the chapter by Richard Shelton and Natalie Lester on selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, in which they offer a thoughtful dissection of the issue of antidepressants, possibly increasing suicidal risk in select individuals. Comparable analyses of such topics as the dramatically decreased utilization of lithium over the last decade, the stigma of psychiatric illness, or the role of antidepressants in the treatment of mild depression are absent and represent missed opportunities in an otherwise far-reaching text. Yet another issue, more relevant than ever in the present, is that of potential bias or conflict of interest. One chapter includes an extensive disclaimer, but nearly all of the others do not, despite well known pharmaceutical support of some of the authors asked to review a specific topic.

Such considerations should not be viewed as overpowering, however. There is no more comprehensive or current review of mood disorders to be had, and practitioners and educators will find much value in an easy-to-access form.

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Social Anxiety Disorder is a recent contribution to the volume series entitled Medical Psychiatry, that includes other texts in this series. The text consists of three main sections, focusing upon the diagnosis, pathogenesis, and treatment of social anxiety disorder. Written by an impressive group of 38 contributors, chapters present the most recent theoretical and empirical information available regarding this challenging disorder.

The first section of the text, Psychopathology, includes a review of the symptom spectrum of social anxiety disorder, including its diagnostic history in various versions of the DSM. Issues regarding differential diagnosis and comorbidity are discussed. A review of epidemiological surveys is included, with consideration of the prevalence of social anxiety disorder in community and clinical settings, its incidence with regard to age of onset, its developmental course and pertinent risk factors, and various diagnostic subtypes. The psychosocial and economic burden of social anxiety disorder is further assessed, with an examination of the disorder’s impact upon interpersonal relationships, academic and occupational functioning, quality of life, and health care utilization. Psychometric information is provided regarding rating scales available for the assessment of social anxiety disorder, with data regarding each instrument’s reliability, validity, and sensitivity. The diagnosis of social anxiety disorder in children and in cross-cultural groups completes this first section of the text.

The second section, Pathogenesis, focuses upon models of the disorder’s etiology. Environmental influences, including childhood trauma, negative parenting styles, and observational learning, are considered. Cognitive models describing maintenance of the disorder are also evaluated, with emphasis upon the theories of Clark and Wells and of Rapee and Heimberg. Empirical support for these cognitive models and their impact upon treatment strategies is examined. An extensive review of the etiological contribution of neurobiological factors is further provided. The genetic basis of social anxiety disorder, as evidenced through twin and family studies, completes this section of the text.

Finally, the third section of the text, Management, focuses upon intervention. A review of cognitive-behavioral therapies, with descriptions of social skills training, relaxation training, cognitive restructuring, and exposure techniques, is presented. Meta-analytic studies supporting the efficacy of cognitive behavioral therapy in the alleviation of social anxiety disorder are examined. Psychodynamic models of intervention are also described. These treatment interventions include an examination of the emotional meaning of various social anxiety disorder symptoms, environmental stressors, developmental conflicts, and transference within the therapeutic setting. While the review of psychodynamic interventions provides scant empirical validation for any claims to efficacy, this is the only portion of the text that describes case examples of social anxiety disorder patients. The examples are engaging and informative, and provide an important contribution to the overall text, since they present the personal, very human challenge of social anxiety disorder. This section includes a detailed assessment of pharmacological interventions, including the potential for integration of psychotherapeutic and pharmacological treatment strategies.

In general, Social Anxiety Disorder is comprehensive, detailed, well-organized, clearly written, and highly informative. Its presentation of current theoretical models and empirical research regarding the multiple complex issues concerning social anxiety disorder makes it an important resource for both research and clinical practice.

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Rehabilitation for Traumatic Brain Injury, edited by psychologists Walter M. High, Angelle M. Sander, Margaret A. Struchen, and Karen A. Hart, is a book compiled from the proceedings of the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research Conference in 2003. The book’s foreword states that the conference was called to present empirical evidence and determine the future of research. The context described includes a change in reimbursement from managed care and the need for more evidence involving interventions. The chapters are geared toward 1) concisely summarizing data on a topic, 2) pointing out methodological difficulties, 3) identifying key research questions, and 4) recommending directions for research. While it is not a criticism of the book, the heterogeneous nature of traumatic brain injury etiologies makes its study very difficult. The book is published by Oxford University Press in 2005, consisting of 362 pages, 5 sections, and 16 chapters.

I would like to mention some highlights on chapters and sections as well as minor suggestions for changes in subsequent editions.