

(57) N Sartorius and H Helmchen (eds) (1981)

Multicentre Trials

Modern Problems of Pharmacopsychiatry, volume 16

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Preamble

This is volume 16 in the series Modern Problems of Pharmacopsychiatry. It was developed on the basis of presentations made in the course of the Symposium on Multicentre Trials held in the framework of the CINP-12 Congress in Göteborg in 1980. The series editors are TA Ban (Tennessee Neuropsychiatric Institute, Nashville, Tennessee, USA); FA Freyhan (Washington, DC, USA); P Pichot (Paris, France), and W Pöldinger (Wil/St Gallen).

Aims

The material in this volume has been developed on the basis of presentations made in the course of the Symposium on Multicentre Trials held in the framework of the CINP-12 Congress in Göteborg in 1980. The discussions which followed the presentation of these papers, as well as further contacts with scientists who did not attend the symposium, convinced us that it may be of interest to publish this material, amended as necessary to include comments and ideas contributed during the discussions in the symposium. Papers in this volume deal with three themes: the first four describe general and methodological considerations in multicentre trials; the papers by Leeds, Gastpar, Linden and Schiessler present accounts of practical considerations - such as that of communication and collaboration with general practitioners and with scientists; finally, the last three describe examples of collaborative multicentre studies. We hope that the experience presented in this volume will be helpful to those undertaking collaborative work and interesting and informative to those who do not (Preface, page xi)

This volume is the first publication offering practical guidance in the organization, management, and interpretation of multicentre and collaborative trials designed to elicit data in clinical psychopharmacology (Publisher's statement, back cover).

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