



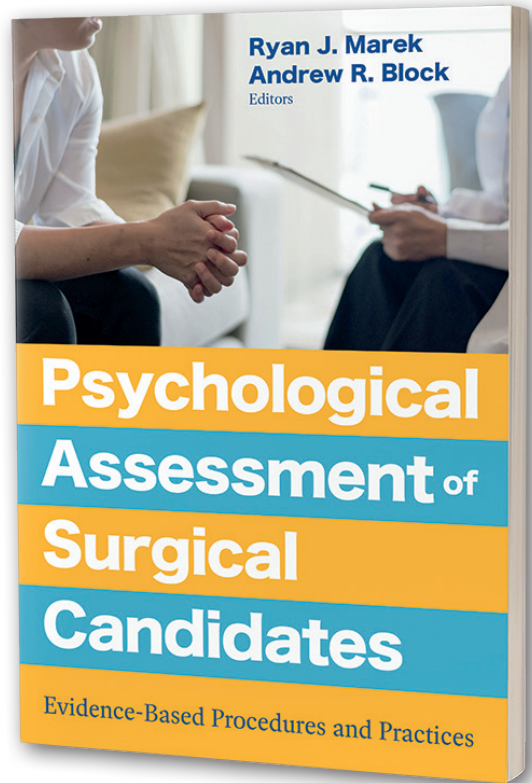
Psychological Assessment of Surgical Candidates

Evidence-Based Procedures and Practices

RYAN J. MAREK AND ANDREW R. BLOCK

Psychosocial factors, such as caregiver support and patients' expectations for quality of life after surgery, can have a strong impact on surgery outcomes. This book presents evidence-based approaches to presurgical psychological assessment across a broad range of medical conditions. Psychologists and other mental health professionals are increasingly included within the preoperative evaluation process for patients preparing for major surgery. Presurgical psychological assessment (PPA) aims to assess both the risk factors for poor surgical outcome, as well as patient strengths and resources that can have a positive impact on surgery results. Chapters review specific surgical areas in which PPAs are routinely conducted, including metabolic and bariatric, gynecologic, spinal procedures, gender embodiment, breast cancer treatment and prevention, solid organ transplant, deep brain stimulation, and treatment for temporal lobe epilepsy.

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Andrew R. Block, PhD, is board certified in Clinical Health Psychology. He has provided presurgical psychological evaluations and chronic pain treatment for more than 40 years, the last 32 at Texas Back Institute. He has over 50 peer-reviewed publications primarily focused on psychosocial influences on spine surgery outcome, most recently studying the MMPI-2-RF and MMPI-3. He is a co-developer, along with Yossef Ben-Porath, of the MMPI-2-RF spine surgery candidate and spinal cord stimulator candidate interpretive reports. He has four previous books, including *Presurgical Psychological Screening: Understanding Patients, Improving Outcomes*.