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Special Issue Reprint

Lithium in Psychiatric Therapy

Edited by: Janusz K. Rybakowski and Ewa Ferensztajn-Rochowiak

This Reprint celebrates the 75th anniversary of the introduction of lithium into modern psychiatry, marked by a seminal publication by Australian psychiatrist John Cade in the *Medical Journal of Australia* in 1949. After three-quarters of a century, lithium has been solidified as one of the most important drugs in modern psychiatry. Ten articles by leading specialists in lithium treatment present historical accounts of the treatment's development and its current status. The main topic is the use of lithium in bipolar disorder, where it is a drug of choice for the prevention of mood recurrences. Still, it also has a place in the treatment of mania and the augmentation of antidepressants in treatment-resistant depression. In patients with mood disorders, lithium exerts a suicide-preventive effect, the strongest among the mood stabilizers. Neuroprotective effects of lithium have also been discovered, with attempts to apply it in the prevention and treatment of dementia. This Reprint provides a range of important and up-to-date information about this amazing drug.

