Essential for all those responsible for prescribing psychotropic drugs
The Prescriber’s Guide

Stephen M. Stahl
University of California, San Diego, USA

The Prescriber’s Guide is the latest addition to the Essential Psychopharmacology collection. In full color throughout, this volume presents to clinicians pragmatic guidance that complements the conceptual approach of Essential Psychopharmacology. With four or more pages for each of over 100 psychotrophic drugs, Stephen Stahl gives all the information a prescriber needs to treat patients effectively. For each drug the information comes in five categories: general therapeutics, dosing and use, side effects, special populations, and pearls.

General Therapeutics covers the class of drug, what the drug is prescribed for, how the drug works, how long it takes to work, what happens if it works, what happens if it doesn’t, best augmentation/combinations strategies, and any required tests.

Dosing and use covers usual dosage, dosage forms, how to dose, dosing tips, overdose, long-term use, habit formation, how to stop, pharmacokinetics, drug interactions, warnings/precautions, and contraindications.

Side effects covers how the drug causes side effects, notable side effects, life-threatening or dangerous side effects, weight gain, sedation, what to do about side effects, and best augmenting agents for side effects.

Special populations covers renal impairment, hepatic impairment, cardiac impairment, the elderly, children and adolescents, and key phases of a woman’s lifecycle.

Pearls covers potential advantages, potential disadvantages, pearls, and suggested reading. Targets icons appear next to key categories for each drug so that the prescriber can go easily and instantly to the information needed.

Several indices are included, one consisting of a comprehensive list of both generic and proprietary names for all the drugs featured, one categorizing the generic drugs by use, and one listing the generic drugs by class.
Stephen M. Stahl is Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Diego. He has conducted numerous research projects awarded by the National Institute of Mental Health, the Veterans Administration, and the pharmaceutical industry. The author of more than 300 articles and chapters, Dr. Stahl is an internationally recognized clinician, researcher, and teacher in psychiatry with subspecialty expertise in psychopharmacology.

Contents

Stahl’s Essential Psychopharmacology has established itself as the preeminent source of education and information in its field. This much-expanded second edition enlists advances in neurobiology, and recent clinical developments, to explain with renewed clarity the concepts underlying drug treatment of psychiatric disorders. New neurotransmitter systems, new theories on schizophrenia, clinical advances in antipsychotic and antidepressant therapy, new coverage of attention deficit disorder, sleep disorders and drug abuse, and a new chapter on gender and sexual psychopharmacology—these are all features of this edition.

The fully revised text is complemented by many new illustrations, instructive and entertaining as before, and enhanced to reflect new knowledge and topics covered for the first time. The illustrations and their captions may be used independently of the main text for a rapid introduction to the field or for review, and self-assessment tests follow each chapter. Even more, this will be the essential text for students, scientists, psychiatrists, and other mental health professionals, enabling them to master the complexities of psychopharmacology, and plan sound treatment approaches based on current knowledge.

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