PLURALISM IN PSYCHIATRY

II. MULTIDIMENSIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

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Preface

By the end of 2014, the World Psychiatric Association (WPA) organised a Thematic Conference of Intersectional Collaboration in conjunction with the 5th European Congress of the International Neuropsychiatric Association (INA) and the 2nd Interdisciplinary Congress of the Hellenic Society for the Advancement of Psychiatry and Related Sciences (HSAPRS). This Joint WPA-INA-HSAPRS Congress event was held in Athens, Greece and it was hosted by HSAPRS. As was the case with the previous WPA-INA-HSARP joint Congress of 2012, the main aim of the organisers was to promote the interface and interaction among various disciplines as they relate to Psychiatry. To this end, the scientific programme of the Congress was designed in an effort to bring to the fore the multidimensional considerations which are essential in approaching the scientific and clinical aspects of Psychiatry. As a result, a large number of experts stemming from various scientific/professional fields covered a wide range of congress topics.

Following the closing of the above Joint WPA-INA-HSAPRS Congress, some participants responded positively to our request and kindly provided their manuscripts for publication; thus, we are quite fortunate to present in this volume the respective papers. It should be noted, however, that the number of papers submitted for publication represent a relatively small proportion of the total number of presentations at the Congress. In spite of that, the contents of this volume reflect to some extent the broadness and multidisciplinary nature of Psychiatry as well as the overall common aim of all professionals involved in mental health care and prevention of mental illness. Consequently, we believe that the volume title “Pluralism in Psychiatry: II. Multidimensional Considerations” is adequately justified.

The contents of the volume are organized in four parts. In Part 1, the papers are related to certain psychopathological and diagnostic issues in childhood and adulthood. Part 2 includes papers dealing with issues on basic and clinical aspects of biological psychiatry. Part 3 covers various aspects of certain psychotherapeutic interventions and Part 4 contains a variety of papers on issues related to humanities and social aspects of psychiatry.

As part of the editorial process and in order to take care of major dissimilarities among the individual papers, we took the initiative to proceed with certain minor changes in the overall presentation of some of them; these changes, of course, do not involve the scientific aspects of any of the manuscripts as they were submitted to us. Needless to say that the contents of the individual papers reflect the opinions of their authors and they were respected as such by the editors of this volume.

Since the contents of this volume represent in essence Congress Proceedings, data within it may belong to a larger body of work which could have been or may be presented elsewhere; we trust that adequate care has been or will be taken for appropriate referencing. Before closing, we wish to express our great appreciation to all contributors of this volume; any foresight on our part is kindly expected to meet their understanding as well as that of the readers.

The Editors,

Constantin Soldatos
Dimitris Dikeos
Pedro Ruiz
Dinesh Bhugra
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