This handbook is a concise, portable ready reference for diagnosing and treating common medical illnesses encountered in psychiatric patients, particularly those in an inpatient service.

The first section of this handbook explains laboratory tests used to diagnose medical illness. The second section covers 59 medical symptoms and diseases. The third section focuses on important syndromes which have specific psychiatric manifestations or are caused by psychotropic drugs.

Particular attention is given to basic understanding of lab tests and drug dosing. "Pearls" and "pointers" increase the book’s utility. Appendices offer guidelines on monitoring for psychiatric medications and list key medical abbreviations.