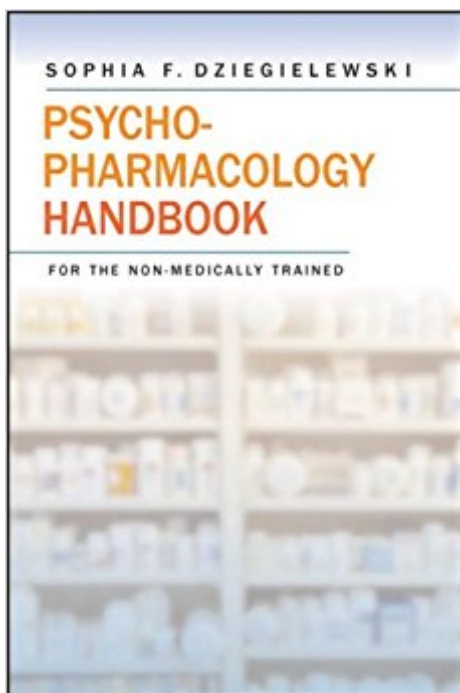


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# Psychopharmacology Handbook For The Non-Medically Trained



## Synopsis

In today's era of managed behavioral health care, mental health professionals are called upon to consult on medication treatment or recommend what medications would best serve as adjuncts to therapy. Medically trained or not, all mental health professionals need to know as much as possible about psychopharmacologic medications from dosage and side effects to drug-drug interactions and other special considerations in order to provide effective and accountable treatment. The first-ever handbook of its kind, *Psychopharmacology Handbook for the Non-Medically Trained* fills a noticeable gap in most student training programs by providing a reader-friendly and accessible overview of the role of drugs in mental health treatment. Emphasizing the importance of making medications available to consumers in conjunction with the most effective and efficient counseling interventions, Dziegielewska establishes the context for the therapeutic use of psychotropic drugs in the culture of today's mental health treatments, examines the danger of the "quick fix" mentality into which consumers and clinicians are tempted to fall, and then focuses on the medications themselves. One of the most prominent and authoritative social work academics today, Dziegielewska is an authority on the topic of psychopharmacology in social work practice. The recipient of numerous honors and awards for her teaching, the creator of a popular preparation course for social work licensure, and the author of over 95 publications, she is a source to which students and professionals turn for up-to-date, accurate information on a variety of topics in the social work field. *Psychopharmacology Handbook for the Non-Medically Trained* is an invaluable resource guide for all non-medically trained practitioners, providing therapists, social workers, and other counselors, with effective tools and critical information to help them become better informed about all courses of mental health treatment for their clients.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Even experienced or psychiatrically trained medical staff might find this book to be an excellent review and a handy reference text. -- Addiction Treatment Forum  
Stands alone in its sheer wealth of information...should be a mainstay. -- Nathan Stinson, Jr., M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., Professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN  
The reference of choice for any non-medically trained mental health provider who needs a clear and non-technical explanation. -- California Bookwatch  
This book may save someone's life. I would recommend this book to any professional who deals with mental health issues. -- Deborah Morris, LGSW Mental Health Therapist, New River Health Association  
[A] much-needed guide for all non-medically trained providers, their clients and families, and other interdisciplinary team members. -- Carmen P. Chang-Arratia, CSW, GC-C, Mental Health Program Supervisor, Community Healthcare Network, New York, NY  
[A] must-read for any clinician who has a client on psychotropic medications....a long-awaited, useful, and practical reference guide. -- Gary Dick, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, School of Social Work, University of Cincinnati

Sophia F. Dziegielewska is Professor and Dean of the School for Social Work at the University of Cincinnati. She is the author of over 95 publications, the latest of which is *Understanding Substance Addictions: Assessment and Intervention*.

thank you. Very nice.

Let's first say what this book is not: it is not a Psychopharmacology Handbook. Rather, it is a book written for students of social work or psychotherapeutic counseling who will work with patients who take psychiatric medication, which also contains psychopharmacological information. The author wastes a lot of pages on good advice, e.g., that when we treat a client we should listen to him describe his symptoms and then treat him (or her!) as good as we can. Other good advice given is that one should not be prejudiced when one meets a client, or that a patient should ask his psychiatric treatment provider how much a session costs and which insurance they accept. The information on psychiatric medication is okay, as far as I could see, but at times not very

systematic. Thus, if you're a student in the author's class or want to spend US\$ 27.50 on a lot of feel-good information, this is the book for you. If you need information about psychiatric medication, buy something else. E.g., a book I liked, and which can be read by laymen/laywomen, is Jack M. Gorman: *The Essential Guide to Psychiatric Drugs*. And this cost me US\$ 6.99.

This is a very well researched, thorough, and comprehensive book about commonly used psychiatric drugs. It doesn't ramble and packs a lot of information into fewer than 300 pages. It seems to be a pretty much objective description of the characteristics of these drugs, though I get the impression that the author has a slight bias toward emphasizing the negative effects of these drugs rather than the positive. It is a very well written book that is impressive in the amount of information that it ties together in a concise manner, and it will be of interest to both the expert and the lay person, where both have an interest in psychopharmacology. Author of *Adjust Your Brain: A Practical Theory for Maximizing Mental Health*.

Anyone who suffers from anxiety and/or depression or has a loved one who suffers from mental illness will benefit from reading this book. The "Quick Tips" sections provides valuable information at a glance. Not only does this book educate the reader about medications, side effects and drug interactions, it discusses interventions, self-help techniques and current psychotherapies. This book may save someones life. I would recommend this book not only to my clients who are non-medically trained but, to any professional who deals with mental health issues. Deborah Morris, MSW LGSW  
Mental Health Therapist  
New River Health Association

All mental health providers must have knowledge about medications, as assignment of medications is no longer limited to psychiatry - and *Psycho-Pharmacology Handbook* is the reference of choice for any non-medically trained mental health provider who needs a clear and non-technical explanation for the latest medications. This is the first book which pairs an easily-understood discussion of the role of drugs in mental health to surveys of mental health treatment options, explaining how medications work within the mental health world, tolerance, addiction, and how to select and assign a regimen. Any college-level collection strong in mental health references must have this. Diane C. Donovan  
California Bookwatch

Great supplemental book and reference. I used it to study for the LCSW exam. Must have for any social work library.

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