

THE EMPEROR'S NEW DRUGS

IRVING KIRSCH, PHD

READ BY RICHARD POWERS

Irving Kirsch has the world doubting the efficacy of antidepressants. Do they work, or are they no better than placebos? Like his colleagues, Kirsch spent years referring patients to psychiatrists to have their depression treated with drugs. Eventually, however, he decided to investigate for himself just how effective the drugs actually were.

With fifteen years of research, Kirsch demonstrates that what everyone “knew” about antidepressants is wrong—what the medical community considered a cornerstone of psychiatric treatment is little more than a faulty consensus. But *The Emperor's New Drugs* does more than just criticize: it offers a path society can follow to stop popping pills and start proper treatment.

“[Kirsch's] case that the drugs' benefits are due to placebo and enhanced placebo effect is fascinating and demands urgent research...Clearly, it's time for a big rethink of what constitutes mental illness and about how to treat it.”
—*New Scientist*

“*The Emperor's New Drugs* absolutely dismantles the case for antidepressants as a pharmacologically effective treatment.” —*Psychology Today*

IRVING KIRSCH, PHD, a native of New York City, is a professor of psychology at the University of Hull, United Kingdom, as well as professor emeritus at the University of Connecticut. He lives in Hull, England.

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Running Time: 7½ Hours • Unabridged



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THE EMPEROR'S NEW DRUGS

IRVING KIRSCH, PHD

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