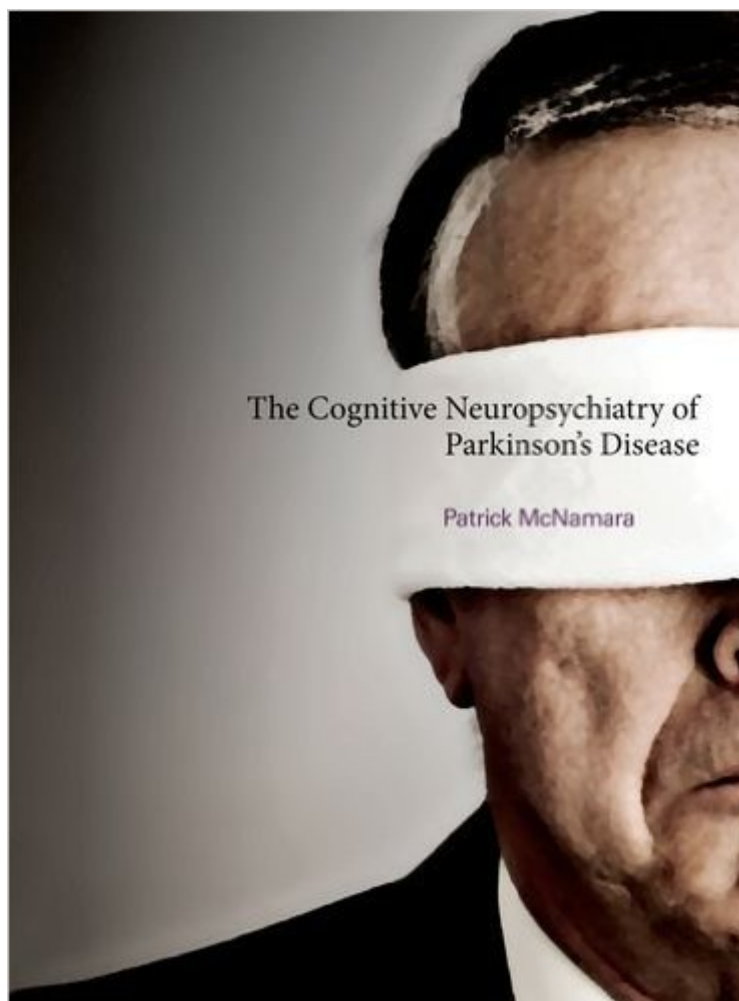


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# The Cognitive Neuropsychiatry Of Parkinson's Disease



## Synopsis

Patients with Parkinson's disease (PD) suffer most visibly with such motor deficits as tremor and rigidity and less obviously with a range of nonmotor symptoms, including autonomic dysfunction, mood disorders, and cognitive impairment. The neuropsychiatric disturbances of PD can be as disabling as its motor disorders; but they have only recently begun to be studied intensively by clinicians and scientists. In this book, Patrick McNamara examines the major neuropsychiatric syndromes of PD in detail and offers a cognitive theory that accounts for both their neurology and their phenomenology. McNamara offers an up-to-date review of current knowledge of such neuropsychiatric manifestations of PD as cognitive deficits, personality changes, speech and language symptoms, sleep disorders, apathy, psychosis, and dementia. He argues that the cognitive, mood, and personality symptoms of PD stem from the weakening or suppression of the agentic aspects of the self. McNamara's study may well lead to improved treatment for Parkinson's patients. But its overarching goal is to arrive at a better understanding of the human mind and its breakdown patterns in patients with PD. The human mind-brain is an elaborate and complex structure patched together to produce what we call the self. When we observe the disruption of the self structure that occurs with the various neuropsychiatric disorders associated with PD, McNamara argues, we get a glimpse into the inner workings of the most spectacular structure of the self: the agentic self, the self that acts.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Well written book that helps the reader to understand the cognitive issues confronting the Parkinson patient. Explains the biological basis of their mood disorders and memory deficits. Suggested read for persons working with movement disordered patients.

I have Parkinson's Disease, and am very curious about neuroscience in general, so maybe it's not surprising that I found this book fascinating. McNamara isn't a particularly good writer, but he knows what he is talking about, he is clear, and he has a great deal to say. If you are at all interested in the neurological underpinnings of the cognitive side of Parkinson's, this is absolutely the book for you. Highly recommended for anyone with PD or who cares for someone with PD.

This book is very well written, and covers information I have not been able to readily find. I am very glad I own this book.

difficult read but valuable information

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