

Psycho-Immunology and HIV Infection

People who know that they are infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) show different reactions. Some people are completely overwhelmed, and may feel depressed and hopeless for a long period. Others learn to live with it, remain hopeful and actively try to deal with their problems. These different reactions not only determine someone's psychological well-being, they may also have an effect on the course of the disease. This book provides an exciting and complete description of the investigations in this area. Original findings are presented, as well as the 'state of the art' of studies in HIV-infected homosexual men. Moreover, the effects of psychosocial interventions on psychological distress and the course of infection are described, demonstrating the clinical relevance of understanding the complex interactions between psychosocial and biomedical factors in HIV infection.

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