

From the Task Force on Clinical Practice Guidelines

1 January, 2007

Dear Colleague,

*It gives me immense pleasure to place in your hands the third volume of **Clinical Practice Guidelines for Psychiatrist in India**. The Executive council of Indian Psychiatric Society had given us the responsibility of preparing these guidelines for psychiatric management of Pediatric (Child & Adolescents) and Geriatric population. This was a huge task, therefore we requested the president to limit the scope of development of practice guidelines for this year in the field of Geriatric Psychiatry only. Which was agreed to and the task force organized a National Workshop on Geriatric Psychiatry on 17th and 18th August, 2006 at Jaipur which was attended by 54 experts interested in the field of Geriatric Psychiatry.*

Our President Dr. A.B. Ghosh, our hon. General Secretary Dr. R.R. Ghosh Roy, President Elect Dr. I.R.S. Reddy, Dr. G.T. Grossberg from USA, Dr. Govind Sharma, Secretary Medical Education Government of Rajasthan & Dr. P.P.S. Mathur Vice Chancellor University of Health Sciences were the dignitaries who participated in the inaugural session of the workshop along with the invited experts from the country. Eight areas of Geriatric Psychiatry were discussed in small groups and subsequently by the large group and initial drafts prepared by respective authors were modified utilizing the wisdom of the participants. Subsequently revised drafts received from the authors were put on IPS website. Final Drafts revised by the authors based on communication received from the membership were edited and the final outcome of an year long exercise is in your hands.

The guidelines aim at providing guidance to Psychiatrists and other mental health professionals. They comment on somatic and Psychosocial treatment that is used for such patients and review the scientific evidences and their strength. The reader is encouraged to consult these guidelines and accompanying references when specific treatment recommendations are sought for. However this text is not intended of stand by itself as data are subjected to change as scientific knowledge and technology advances.

We are grateful to all the experts who took pains to prepare the documents, who participated in the workshop and contributed to the development of these practice guidelines.

We are grateful to President, Secretary and Executive Council of Indian Psychiatric Society for giving us the responsibility for preparing and printing this document. We hope it will meet the expectations of membership and serve the purpose.

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