Biobehavioral Assessment of the Infant
Edited by Lynn Twarog Singer, PhD, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, and Philip Sanford Zeskind, PhD, Carolinas Medical Center and University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill

Critical Acclaim
“This volume’s contributors are a virtual ‘who’s who’ in the field of infant assessment....Practitioners will benefit from this authoritative evaluation of the most commonly used clinical and research tools. Scientists will gain insight into the role of assessment in understanding the course of development and the relationship of early risk and protective factors in the determination of long-term outcome.”
—Fonda Davis Eyler, PhD, Division of Neonatology, University of Florida Health Science Center

“This book marks the coming of age of infant biobehavioral assessment. Not only does the volume provide invaluable information that is unavailable in any other single source, it advances the field through its scientific rigor, clear organization, and unique sense of the relationship between assessment and overall infant behavior and development.”
—Samuel J. Meisels, EdD, School of Education, University of Michigan

“This volume covers all the bases in normal and pre-term infants....From cortical electrophysiology to attachment assessment, a full range of contemporary assessment strategies is described in an accessible yet sophisticated and comprehensive manner.”
—Marc H. Bornstein, PhD, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

“The information in this book has direct relevance to continuing debates on public policies and programs that will support the growth and development of our youngest citizens. The volume will be valuable both as a general introduction to this rapidly growing area of inquiry, and as a reference and resource for developmental psychologists, pediatricians, and other professionals who care for infants. It is suitable for both college and graduate-level courses in developmental psychology.”
—Henry T. Irey, PhD, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., Washington, DC

Description
Recent decades have seen the emergence of many new biobehavioral assessment tools for the newborn and young infant. These instruments have tremendous utility for scientists and practitioners engaged in exploring basic questions of development, studying medical and developmental conditions that place infants at risk, diagnosing the severity of biobehavioral insult, and evaluating the effectiveness of ameliorative interventions. Yet until now there has been no single volume providing an organized, critical examination of available assessment tools. Filling a crucial gap in the literature, this book describes a wide range of approaches to evaluating growth, sensation, arousal, regulation, learning, and attention in the prenatal period and the first year of life. Leading experts describe the historical background and development of each tool; review its diagnostic, methodological, and conceptual utility; highlight strengths and limitations for different uses; and consider broader implications for understanding the development of infants at risk.

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Contributors

Robert E. Arendt, PhD, Department of Pediatrics, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH
Margaret Bendersky, PhD, Institute for the Study of Child Development, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Brunswick, NJ
Rozemarie Bigsby, ScD, OTR/L, Infant Development Unit, Department of Pediatrics, Women and Infants’ Hospital, Providence, RI
Jane Case-Smith, EdD, OTR/L, Division of Occupational Therapy, School of Allied Medical Professions, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
Kean H. Chew, PhD, Demand Planning and Forecasting, Perseco, Downers Grove, IL
Alan B. Cobo-Lewis, PhD, Interdisciplinary Studies Program and Department of Psychology, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Janet C. Constantino, MA, Division of Neonatal and Developmental Medicine, Pediatrics, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA
Janet A. DiPietro, PhD, Department of Population and Family Health Sciences, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
Rebecca E. Eilers, PhD, Department of Psychology, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Jeffrey W. Fagen, PhD, Department of Psychology, St. John’s University, Jamaica, NY
Nathan A. Fox, PhD, Institute for Child Study, University of Maryland, College Park, MD
Robert L. Freedland, PhD, Department of Infant Development, New York State Institute for Basic Research in Developmental Disabilities, Staten Island, NY
Judith M. Gardner, PhD, Department of Infant Development, New York State Institute for Basic Research in Developmental Disabilities, Staten Island, NY
Maria Amy Gartstein, PhD, Pacific Graduate School of Psychology, Palo Alto, CA
Susan Goldberg, PhD, Psychiatry Research Unit, Hospital for Sick Children, and University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Megan R. Gunnar, PhD, Institute of Child Development, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
Bernard Z. Karmel, PhD, Department of Infant Development, New York State Institute for Basic Research in Developmental Disabilities, Staten Island, NY
Anneliese F. Korner, PhD, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Division of Child Psychiatry and Child Development, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA
Katharine R. Lawson, PhD, Department of Pediatrics, Rose F. Kennedy Center for Research in Mental Retardation and Human Development, Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Children’s Hospital at Montefiore, Bronx, NY

Barry M. Lester, PhD, Department of Pediatrics and Department of Psychiatry, Brown University Medical School; Infant Development Center, Women and Infants’ Hospital; and E. P. Bradley Hospital, Providence, RI
Michael Lewis, PhD, Institute for the Study of Child Development, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Brunswick, NJ
Dalit Himmelefarb Marshall, PhD candidate, Institute for Child Study, University of Maryland, College Park, MD
D. Luisa Mayer, PhD, Department of Ophthalmology, Children’s Hospital, Harvard University School of Medicine, Boston, MA
Dennis L. Molfese, PhD, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY
Victoria J. Molfese, PhD, Center for Research in Early Childhood, School of Education, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY
Julia S. Noland, PhD, Department of Pediatrics, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH
Phyllis S. Ohr, PhD, Department of Psychology, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY
Esther K. Orlian, PhD, Department of Psychology, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel
Fran Lang Porter, PhD, Department of Psychology, Washington University, St. Louis, MO
Susan A. Rose, PhD, Department of Pediatrics, Rose F. Kennedy Center for Research in Mental Retardation and Human Development, Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Children’s Hospital at Montefiore, Bronx, NY
Mary K. Rothbart, PhD, Department of Psychology, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR
Holly A. Ruff, PhD, Department of Pediatrics, Rose F. Kennedy Center for Research in Mental Retardation and Human Development, Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Children’s Hospital at Montefiore, Bronx, NY
Ronald Seifer, PhD, Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior, Brown University School of Medicine, E. P. Bradley Hospital, East Providence, RI
Lynn Twarog Singer, PhD, Departments of Pediatrics and Psychiatry, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH
Evelyn B. Thoman, PhD, Biobehavioral Sciences Graduate Degree Program, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
Edward Z. Tronick, PhD, Child Development Unit, Children’s Hospital, and Department of Pediatrics, Harvard University Medical School, Boston, MA
Barbara Prudhomme White, PhD, School of Health and Human Services, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Philip Sanford Zeskind, PhD, Department of Pediatrics, Carolinas Medical Center, Charlotte, NC, and Department of Pediatrics, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC