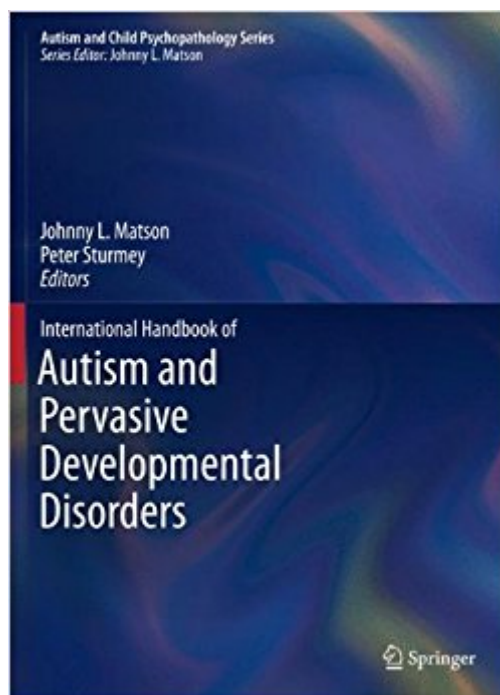




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International Handbook Of Autism And Pervasive Developmental Disorders (Autism And Child Psychopathology Series)



Synopsis

Since the early 1940s, when first identified as "childhood psychosis" and "autistic psychopathy," autism spectrum disorder (ASD) has continued to burgeon into a major focus of inquiry and interest among researchers, practitioners, and the public alike. With each passing decade, the number of scholarly articles addressing ASD and related disabilities continues to soar. Today, thousands of papers on autism are published annually across various disciplines and journals, making it challenging if not impossible to keep pace with, let alone synthesize, all the latest developments. Based on a solid historical foundation of autism theory and research, the "International Handbook of Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders" integrates the broad scholarly base of literature with a trenchant analysis of the state of the field in nosology, etiology, assessment, and treatment. Its expert contributors examine recent findings and controversies (e.g., how prevalent autism actually is), along with longstanding topics of interest as well as emerging issues. Coverage includes: A survey of diagnostic criteria and assessment strategies. Genetic, behavioral, biopsychosocial, and cognitive models. Psychiatric disorders in persons with ASD. Theory of mind and facial recognition. Diagnostic instruments for assessing core features and challenging behaviors. Evidence-based psychosocial, pharmacological, and integrative treatments. Interventions specifically for adults with ASD. Training issues for professionals and parents. A review of findings of successful and promising therapies, coupled with guidance on how to distinguish between dubious and effective treatments. The "International Handbook of Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders" is an indispensable resource for researchers, professors, graduate students, and allied practitioners in clinical child and school psychology, child and adolescent psychiatry, education, social work, rehabilitation, pediatric medicine, and developmental psychology.

Book Information

Series: Autism and Child Psychopathology Series

Paperback: 555 pages

Publisher: Springer; 2011 edition (January 18, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1461429137

ISBN-13: 978-1461429135

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 1.3 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #386,442 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #183 in Books > Textbooks > Medicine & Health Sciences > Medicine > Clinical > Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation #272 in Books > Medical Books > Medicine > Internal Medicine > Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation #312 in Books > Medical Books > Psychology > Developmental Psychology

Customer Reviews

From the reviews: "This book presents a state of the art on many issues over 33 chapters and 580 pages. 80 experts explain a wide range of topics related to autism and PDD. highly appropriate and updated reference book on the big questions about autism, which will serve as a good basis for researchers, teachers and students of masters and degrees on autism, as well as special needs teachers, psychologists and other professionals interested in autism. I recommend reading this book. (Francesc Sistach, iAutism, July, 2011)

Since the early 1940s, when first identified as childhood psychosis and autistic psychopathy, autism spectrum disorder (ASD) has continued to burgeon into a major focus of inquiry and interest among researchers, practitioners, and the public alike. With each passing decade, the number of scholarly articles addressing ASD and related disabilities continues to soar. Today, thousands of papers on autism are published annually across various disciplines and journals, making it challenging if not impossible to keep pace with, let alone synthesize, all the latest developments. Based on a solid historical foundation of autism theory and research, the International Handbook of Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders integrates the broad scholarly base of literature with a trenchant analysis of the state of the field in nosology, etiology, assessment, and treatment. Its expert contributors examine recent findings and controversies (e.g., how prevalent autism actually is), along with longstanding topics of interest as well as emerging issues. Coverage includes: A survey of diagnostic criteria and assessment strategies. Genetic, behavioral, biopsychosocial, and cognitive models. Psychiatric disorders in persons with ASD. Theory of mind and facial recognition. Diagnostic instruments for assessing core features and challenging behaviors. Evidence-based psychosocial, pharmacological, and integrative treatments. Interventions specifically for adults with ASD. Training issues for professionals and parents. A review of findings of successful and promising therapies, coupled with guidance on how to distinguish between dubious and effective treatments. The International Handbook of Autism and

Pervasive Developmental Disorders is an indispensable resource for researchers, professors, graduate students, and allied practitioners in clinical child and school psychology, child and adolescent psychiatry, education, social work, rehabilitation, pediatric medicine, and developmental psychology.

This is a good book as a textbook, though I would not recommend it as a basic, simple resource. It is pretty dense and academic in nature. It is very thorough, covering a very wide range of topics in depth, from experts in the field. My biggest complaint is that it does not use the new, DSM-V classification system of Autism, meaning that this book will soon be outdated. It was published several months before the new DSM-V was published, so it is somewhat excusable. But it seems foolish to publish a text right before you know a field-impacting resource will be released.

(Note: I received a free copy of this book for review in iAutism and I have also decided to include a short review here.) It does not cover any possible subject, but in "International Handbook of Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders" 80 experts explain a wide range of topics related to autism and PDD (not other ASD, like Asperger). In each topic the authors' goal is mainly to present a "state of the art", referencing many other authors and articles (nearly 3,900) and in many cases providing highly relevant information on the evidence of the effectiveness of particular interventions or medications, and also explaining what we do not know and what is currently being investigated. Overall, I think it is a highly appropriate and updated reference book on the big questions about autism, which will serve as a good basis for researchers, teachers and students of masters and degrees on autism, as well as special needs teachers, psychologists and other professionals interested in autism. For parents of children with autism, of course this is not a book with a low price or to be read in the bus. But, given the usual confusion and disorientation that often we tend to suffer in relation to the origin of autism, the percentage of children who have it, how to treat it in the most effective way, medication, numerous alternative therapies, and so on, yes, I recommend reading this book or at least selected parts of it. To read about the numerous studies, many of them published during the last ten years, and the most recent evidences will certainly help bring more rigor to certain decisions and will allow to get a basic and solid knowledge about ASD.

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