

GENETIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS IN
SCHIZOPHRENIA — A Study of Schizo-
phrenic Twins and Their Families

By Margit Fischer. *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica*, Supplementum 238. Munksgaard, Copenhagen 1973. Bound volume; 16 × 24 cm; 158 pages; author index and subject index. Price not indicated.

In spite of Don Jackson's strong adverse criticism and doubts on the validity and reliability of twin studies in schizophrenia (but his paper goes back to 1960 and his analysis regards previous findings that may be actually the object of methodological criticism) this monograph by Margit Fischer testifies the continuous and increasing interest in twin studies and is only the latest of many papers founded on twin methodology to have come out in the last ten years.

The Psychiatric Twin Register, composed up to now of 395 same-sexed twin pairs, was founded in Denmark and obtained from two registers, the Danish Twin Register and the Central Psychiatric Register. Seventy same-sexed pairs, in which one or both twins were diagnosed as schizophrenics (21 MZ, 5 with uncertain zygoty, and 44 DZ), were extracted from this register; these pairs constitute the material on which Fischer worked extending to a thorough study of their families.

The monograph includes careful psychological examinations by A.L. Christensen of 5 pairs of MZ twins.

In the appendix, the case histories of the 21 MZ twin pairs are reported.

The results of Fischer's study support previous findings in this field and indicate that both genetic and environmental factors are responsible for the development of schizophrenia.

An interesting remark is that the comparison of intrapair similarity between MZ and DZ concordant pairs indicates that age at onset and subtype of schizophrenia were mostly genetically determined, while severity varied considerably among both MZ and DZ concordant pairs, indicating that nonhereditary factors might be of more importance.

Nevertheless, the difficulty remains to identify the specific nature of the environmental factors, in this as in other similar studies; for instance, the dominance submissiveness situation is specific for the twin relationship and is difficult to be transcribed to the situation of single-born schizophrenics, which should be the ultimate goal.

Roberto Tatarelli

GUIDA ALLO STUDIO DELL'ANATOMIA DEL-
L'UOMO — Seconda edizione

Guide to the Study of the Anatomy of Man —
Second edition

By Z. Fumagalli. Francesco Vallardi Editore, Milano 1971. Five bound volumes; 17 × 24 cm; 2504 pages; 536 drawings, 290 black-and-white and 287 colored illustrations. Price: It. L. 82 000 (approximately US \$ 140).

ATLANTE FOTOGRAFICO A COLORI DI ANATO-
MIA MACROSCOPICA DELL'UOMO

Atlas of Macroscopic Anatomy of Man

By Z. Fumagalli, G. Marinozzi, E. Nesci, A. Santoro. Francesco Vallardi Editore, Milano 1973. Three bound volumes; 22 × 31.5 cm; 208 pages; 410 colored tables. Price: It. L. 60 000 (approximately US \$ 100).

Anatomy has been presented for years in often famous treatises, different as to size, scope, illustrations and print, but generally following a predominantly analytical structure.

The originality of Professor Fumagalli's work stems from its rational, biological structure, in which man is reassembled at last in his full morpho-functional unity.

Readers used to the centuries-old teaching schemes of Anatomy may find the new criteria disconcerting at first. Yet, as they proceed, they will fully appreciate the new way of relating morphology to physiopathology (see, for instance, the chapters on anastomotic networks and on lymphatic vessels).

Students will fully appreciate the freedom from ancient schemes, leading to a synthesis of anatomic knowledge without the obnoxious, traditional intermediate analytical phases.

The title, "Guide to the Study of the Anatomy of Man", is closely related to a real revolution in the teaching of anatomy, introduced by the Author in his Institute of Anatomy in Rome's Medical Faculty. Each student has direct access to the labs, the anatomical material, the microscopes. A programmed closed-circuit TV network, with original videotapes, leads all students through the different phases of learning in each lab, teaching them how to observe each sample, how to classify it, how to discriminate each morphological trait. Individual tutoring is thus assured even in mass teaching, and one instructor can follow as many as 50 students at a time. Repetition of videotapes is available upon request.

Each student receives a high-standard basic training and is encouraged and stimulated towards deeper, individual learning.

In the different volumes of this "Guide" the subject matter is related to the various areas of biomedical teaching and the basic aspects of life: motion, irritability, metabolism, reproduction, etc.

While Vol. I is devoted to the basic notions of cytology and histology, with clear reference to lab work and to histological techniques, the subsequent three volumes cover the area of body morphology and motion, of visceral motion, of the functional apparatuses: neuroendocrine, nutritional, reproductive and tegumentary. Over 1000 illustrations (colour and B/W), as well as general and analytical indexes, are found in Vol. V; the vast and modern literature is divided by subject.

A recent addition to this monumental enterprise is the Atlas of Macroscopic Anatomy of Man, by Fumagalli, Marinozzi, Nesci and Santoro: a precious integration to the guide, useful for study as well as for medical practice. It compares favourably with any other Atlas, especially for the novelty represented by the wide use of colour photographs and for the realistic quality of all figures.

In summary, Guide and Atlas are a sound foundation for the new methodological approach to anatomical teaching, as related to progress in biomedical science and to the current expansion in the student population.

G.C. Alciati
M. Milani-Comparetti

ILLUSTRATED HUMAN EMBRYOLOGY — Volume 1: Embryogenesis

By H. Tuchmann-Duplessis, G. David, and P. Haegel (Paris). Springer Verlag, New York; Chapman & Hall, London; Masson & C.ie, Paris 1972. Paperback; 21 × 25 cm; 110 pages including numerous black-and-white and colored illustrations. Index.

REPRODUCTION IN MAMMALS

Volume 1: Germ Cells and Fertilization
Volume 2: Embryonic and Fetal Development
Volume 3: Hormones in Reproduction

Edited by C.R. Austin and R.V. Short (Cambridge, England). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 1972. Paperbacks; 13.5 × 21.5; 136 + 158 + 148 pages including numerous illustrations. Subject index. Price: £ 1.30 each volume (approximately US \$ 4).

DOWN-SYNDROM. MONGOLISMUS — Bibliographica Genetica Medica, Vol. 1

By G. Koch (Erlangen-Nürnberg). Druckerei J. Hogl, Erlangen 1973. A production of the Institute of Human Genetics and Anthropology of the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg. Paperback; 14.5 × 20.5 cm; 283 pages; 1750 bibliographical entries.

DIE STURGE-WEBER'SCHE KRANKHEIT — Bibliographica Genetica Medica, Vol. 2

By G. Koch (Erlangen-Nürnberg). Druckerei J. Hogl, Erlangen 1973. A production of the Institute of Human Genetics and Anthropology of the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg. Paperback; 14.5 × 20.5 cm; 112 pages; 1081 bibliographical entries.