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Board certified from the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Dr. Akhtar serves as the Director of Adult Outpatient Services for the department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior for Jefferson Medical College. His more than 300 publications include nine books: *Broken Structures; Quest for Answers; Inner Torment; Immigration and Identity; New Clinical Realms;* and *The Damaged Core*, as well as 26 edited or co-edited volumes in psychiatry and psychoanalysis and seven collections of poetry. He is also a Scholar-in-Residence at the Interact Theatre Company in Philadelphia.

Dr. Akhtar is the recipient of the Best Paper of the Year Award from the Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association (1995), and Edith Sabshin Award (2000) from the same association, Kun Po Soo Award (2004), and Irma Bland Award (2005) from the American Psychiatric Association, and Sigmund Freud Award for Distinguished Contribution to Psychoanalysis from the American Society of Psychoanalytic Physicians (2000). Dr. Akhtar was named as a top doctor by U.S. News and World Report.

Dr. Akhtar's research, clinical and academic interests include personality disorders, long-term effects of childhood trauma; immigration and exile and psychoanalysis.