

Outcomes of neurodevelopmental and genetic disorders

PATRICIA HOWLIN, ORLEE UDWIN. 333 pp.
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Generally, this is a very good book for those who are primarily involved in the psychological and behavioral problems that are associated with various disorders. All the chapters cover the etiology, the genetics, and the clinical and psychological features of many disorders. They analyze the data of early childhood, adolescents and adults. The review of the prognostic factors and schemes of intervention is adequate. Maybe the greatest strength lies in the analysis of a given condition at different ages. It should be of great interest to child psychologists, pediatric neurologist, pediatricians, and psychiatrists in this order. There are no omissions in the genetic or biochemical basis of diseases, nor any errors. Certain chapters are very interesting to read, since they reflect Institutional experiences and contain data that is not readily available. The Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder section is a good review. The

Developmental Language Disorders and Reading and Other Specific Learning difficulties contain good differential diagnosis. The metabolic disorders provide the reader with a very good overview. The hemiplegic cerebral palsy chapter discusses the developmental and intervention aspects of this disorder very objectively. The Down syndrome and Fragile X syndrome chapters are excellent reviews of these common chromosome disorders and should be of interest to pediatricians. The Prader-Willi and Angelman syndrome as well as the Rett syndrome and tuberous sclerosis chapters contain excellent background for the genetic mechanism and the psychological aspects of these disorders. The chapter on Williams and Smith-Magenis syndromes will be of great interest to mental health care givers. I recommend this book for all those physicians who are involved with the longitudinal care of syndromic and non-syndromic children with various neurological, genetic and psychological disorders.

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