

The study deals with eating disorders. It tries to bring the most comprehensive overview of the two majority eating disorders, anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa, respectively. Both diseases have a lot in common, but also some of its specifics which are pointed out in the study. The study is conceived to make the reader in the early chapters acquainted with the various eating disorders according to international diagnostic criteria. Then there is a brief history, epidemiology and etiology and pathogenesis of particular disorders. Other chapters are devoted to anorexia and bulimia. They deal with the predisposition to eating disorders and they include psychological and biological factors and also health risks that may occur during prolonged starvation and at compensatory behaviour in bulimic patients. The final chapter briefly describes the different types of treatment that in most cases are based on knowledge of psychology.