## **Book Review**

## Acute and Transient Psychoses

ANDREAS MARNEROS, FRANK PILLMANN. 243 pp. Price: 110 USS. Publisher: Cambridge University Press. Date of Publication: 2004. Place of Publication: Cambridge, UK. ISBN: 0 521 835186

The group of acute and transient psychoses taken by many psychiatrists for granted as a prodromal stage of major psychoses, schizophrenia and affective disorders, have gained little attention to be intesively studied in many aspects. This book, for the first time explores this area in a systematic approach in 3 parts. The first part describes the concepts in an easily read history and developmental lavout discussing different synonyma with a clear comparison between ICD-10 and DSM-IV classification of these disorders. In part II, the authors present an intensive review of literature on the subject with special focus on the WHO DOSMED study, and the authors own study, which is a very comprehensive and well designed research work in this area investigating the incidence, clinical features, the treatment, the course, the outcome, the suicidal behavior and the comorbidity of acute and transient psychoses. Part III, discusses the conclusions of study findings and its effects on classification of these disorders whether in ICD-10 or DSM-IV with suggestions for future classification of subcategories of this group of disorders.

I believe the book is of great interest to qualified psychiatrists and academic researchers, and may be of higher standard to psychiatric residents and medical students, and for its purpose, I believe it is a good buy.

## Abdulrazzak Alhamad

Division of Psychiatry College of Medicine King Saud University Riyadh Kingdom of Saudi Arabia