

Cambridge Handbook of Psychology, Health and Medicine

This third edition of the much acclaimed *Cambridge Handbook of Psychology, Health and Medicine* offers a fully up-to-date, comprehensive, accessible, one-stop resource for doctors, health care professionals, mental health care professionals (such as psychologists, counsellors, specialist nurses), academics, researchers and students specialising in health across all these fields. The new streamlined structure of the book features brief section overviews summarising the state of the art of knowledge on the topic to make the information easier to find. The encyclopaedic aspects of the Handbook have been retained; all the entries, as well as the extensive references, have been updated. Retaining all the virtues of the original, this edition is expanded with a range of new topics, such as the effects of conflict and war on health and wellbeing, advancements in assisted reproduction technology, e-health interventions, patient-reported outcome measures, health behaviour change interventions and implementing changes into health care practice.

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Third edition

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CAMBRIDGE
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One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge.
We share the University’s mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781316625873
DOI: 10.1017/9781316783269

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First published 2019

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication data

Names: Llewellyn, Carrie, editor.
Title: Cambridge handbook of psychology, health and medicine / edited by Carrie D. Llewellyn, Professor of Applied Behavioural Medicine, Brighton and Sussex Medical School, University of Sussex, UK, Susan Ayers, Professor of Maternal and Child Health, School of Health Sciences, City, University of London, UK, Chris McManus, Professor of Psychology and Medical Education, Research Department of Clinical, Educational and Health Psychology and Research Department of Medical Education, University College London, UK, Stanton Newman, Professor of Health Psychology, School of Health Sciences, City, University of London, UK, Keith J. Petrie, Professor of Health Psychology, Department of Psychological Medicine, University of Auckland, New Zealand, Tracey A. Revenson, Professor of Psychology, Department of Psychology, City University of New York, USA, John Weinman, Professor of Psychology as applied to Medicines, Institute of Pharmaceutical Science & Institute of Psychiatry, King’s College London, UK.

Other titles: Handbook of psychology, health, and medicine
Description: Third edition. | New York : Cambridge University Press, [2018] | Revised edition of: Cambridge handbook of psychology, health and medicine / [edited by] Susan Ayers ... [et al.] 2nd ed. 2007. | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2017056237 | ISBN 9781316625873 (paper back : alk. paper)
Subjects: LCSH: Medicine and psychology–Handbooks, manuals, etc.
Classification: LCC R726.5 .C354 2018 | DDC 616.89–dc23
LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2017056237>

ISBN 978-1-108-47499-3 Hardback
ISBN 978-1-316-62587-3 Paperback

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Preface

This third edition of the much acclaimed *Cambridge Handbook of Psychology, Health and Medicine* offers a fully up-to-date, comprehensive, accessible, one-stop resource for doctors, health care professionals, mental health care professionals (such as psychologists, counsellors, specialist nurses), academics, researchers and students specializing in health across all these fields. This is a truly international resource with authors and contributions from over 21 countries. There are three new international editors: Carrie D. Llewellyn from the University of Sussex, UK; Keith J. Petrie from the University of Auckland, New Zealand; and Tracey A. Revenson from City University of New York, USA.

The new streamlined edition of this handbook has been revised with an updated structure. The encyclopaedic aspects of the handbook have been retained as in the previous edition; however, access to information has been made easier by incorporating brief section overviews to signpost the reader to the content. For added depth of coverage, the extensive reference lists should be an invaluable resource.

Part 1: Psychology, Health and Illness will continue to be presented in four sections. However, instead of being alphabetical, two of the sections have been organized into themed clusters. **Section 1: Psychosocial Aspects of Health and Illness** is subdivided into six themes:

- (1) life-course and health;
- (2) sociodemographic factors and health;
- (3) health behaviours;
- (4) responding to symptoms;
- (5) coping with illness and stress;
- (6) conflict and health.

Section 2: Psychological Assessment and **Section 3: Psychological Interventions** have retained the same structure as the second edition. **Section 4: Healthcare Practice** has been subdivided into three themed sections:

- (1) healthcare environments and behaviour;
- (2) healthcare professionals' wellbeing;
- (3) communication.

Part 2: Medical Topics has been retained and the content and structure revised into the following broad themes in order to make searching for topics easier:

- (1) prevention and screening;
- (2) medical conditions and symptoms;
- (3) treatment and care.

Each chapter contains an overview of the topic with state-of-the-art knowledge. Previously featured chapters have been updated since the last edition over a decade ago. The addition of new topics reflects issues currently pertinent to psychology, health and medicine, such as: the effects of conflict and war on health and wellbeing; advancements in assisted reproduction technology; e-health interventions; patient-reported outcome measures; health behaviour change interventions; and implementing changes into health care practice, to name a few. We believe these new additions are of value to our readers and contribute to this truly unique resource.

We would like to thank all our contributors and Sarah Payne and Hetty Marx for all their editorial assistance and support. We would also like to acknowledge the late Richard Marley at Cambridge University Press, who was integral in the commissioning of this third edition.

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