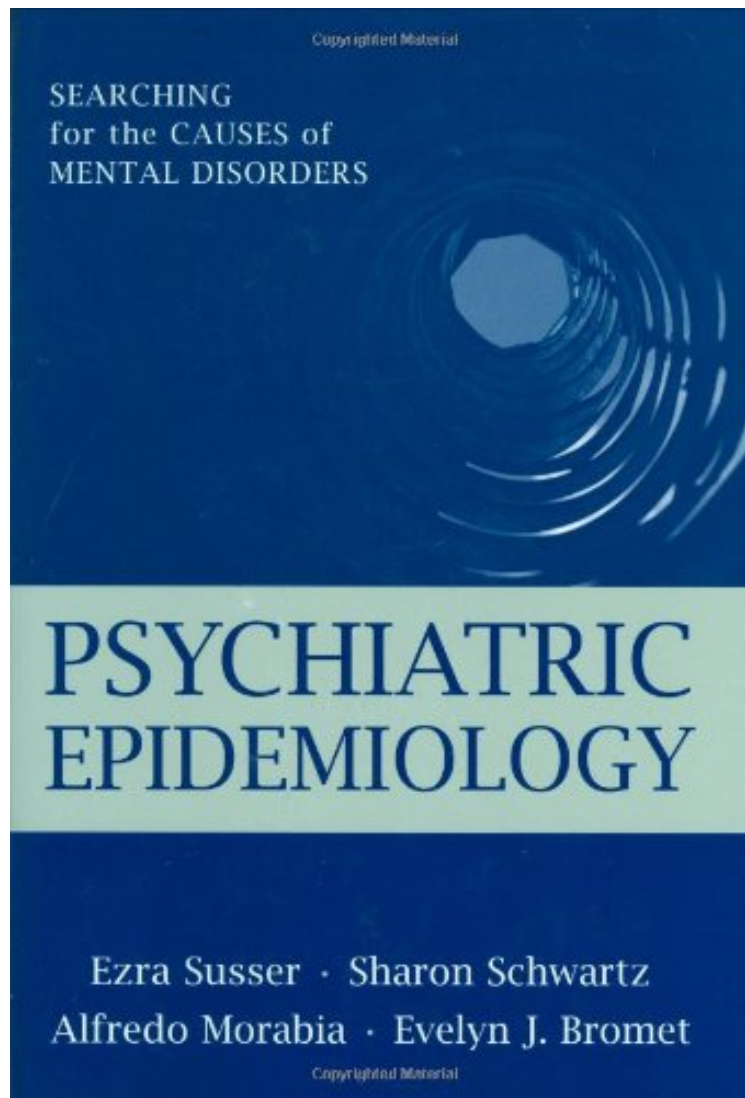


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Psychiatric Epidemiology: Searching for the Causes of Mental Disorders (Oxford Psychiatry Series)

Ezra Susser, Sharon Schwartz, Alfredo Morabia, Evelyn J. Bromet
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Searching for the causes of mental disorders is as exciting as it is complex. The relationship between pathophysiology and its overt manifestations is exceedingly intricate, and often the causes of a disorder are elusive at best. This book is an invaluable resource for anyone trying to track these causes, whether they be clinical researchers, public health practitioners, or psychiatric epidemiologists-in-training. Uniting theory and practice in very clear language, it makes a wonderful contribution to both epidemiologic and psychiatric research. Rather than attempting to review the descriptive epidemiology of mental disorders, this book gives much more dynamic exposition of the thinking and techniques used to establish it.Starting out by tracing the brief history of psychiatric epidemiology, the book describes the study of risk factors as causes of mental disorders. Subsequent sections discuss approaches to investigation of biologic, genetic, or social causes and the statistical analysis of study results. The book concludes by following some of the problems involved in the search for genetic causes of mental disorders, and more complex casual relationships.

"This is a much needed text for psychiatric epidemiologists."--Doody's"Overall, this book is an outstanding accomplishment. It fills a gap in the area of psychiatric research where there is a dearth of up-to-date, discipline-specific texts...an excellent text which sets a new benchmark for epidemiological thinking in mental health research and goes a long way towards making the concepts of the discipline accessible to psychiatric researchers in general."--Psychological Medicine"If only all textbooks were written like this one. The authors of Psychiatric Epidemiology have assembled a highly cogent examination of the past, present, and possible future of psychiatric epidemiology, doing so in a way that anyone interested in the scientific method--including its limitations--can be immersed."--Psychiatric TimesAbout the AuthorEzra Susser is at Columbia University. Sharon Schwartz is at Columbia University.