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### **Psychiatric Interviewing and Assessment**

This book will help mental health professionals to develop the fundamental generic skills in interviewing and assessment, which form the foundation of psychiatric practice. It is about the process of reaching a diagnosis, and is a practical guide to help the reader make the transition from novice to competent clinician. It is based on real problems encountered in modern general adult psychiatric practice, and is set in a range of environments, in the clinic and in the community. The text is punctuated by a selection of case studies to illustrate the principles highlighted in the book.

This book will be essential reading for all members of the mental health team. Its practical grounding in everyday clinical experience will appeal to trainee psychiatrists and more experienced clinicians alike, as well as to nurses, social workers and psychologists.

**Rob Poole** is a community psychiatrist with an interest in the psychological, social and cultural aspects of mental illness. He has wide experience as a postgraduate educator having been a Royal College Clinical Tutor and Examiner, a University Postgraduate Tutor and Chairman of a regional psychiatric training committee.

**Robert Higgo** is the consultant psychiatrist for an Assertive Outreach Team in Liverpool, dealing with difficult to engage and complex client groups. He was a Royal College Tutor and Examiner, and Joint Programme Director for the Merseyside Rotational Training Scheme in Psychiatry.

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# Psychiatric Interviewing and Assessment

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This book is dedicated to Dr Kevin White.

There may be better psychiatric interviewers in the world, but we've never met one.

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