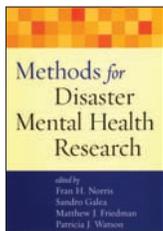


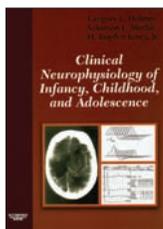
**New on the bookshelf:  
Recent releases by  
DMS faculty authors**

*Methods for Disaster Mental Health Research.* Edited by Fran H. Norris, Ph.D., research professor of psychiatry at DMS; Matthew J. Friedman, M.D., Ph.D., professor of psychiatry at DMS; et al. Guilford Press; 2006. This book examines research



into the psychological effects on people and communities of large-scale disasters and terrorism. It covers public mental health planning and evidence-based treatments for traumatic stress, as well as issues involved in the study of specific populations, such as children.

*Clinical Neurophysiology of Infancy, Childhood, and Adolescence.* By Gregory L. Holmes, M.D., professor of medicine at DMS; et al. Elsevier; 2006. Much of clinical neurophysiology is based on studies of adults; though many of the field's techniques can be modified for children, this text-



book focuses on neurophysiologic testing specifically for children. It describes unique age-specific patterns as well as testing for seizures, toxic and degenerative diseases, head trauma, spinal muscular atrophies, and many other conditions.

MEDIA MENTIONS: DMS

Among the people and programs coming in for prominent media coverage in recent months was a DMS orthopaedic surgeon who is leading a multisite back-surgery study known as SPORT (Spine Patient Outcomes Research Trial). In November, results comparing surgical and nonsurgical treatment of herniated disks were available. “We basically found that [for] people who had



very significant symptoms, that surgery, in fact was better,” Dr. **James Weinstein** told Katie Couric on CBS’s *Evening News*. “However, what was really interesting is that patients who decided not to have surgery, who could wait, also did really well.” Dozens of

other media outlets featured the study results, including CNN, National Public Radio’s *All Things Considered*, the *International Herald Tribune*, the *New York Times*, and *USA Today*. “Trying to find an answer to the surgery vs. nonsurgery question for herniated discs is important, Weinstein said,” in the *Chicago Tribune*, “because the number of spinal operations has been increasing and the rate of these surgeries can vary greatly in different regions.” (For more on this study, see page 3.)

The press also tapped another DHMC physician for comment on the SPORT results. “By the two-year mark, the researchers found, the nonoperative group had improved considerably, even though surgery patients still maintained a slight edge,” *U.S. News & World Report* explained. “Still, ‘this study supports nonoperative treatment for patients who can manage their pain,’ [said] Dr. **William Abdu**, medical director of the Spine Center at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and one of the authors” of the study.



In November, a U.S. Food and Drug Administration advisory panel recommended the approval of a new test that detects whether breast cancer has spread to the lymph nodes or not. But, as the Reuters wire service noted, the panelists—including a Dartmouth physician—“questioned how well the test would help determine the best

care for patients.” Panelist “**Marc Ernstoff**, a cancer immunologist at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in New Hampshire” explained, “I think what you’re hearing from the panel is ‘Yes, let’s proceed forward but cautiously.’”

Susan Dentzer, a Dartmouth alumna and correspondent for PBS’s *NewsHour*, recently profiled a soldier whose face had been destroyed in an explosion in Iraq. One of the clinicians whom the soldier’s wife “considers an angel,” reported



Dentzer, “is [the soldier’s] plastic surgeon, Dr. **Joe Rosen**. He normally practices at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in New Hampshire but was called in by Walter Reed [Army Medical Center] as a consultant” for this case and others. “We can only do so much at each stage,” Rosen told the soldier. “But if we’re willing to be patient . . . each three months we can do another stage and make it better until you’re satisfied.”

A sugar found in crabs and shrimp “seems to protect against the build-up of nasty bacteria and yeast colonies called biofilms,” the *Atlanta Journal-*



*Constitution* reported in an article about some recent research. “**George O’Toole**, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at Dartmouth Medical School, expressed some reservation” about the research, however. “This would be a terrific advance if this proved to be true, particularly because there is an advantage in using a non-antibiotic coating that can’t be understated,” O’Toole said. ‘Antibiotic coatings in catheters, for example, are a terrible idea because they will likely contribute to the development of [drug] resistance in the long run. . . . However . . . many people have worked on this for many years without—to my knowledge—many effective results. So, I would have to see more research.’”

V8 juice, Campbell’s Healthy Request tomato soup, and nearly all yogurt with fruit didn’t make the cut in Hannaford Brothers’ new Guiding Stars