SHOCK THERAPY

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A History of Electroconvulsive Treatment in Mental Illness



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It was a small band of European émigrés—Italians, Germans and Austrians, and Jews for the most part—who saw the merits in electroconvulsive therapy and sustained its use despite professional antipathy and ostracism, and public and governmental attacks. They are unacknowledged heroes in the twentieth-century history of psychiatry. This book is in their memory.