

References

1. Hoffman L: A psychoanalytic-oriented approach as primary and secondary prevention: discussion of Joy Osofsky's "Psychoanalytically Based Treatment for Traumatized Children and Families." *Psychoanalytic Inquiry* 2003; 23:544-552
2. Hoffman L: Mothers' ambivalence with their babies and toddlers: manifestations of conflicts with aggression. *J Am Psychoanal Assoc* 2003; 51:1219-1240
3. Hoffman L: When daughter becomes mother: inferences from multiple dyadic parent-child groups. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry* (in press)
4. Rothbart MK, Ahadi SA, Evans DE: Temperament and personality: origins and outcomes. *J Pers Soc Psychol* 2000; 78:122-135
5. Nachman PA: The maternal representation—a comparison of caregiver- and mother-reared toddlers. *Psychoanal Study Child* 1991; 46:69-90
6. Nachman PA: Maternal identification: a description of the process in real time. *J Am Psychoanal Assoc* 1998; 46:209-228

LEON HOFFMAN, M.D.
New York, N.Y.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

Treatment Matching in Alcoholism, edited by Thomas E Babor and Frances K. Del Boca. New York, Cambridge University Press, 2003, 275 pp., \$80.00.

This book gives a detailed explanation of the findings of Project MATCH. This undertaking was a large study that evaluated whether the treatment of alcoholism could be improved by pairing different kinds of treatment with different types of alcoholics. This appears to be the largest study of this kind yet conducted, involving 1,726 subjects from numerous locations. The rationale, methodology, and results are well presented. This small volume is very concise and maintains the standards expected in a research-based text. The project was primarily derived from research funded by the National Institute of Alcohol and Alcohol Abuse. It is good to know what happens to tax dollars, and in this case they appear to have been well spent.

Alcoholism is an extremely serious public health problem. The morbidity and mortality attributed to this illness involve millions of lives and billions of dollars each year. The comorbidity associated with this disease is pervasive and long lasting. The history of research on this topic is commendable but spotted by poor controls and a lack of objective measures. The MATCH research makes an important contribution to our understanding of treatment outcomes. It takes a major step toward accountable operational methods for examining our treatments.

This book gives detailed information about areas of success and the matching of therapeutic modalities. The degree of detail cannot be understated. The chapters on sampling, methodology, and analysis are well described. Issues regarding matching and measurement are clearly stated and avoid unnecessary technical jargon. Improvement of alcoholism was related to lower rates of depression and improved general health. This has been demonstrated before but is worth mentioning because of the magnitude of the burden that alcohol places on society.

Although individual results may vary from treatment to treatment, this variation is reduced to an almost anecdotal level when multisite examination of variables is conducted. Perhaps a major value of this publication is in the demonstration of the broad effect when many subjects and variables are examined. Indeed, great care has obviously been taken to preserve the integrity of data collection and analysis in this study. By doing so, the researchers have eliminated many design problems and peculiar results seen in smaller or less rigorous studies.

The volume continues with a fine summary section. The results provide interesting insights. The editors indicate that perhaps personal motivation is very powerful in predicting treatment. The degree of participation in Alcoholics Anonymous is demonstrated to have a strong positive effect on outcome. Things like social support and personal effort seem to be vital to successful abstinence. It is good to see a well-developed scientific approach to alcoholism treatment. Although many books have been written on this topic, few have the scientific rigor to satisfy practitioners and researchers alike. The research presented in this book represents first-class evidence-based methodology and analysis. I highly recommend it.

JAMES A. WILCOX, D.O., PH.D.
El Paso, Tex.

Ethnicity and Substance Abuse: Prevention and Intervention, by Grace Xueqin Ma, Ph.D., and George Henderson, Ph.D. Springfield, Ill., Charles C Thomas, 2002, 333 pp., \$75.95; \$53.95 (paper).

This volume has 28 contributors, including four physicians, none of whom is a psychiatrist. The two Ph.D.s named on the cover are not listed as editors. They wrote the first and last chapters together and participated in the writing of several others. Dr. Ma is an associate professor at Temple University and is a distinguished authority on transcultural health issues. Dr. Henderson is a professor at the University of Oklahoma with an international reputation in the fields of substance abuse in minority groups, transcultural health care, and cross-cultural counseling.

The first section is devoted to concepts of addiction, cross-cultural communication, and social ecology. The addiction concepts are familiar ones, and the essence of the chapter on cross-cultural communication is that it is important for care providers to understand the culture of their designated patients. The phrase "social ecology" refers to the many levels at which we must intervene in a logical attempt to abate substance abuse and chemical dependency. We must consider the individual, the interpersonal, the family, organizations in the community, and the community itself. These ideas are not specific to ethnic minorities. The book as a whole is as much about the consequences of poverty relating to drug abuse as it is about the role that minority status plays.

The focus of the book is on describing the experiences that the authors and other workers had while working with and studying substance abuse in different ethnic groups. They include substantial reviews of the relevant literature. The groups that they cover are African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native Americans. The authors repeatedly stress the need to take into account the cultural norms of any culture in which helping professionals intervene.