

[AZZAM / FIRST AID FOR THE PSYCHIATRY BOARDS: AN INSIDER'S GUIDE / 0071499865 / 978-0-07-149986-6 / \\$69.95.](#)

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****Description****

A classic review in virtually every sense, this book consists of brief chapters packed with vital psychiatric and neurological information targeting the clinical knowledge criteria outlined by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) for their board-certification examination.

****Purpose****

Using abbreviated and high yield chapters, this book presents the most up-to-date and useful information on psychiatric and neurologic concepts related to the ABPN examination.

****Audience****

Though useful for medical students or others interested in the field of psychiatry, this book's main audience includes psychiatrists preparing to sit for board-certification examination administered by the ABPN.

****Features****

The book is divided into two sections, one on psychiatric topics and one on neurologic topics. Chapters contain various combinations of diagrams, tables, figures, case examples, and black-and-white photographs. (Four pages of color photographs at the end of the book highlight various ophthalmologic and dermatologic concepts.) Author-identified, must-know information in the margins pinpoints vital data for the examination.

****Assessment****

The First Aid series of review books is popular among medical students, residents, and other medical professionals for presenting volumes of quality information in digestible bits, focusing on what's most vital for success on various types of examinations. This is another in the line of decent review manuals, though, like most reviews, in-depth understanding of unclear concepts requires additional investigation using other resources. The main drawbacks to this book are its lack of coverage of psychopharmacologic concepts and its tendency to be too simplistic in some areas. However, for psychiatrists, the review of neurologic concepts is quite useful, and overall this is a worthy effort and should help candidates successfully pass the board examination.

Weighted Numerical Score: 83 - 3 Stars