



## Book Review

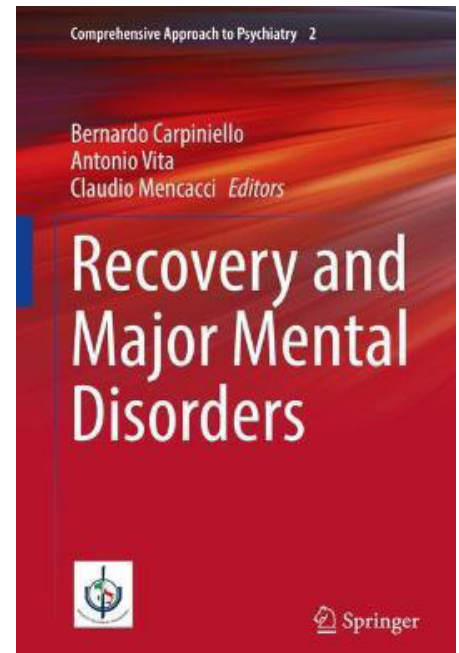
# Recovery and Major Mental Disorders

Bernardo Carpiniello, Claudio Mencacci, Antonio Vita (editors)

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In the field of psychiatry, the term Recovery can have two main meanings. The first refers to a multidimensional clinical construct used as a complete and reliable measure of the outcome, especially in case of integrated interventions; the other one concerns the personal process of “living together” with a mental disorder, described through the subjective experiences of those who live this journey with and through their disorder. The first approach was developed in clinical contexts, the second within the movement of users and their families. Both approaches have significantly contributed to a paradigm shifting in both care and clinical research, as evidenced by the growing number of citations regarding recovery related papers over the past twenty years, more than 23,000 only referring to Pubmed. Despite the evident international agreement about the relevance of the issue of recovery, not all that glitters is gold. Although many mental health services declare themselves to be recovery-oriented, it is uncommon that in ordinary practice a real and concrete orientation of interventions towards this goal is ensured. Moreover, although the term recovery is now an integral part of the psychiatric lexicon and has become commonly used, it should be recognized that an in-depth knowledge is still lacking regarding the complexity of the problems inherently related to recovery, the disputes and the knowledge gaps still existing and the persistent conceptual and methodological difficulties. Moreover, the theme of recovery, historically linked to the field of schizophrenia and related disorders, in recent years has progressively extended to other clinical areas, in particular to mood disorders, for which recovery has taken on meanings and methodologies of assessment which are somewhat different with respect to the field of non-affective psychosis. The volume here presented, “Recovery and Major Mental Disorders”, aims at offering to the readeres a comprehensive approach to the issue or recovery both as regard to schizophrenia and mood disorder. This Volume is the second one in the series “Comprehensive Approach to Psychiatry”, published by Springer, which was launched two years ago under the aegis of the Italian Society of Psychiatry with the volume “Violence and Mental Disorders”. This Volume, edited by Bernardo Carpiniello, Claudio Mencacci and Antonio Vita, contains the contributions of some of the leading Italian and foreign researchers and clinicians in this field, aiming with its thirteen chapters at being the most up-to-date and in-depth book on recovery in the current scientific arena.

Bernardo Carpiniello



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