

Textbook of Psychiatry

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(editors)*

Textbook of Psychiatry

A Concise Guide to Psychiatry in The Netherlands

De Tijdstroom, Utrecht

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Preface

The coming about of this psychiatry textbook needs some clarification, as its contents are excerpted from an existing comprehensive Dutch psychiatry textbook.

Ever since its publication, the Dutch textbook of psychiatry edited by Hengeveld, van Balkom, van Heeringen and Sabbe has been used to teach psychiatry at the medical school of the University of Groningen. It has been praised for many reasons by both teachers and students. When the new G2020 curriculum started at the Groningen medical faculty in 2014, the concept of learning communities was introduced. Two of these communities are taught in English. This created the need for an English-language psychiatry textbook.

Unfortunately, none of the existing textbooks fulfilled our needs. Some textbooks lacked consistent editing across chapters, others catered to training psychiatrists rather than medical students. Yet others were not sufficiently in sync with contemporary psychiatry, or were incompatible with the DSM classification system. Also, the subject of psychiatry and the law within the Dutch context was conspicuously and understandably lacking. For this reason, the Department of Psychiatry contacted the publisher to see whether it would be possible to translate the Dutch textbook by Hengeveld and colleagues. It was decided to translate those chapters that reflected the curriculum of the University of Groningen plus a selection of other essential topics.

Michiel W. Hengeveld kindly agreed to proofread the translated materials. The present English version now meets the same standards as the Dutch version, and the medical faculty of the University of Groningen is very happy to be able to offer it to both Dutch and English-speaking students.

With the ever-growing influx of foreign students at Dutch universities, the call for English reading materials is increasing. Many sources were already available in English. This textbook is now added to these valuable sources. Hopefully it will find its way to more medical faculties.

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