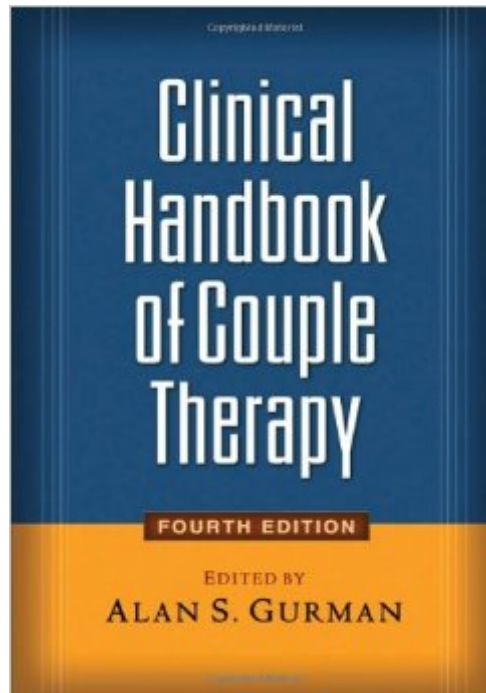


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Clinical Handbook Of Couple Therapy, Fourth Edition



Synopsis

This authoritative handbook provides a definitive overview of the theory and practice of couple therapy. Noted contributors--many of whom developed the approaches they describe--combine clear conceptual exposition with thorough descriptions of therapeutic techniques. In addition to presenting major couple therapy models in step-by-step detail, the book describes effective applications for particular populations and problems. Chapters adhere closely to a uniform structure to facilitate study and comparison, enhancing the book's utility as a reference and text. See also *Clinical Casebook of Couple Therapy*, also edited by Alan S. Gurman, which presents in-depth illustrations of treatment.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It was with a bit of nostalgia that I decided to read and review the *Clinical Handbook of Couple Therapy*: 4th edition, edited by Alan Gurman, Ph.D. Owing much of my current clinical interest in couple therapy to previous editions of this book read while in graduate school, I was eager to learn what the newest edition had in store. I was pleasantly surprised to find that rather than reading the same book with new chapters tacked to the end, each of the chapters in this edition have been significantly updated with the most current and clinically relevant research. This rather hefty 746 page volume is literally packed, cover to cover with the latest in theory and clinical practice of couple therapy with chapters authored by only the most prominent experts in the field. The book is divided in halves with subsections organizing common groups of chapters. The first half of the book is

devoted to models of couple therapy and the second half focuses on applications of couple therapy with special populations, problems and issues in mind. It was immediately evident to me in Part I that Dr. Gurman had given the authors very specific instructions on how to structure each chapter. In Part I each chapter is written by authors who are expert at a specific orientation of couple therapy. Chapters are organized by Behavioral, Humanistic/Existential, Psychodynamic, Social Constructionist, Systemic, and Integrative Approaches. Each chapter addresses the historical underpinnings of the model, the theory of marital distress, specific structure of approaching therapy (i.e. assessment and technical intervention.) in addition to a case example. The end result was a perfect and well uniformed comparative study of every major approach to couple therapy that is being practiced today.

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