

Preface

It is with pride and pleasure that we have produced the third edition of the book *Current Schizophrenia*. In line with the first two editions, this publication provides valuable information and guidance for those who are involved in the care of people who have schizophrenia and their relatives. The primary intention of the book is again to provide a tool that is helpful in the treatment and care of individuals with schizophrenia and easy to use in daily clinical practice.

Many experts have devoted numerous hours to this project. Special thanks go to Dr Eóin Killackey, Professor Steffen Moritz, Associate Professor Ingo Schäfer, Professor Philippe Conus, Dr Britta Galling, Dipl Psych Liz Rietschel, Professor Tim Lambert, Dr Frauke Schultze-Lutter, Associate Professor Stephan Ruhrmann, and Professor Benno Schimmelmann, who have been directly involved in writing and/or reviewing various parts of the book. In addition, Pat McGorry has participated indirectly through his work on the Australia and New Zealand Guidelines for the Treatment of Schizophrenia.

It is exciting to see that awareness of schizophrenia has improved and continues to grow, hopefully at a rapid pace. This is important for obtaining support for research and, of course, for those who suffer from this disorder and their families. Better understanding of the disease by the society in general will help all of those affected by schizophrenia, bringing them empathy and compassion, and maybe even saving some lives. All of the contributors to this book hope that it will help with some of the issues and challenges that schizophrenia presents, and improve the quality of life of patients and their relatives. In the interest of furthering the knowledge of schizophrenia, the authors welcome any constructive criticism and comments on the contents of this book.



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