Book Reviews

Jean Guyotat - Le psicoterapie mediche

1. Aspetti teorici, tecnici e di informazione

MASSON ITALIA EDITORI - Milano 1980 - Lit. 15.000 =

This first volume on medical psychotherapy, edited by Jean Guyotat and presented in the Italian edition by Dario De Martis, has in my view at least two major merits. The first is that it affords an intelligent and informative summary for teaching purposes of all (and how many!) techniques of psychotherapy practised and promoted with enthusiasm around the world in the past three decades, complementing or replacing the equally large number of psychoanalytic techiques. The second is that it is written by many authors, but like-minded persons firmly rooted in reality, not given to abstractions and imbued with a pragmatic approach. All the authors, physicians and psychologists alike, have been trained in psychoanalysis and are used to constant discussion of data with medical students or with internists. But the most salient feature of this volume is that it puts the daily practice of psychiatry and medical psychology in the setting of the hospital services of the general hospitals of Lyon. For us neurologists, who work in university clinics or in hospitals, these merits make the problems expounded and the language used especially relevant to our environment. This readable exposition provides a most welcome opportunity to update our knowledge of this field.

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