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Editor's note

On 30 May 2009, shortly after completing this book review, Dr Johann Claassen died suddenly while out running. He was 47 years old. His colleagues and students acknowledged him as a first-rate psychiatrist and an outstanding teacher, especially of medical students, which is why he was asked to undertake this review. To all his former colleagues in Western Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, and to his surviving family, especially his wife and two young boys, I and the entire *International Psychogeriatrics* team extend our sincere condolences.

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