

Contents

Acknowledgements vii

Preface viii

1. The psychology of aggression 1

Terminology	1
Affective and instrumental aggression	2
Theoretical perspectives	4
Interpersonal factors in aggression	6
External factors in aggression	9
Individual differences and aggressiveness	15
Summary	24

2. The psychopharmacology of aggression 27

Brain mechanisms	27
Neurochemical aspects	30
Hormones	36
Drugs used in the management of aggression	37
Summary	44

3. Methods: General approaches and experimental techniques 45

Observation	46
Reports	47
Experimental laboratory techniques	53
Summary	62

4. Behavioural aggression in a clinical group	63
Introduction	63
Discussion	77
Summary	81
5. The effects of alcohol on behavioural aggression	83
Introduction	83
Discussion	89
Summary	92
6. The effects of benzodiazepines on behavioural aggression	93
Introduction	93
Discussion	102
Summary	103
7. The effects of alprazolam on behavioural aggression	105
Introduction	105
Normal subject study	106
Patients with panic disorder	113
Discussion	117
Summary	120
8. General discussion and conclusions	123
The measurement of aggression	124
The psychological effects of alcohol	126
The pharmacological effects of alcohol	128
The effects of anxiolytics and alcohol	128
Animal models	131
Conclusion	132
References	133
Author index	162
Subject index	167