

**The California Community Colleges  
CCL-EAR Committee  
Preview (Look-See)  
*Psychiatry Online*  
May 1, 2007**

**DATABASE OVERVIEW & CONTENTS:**

*Psychiatry Online* provides full text access to a core collection of peer-reviewed books and journals from American Psychiatric Publishing, Inc. Among these are:

- *DSM-IV: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (4<sup>th</sup> ed. Text Revision)*
- *The APA Practice Guidelines for the Treatment of Psychiatric Disorders series (13 titles at the time of this writing)*
- *The American Journal of Psychiatry (1998 to present)*
- *Psychiatric Services (1998 – present)*
- *Psychosomatics (1998 – present)*
- *The Journal of Neuropsychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences (1998 – present)*
- *Academic Psychiatry (1998 – present)*
- *Psychiatric News*

*Psychiatry Online* is a collegial, user-friendly product. The database's *A-Z Index* allows for browsing of topics. Keyword searching retrieves a list of possible subject headings. For example, a keyword search on the topic *post-traumatic stress* directs the user to a list of preferred terms, [post-traumatic stress disorder](#) among them. Clicking on [post-traumatic stress disorder](#) retrieves 92 links to relevant entries from six different APA books including *DSM-IV-TR* and the *APA Practice Guidelines* series. The book results can also be limited by 35 sub-topics, such as "in children," "diagnostic criteria," or "epidemiology." 984 hits were found from five journals. The journal article retrieval can be further limited by journal title or date. It's also possible to search backfiles of journals not included in the basic package by clicking on [Search journal legacy content \(pre-1993\)](#). Results include a complete bibliographic citation and abstract. The full text of these archived articles is often available for an additional fee.

*PsychiatryOnline.com* resources are tagged with a controlled vocabulary that is compliant with UMLS (Unified Medical Language System), of which MeSH is a source vocabulary.

If a user registers for a *My Psychiatry Online* account (no additional charge), retrieved book sections may be printed, saved to a PDA, or emailed (as a link to the full text) to self or a colleague. The colleague in receipt of the emailed text link does not have to hold a *Psychiatry Online* account to read it, although the link will expire in three days. The *My Psychiatry Online* account allows similar services for retrieved journal articles and also enables the user to monitor corrections and citation of the article in subsequent articles. Additional reference texts, such as abridged *Practice Guidelines* and *DSM-IV*, are available as downloadable PDA files for an additional fee.

**FINAL RECOMMENDATION:**

*Psychiatry Online* offers user friendly, online access to a handful of heavily used, authoritative psychiatric texts and journals. While colleges with strong programs in psychiatric nursing, psychology, or social work might consider this product, it is beyond the scope of the curricula of most California Community Colleges. Based on this preview, I do not recommend that the CCL-EAR Committee proceed with a mini or full review of *Psychiatry Online*.