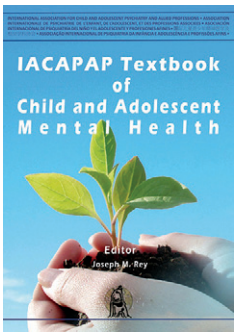
# Book Forum

## IACAPAP Textbook of Child and Adolescent Mental Health




edited by Joseph M. Rey, M.D., Ph.D.
Geneva, International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions, 2015 (downloadable PDFs).

The e-textbook from the International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (IACAPAP), freely available online, is an easily accessible e-book for any professional working in the field of child and adolescent mental health. In the book, world authorities in child and adolescent psychiatry cover diverse topics from the clinical assessment and development of children and youths to major psychiatric disorders. The book also covers some cultural, social, legal, and administrative aspects of this field.

Reviewing the chapter on bipolar disorder, I found basic concepts, clear and updated information, and tables that allow readers to readily appreciate the content. In addition, the authors suggest illustrative and valuable links to videos of authorities in bipolar disorder and to other documentaries, which exquisitely complement and deepen the text. In this way, reading becomes easy, concise, and enjoyable. The chapter on attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) accurately covers the main literature on the subject, illustrating the evolution of ADHD throughout life, explaining the different presentations of the disorder, and also covering current controversies about ADHD. Once again, the suggested links to expert videos, guidelines from the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, and other materials make it a versatile and very novel chapter.

In general, the manner in which this book has been developed makes it a good basic text to support the teaching of future psychiatrists. Some sections also contain self-assessment questions to reinforce knowledge, and some offer additional teaching material such as downloadable PowerPoint presentations, "ready to go" material to teach future generations. Some chapters have been translated into French, Portuguese, Japanese, Spanish, Russian, and Hebrew. This strength is in turn a huge challenge for the future: to cover different languages in all chapters.

The intention of Joseph M. Rey to develop a high-quality, innovative, didactic textbook of child infant mental health and to reach various countries of the world is well fulfilled through this effort of the IACAPAP.

**Juan David Palacio, M.D., M.Sc.**

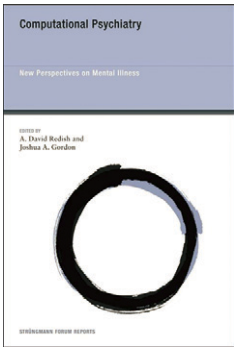
*Dr. Palacio is Director of the child psychiatry training program at the University of Antioquia, Medellin, Colombia.*

*The author reports no financial relationships with commercial interests.*

*Book review accepted March 2017.*

*Am J Psychiatry 2017; 174:698; doi: 10.1176/appi.ajp.2017.17030361*

## Computational Psychiatry: New Perspectives on Mental Illness




edited by A. David Redish, Ph.D., and Joshua A. Gordon, M.D., Ph.D.
Cambridge, Mass., MIT Press, 2016, 424 pp., $45.00 (hardcover).

Psychiatry faces many challenges, including a diagnostic system that relies mainly on symptom lists and a dearth of clinically relevant biomarkers to inform treatment. This book is a comprehensive summary of the exciting potential of computational psychiatry to address these challenges. Computational psychiatry aims to apply mathematical formalism to tackle the complexities inherent in psychiatric research. It encompasses many techniques and theories, which hold promise for major advances such as including etiological features in our diagnostic nosology and personalized prediction of prognosis and treatment outcome. The book represents the collective endeavors of some of the best and brightest in this rapidly developing field, as it is the culmination of an Ernst Strüngmann Forum. These forums bring together leading researchers from around the world and across multiple disciplines, in this case to discuss "how new computational perspectives might be used to broaden our mechanistic understanding of psychiatric dysfunction and improve identification and treatment of psychiatric disorders" (p. viii).

The forum was divided into four workgroups, and the book is correspondingly divided into four sections. The first section discusses issues surrounding the massive amount of complexity and heterogeneity in psychiatric disorders. Its central tenet is that this complexity should be modeled rather than dismissed as noise. The second section introduces a diverse set of computational techniques and their potential applications. The section maintains a bird's-eye view of these techniques; although equations are included, the chapters generally remain accessible to researchers who do not have an extensive computational background. The third section of