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The Abraham Dilemma A divine delusion

George Graham

Print Publication Year: 2015 Published Online: Oct 2015 Publisher: Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780198728658 eISBN: 9780191809491 DOI: 10.1093/med/9780198728658.001.0001
Item type: book

The Abraham Dilemma: A Divine Delusion focuses on the topic of religious delusion - on the disorder's causes, contents, consequences, diagnosis and treatment. The title argues that we cannot understand a religious delusion without appreciating three facts. One is that religiosity or spirituality is a part of human nature, whether it takes theistic or non-theistic forms. Another is that religious delusion is something to which we are all vulnerable. The third is that the delusion is not best understood by reducing it to brain chemistry, or by insisting that it is empirically false. It is best understood by examining its harmful personal and moral consequences - consequences that nearly unfolded when the biblical patriarch Abraham prepared to sacrifice his son Isaac in response to a command, he thought, from God.

The Actor's Brain Exploring the cognitive neuroscience of free will

Sean Spence

Print Publication Year: 2009 Published Online: Feb 2013 Publisher: Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780198526667 eISBN: 9780191754364 DOI: 10.1093/med/9780198526667.001.0001
Item type: book

Is free will just an illusion? What is it in the brain that allows us to pursue our own actions and objectives? What is it about this organ that permits seemingly purposeful behaviour, giving us the impression we are free? This resource takes a journey into the brain to examine what is about known voluntary behaviour, and why it can go wrong.

Acute and Critical Care Echocardiography

Claire Colebourn and Jim Newton (eds)

Print Publication Year: 2017 Published Online: Oct 2017 Publisher: Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780198757160 eISBN: 9780191817236 DOI: 10.1093/med/9780198757160.001.0001
Item type: book

This is a comprehensive practical guide to the practice of the new subspecialty of critical care echocardiography. The text covers all aspects of clinical practice and describes how to use transthoracic echocardiography to approach and manage common clinical questions.

Specific emphasis is placed on the appropriate use of clinical echocardiographic data in the context of the patient's critical illness; this is illustrated by the frequent use of case studies including both still and moving echocardiographic images. The text covers assessment of, and disorders affecting, the left and right heart, including shock and sepsis. It also looks at how to interpret diastolic information during critical illness and the effect of that illness on valve disease and function. The important subject of fluid responsiveness is explored in detail, as is the influence of organ support and illness on the diagnosis of cardiac tamponade. The information given in the text is summarized using algorithms in a field guide for the critical care echocardiographer, which also provides a rapid guide to assessing time-critical patient presentations.

Acute and Emergent Events in Sleep Disorders

Sudhansu Chokroverty and Pradeep Sahota (eds)

Print Publication Year: 2011 Published Online: Apr 2013 Publisher: Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780195377835 eISBN: 9780199322763 DOI: 10.1093/med/9780195377835.001.0001
Item type: book

This resource provides information for the management of disorders occurring during sleep and brings greater awareness to the treatment of sleep disorders, as well as treatments of neurological, medical, and psychiatric disorders.

Acute Coronary Syndromes (Oxford Cardiology Library)

Graham Jackson (ed.)

Print Publication Year: 2008 Published Online: May 2011 Publisher: Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780199543496 eISBN: 9780199607198 DOI: 10.1093/med/9780199543496.001.0001
Item type: book

This essential guide to the management of the acutely ill patient features expanded material on practical procedures and new information on common presentations.

Acute Pain (Oxford Pain Management Library)

Lesley Bromley and Brigitta Brandner (eds)

Print Publication Year: 2010 Published Online: May 2011 Publisher: Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780199234721 eISBN: 9780191739972 DOI: 10.1093/med/9780199234721.001.0001
Item type: book

This title covers the fundamentals of pain, the pharmacology of drugs used, and summarises the current evidence base for the management of acute pain.

Acute Respiratory Infections (Oxford Respiratory Medicine Library)

Wei Shen Lim (ed.)

Print Publication Year: 2012 Published Online: Oct 2012 Publisher: Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780199588084 eISBN: 9780191739668 DOI: 10.1093/med/9780199588084.001.0001

Item type: book

This resource is a concise companion for health care professionals who manage patients with acute lung infections.

Addiction (Oxford Psychiatry Library)

David Nutt and Liam Nestor

Print Publication Year: 2013 Published Online: Oct 2013 Publisher: Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780199685707 eISBN: 9780191765735 DOI: 10.1093/med/9780199685707.001.0001
Item type: book

Part of the Oxford Psychiatry Library series, this resource is a clear and comprehensive overview of the brain science underpinning addiction that helps explain the current and future therapeutics for the range of addictions, using full colour images to enhance understanding. It focuses on the nature of addiction as a brain disorder that includes a range of different behavioural traits such as impulsivity and reward dependence, and discusses the critical role of kinetic and pharmacological factors. The also explains how the primary pharmacological targets of drugs of abuse are now understood, the relation to the variable nature of addiction to different substances, and how this may lead to new approaches to treatment.

Addiction and Weakness of Will

Lubomira Radoilska

Print Publication Year: 2013 Published Online: Apr 2014 Publisher: Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780199641963 eISBN: 9780191742828 DOI: 10.1093/med/9780199641963.001.0001
Item type: book

This thought-provoking resource presents an original philosophical analysis bringing together addiction and weakness of will. The author develops an integrated account of these two phenomena, rooted in a classical conception of akrasia as valuing without intending and at the same time intending without valuing. This fascinating and suggestive account addresses a number of paradoxes faced by current thinking about addiction and weakness of will, in particular the significance of control and intention for responsible action. *Addiction and Weakness of Will* makes an original contribution to central issues in moral psychology and philosophy of action, including the relationship between responsibility and intentional agency, and the nature and scope of moral appraisal.

Addiction in the Older Patient

Maria Sullivan and Frances Levin (eds)

Print Publication Year: 2016 Published Online: Sep 2016 Publisher: Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780199392063 eISBN: 9780190649074 DOI: 10.1093/med/9780199392063.001.0001
Item type: book

Addictive disorders in older adults are underdiagnosed and undertreated. An important reason for this lack of recognition of a serious health problem is a paucity of clinical knowledge about how such disorders present in this population. The presentation for alcohol and substance use disorders in the elderly can be confusing, given the metabolic changes and concurrent conditions associated with aging, together with interactions between alcohol and prescribed psychoactive drugs. Further, screening instruments have not been validated for this population. Brief interventions may be effective but should take into account contextual needs such as medical conditions, cognitive decline, and mobility limitations. Treatment strategies, including detoxification regimens, need to be modified for older patients and - in the case of opioid dependence - must address the management of chronic pain in this population. Ironically, benzodiazepines are the most frequently prescribed psychoactive medication in the elderly, despite older individuals' greater sensitivity to side effects and toxicity. Older women are at particularly heightened vulnerability for iatrogenic dependence on sedatives and hypnotics. More clinical research data are needed to inform screening and referral strategies, behavioral therapies, and pharmacological treatment. At the same time, emerging technologies such as communication tools and monitoring devices offer important opportunities to advance addiction treatment and recovery management in older adults. Although research to date has been limited in this population, recent data suggest that treatment outcomes are equal or better to those seen in younger cohorts.