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Handbook of Stress: Theoretical and Clinical Aspects (second edition). Leo Goldberger and Shlomo Breznitz (Editors.). New York: Free Press, 1993, xxv + 819 pages, \$40.00 soft.

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The publication of the second edition of Goldberger and Breznitz's *Handbook of Stress* has been eagerly anticipated. The first edition, published in 1982, became a standard general reference book for stress research. It included 46 chapters by the leaders in stress research, covering the wide spectrum of research from basic psychological and physical processes to therapy. It is against this reputation that the second edition will need to be compared.

The second edition has expanded into many areas which were either nonexistent or only minimally researched when the first edition was published. New chapters include topics such as the immune system (Stein and Miller), neurochemistry and brain morphology (McEwen and Mendelson), coping in old age (Costa and McCrae), burnout (Pines), interpersonal violence and traumatic stress (Pynoos, Sorenson, and Steinberg) and HIV infection (Folkman). Any compendium of review articles that includes such a wide range of new topics in stress research is admirable.

The text also includes chapters that are termed "classics" by the editors. This includes the late Hans Selye's chapter on the history of the stress concept. This type of historical overview chapter by a founder of the field is an important portion of any general overview book.

The major weakness of the handbook involves some of the other chapters which have not been rewritten. While several of the original authors did rewrite the chapters, eight of the second edition's 39 chapters are the same now as they were in 1982 (including one by editor Leo Goldberger). The editors make the point that some of the "seminal contributions" by deceased researchers (e.g., Irving Janis, Norma Haan) were thought to be important for the history of the field and were kept. Nonetheless, the death of the original contributor was not taken as sufficient reason for leaving chapters unchanged. For example, the death of Harold Proshansky did not stop the editors from having someone else (Eric Graig) contribute a new chapter to the topic of stress and the urban physical environment.

Other chapters were not changed because the original contributors were either no longer active in the field or declined the editor's invitation to update the original chapters. Many of these unchanged areas have continued to undergo extensive

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research since that time. For example, research on decision making under stress; the relation between stress and psychiatric illness; occupational stress; and the social context of stress have all continued to be researched widely during the 1980's and early 1990's. While leaving chapters unchanged may be more appropriate when only a handful of years have passed since the last edition, in this case a whole decade of research is missed. For a book with the reputation and impact of the original handbook, it is a shame that so much of the information in the second edition is that much out of date.

There are also important research areas that have been excluded in the second edition. For example, there is little discussion on the effects of stress on children or adolescents. There was a chapter on stress in adolescents by Anne Petersen and Ralph Spiga in the previous edition but it is no longer included in the handbook. A few of the authors do include some information on children, but it is parenthetical and secondary to the main aspect of the material they reviewed. For example, in Lars Weisaeth's chapter on reactions to disasters, there is one page on research on the reaction of children. While not all topics can be covered in a single volume handbook, the research discussed in the over 800 pages is almost solely on animals and adults.

In summary, many of the chapters do represent the author's aim of developing a "state-of-the-art overview of a number of significant and substantive research areas in the stress-coping domain prepared by some of the most respected authorities in the field" (p. xi). Nonetheless, a significant portion of this newest edition is unchanged and has missed over ten years of stress research in a number of important areas. Therefore, while still an important book, it will probably not have the same impact that its predecessor had in 1982.