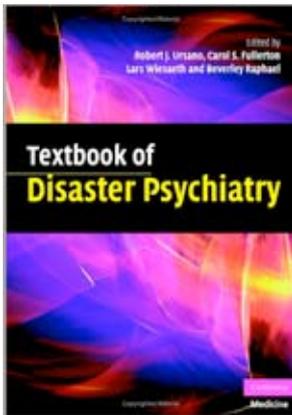


Book Review



Textbook of Disaster Psychiatry

ROBERT J. URSANO, CAROL S. FULLERTON, & BEVERLY RAPHAEL. 364 pp. Price: US\$ 99.00. Publisher: Cambridge University Press. Date of Publication: 2007. Place of Publication: United States of America. ISBN: 9780521852357.

Disasters are a common experience in human life, either for the individual or the community. Disasters affect individuals by affecting their performance of things they do, feeling sad or depressed, and isolating themselves from others. Persons who suffer from, or survive a disaster live a difficult life, and most of the time they suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder. The response of people to disaster varies, depending on the disaster. The more stressful the disaster, the more affected the person. Natural disasters usually affect the whole community and the response of the community to disasters differs from culture to culture and the severity of the disaster. In this book, the authors discuss the response of the individual and community

to disasters and the role of the psychiatric services in helping people affected mentally by the stress of the disaster and the treatment of people who suffer from post disasters by neurobiological exposure of disasters with fear, anxiety, trauma and resilience. In 4 chapters, the authors discuss clinical care and interventions, the early intervention for trauma-related problems following mass trauma, acute stress disorder, and post-traumatic stress disorder in the disaster environment, assessment and management of medical-surgical casualties, intervention for acutely injured survivors for individual and mass trauma, nongovernmental organizations, and the role of the mental health professionals in traumatic death in terrorism and disasters. The book covers a very important topic in psychiatry, which is dealing with people suffering from disasters and how the psychiatric services can help in such events. The quality of the coverage is very scientific and well written. This book is important for psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and governmental and nongovernmental organizations who work with people after disasters such as the Red Cross and Red Crescent. The book is an excellent buy.

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Statistics

Excerpts from the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals updated November 2003.
Available from www.icmje.org

Describe statistical methods with enough detail to enable a knowledgeable reader with access to the original data to verify the reported results. When possible, quantify findings and present them with appropriate indicators of measurement error or uncertainty (such as confidence intervals). Avoid relying solely on statistical hypothesis testing, such as the use of P values, which fails to convey important information about effect size. References for the design of the study and statistical methods should be to standard works when possible (with pages stated). Define statistical terms, abbreviations, and most symbols. Specify the computer software used.