

BOOK of the YEAR AWARDS 2015



The most valuable texts of 2015, as chosen by AJN's panel of judges.

ADULT PRIMARY CARE

Chosen by Karen Roush, PhD, APRN, assistant professor of nursing, Lehman College, Bronx, New York, and founder, The Scholar's Voice.

1. Advanced Health Assessment and Clinical Diagnosis in Primary Care

By Joyce E. Dains, Linda Ciofu Baumann, and Pamela Scheibel. 5th edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.



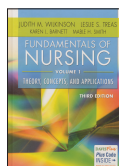
This book is great because it organizes information the way an advanced practice clinician receives it—by symptoms (or chief complaints)—and then takes the clinician through the critical thinking process to reach a differential diagnosis. For a new clinician without a repertoire of previous patient encounters to

draw from, it can be daunting to learn how to do a history and physical without missing anything critical and narrow down a differential diagnosis. This book helps clinicians learn to do just that by taking them through a focused history and physical exam plus laboratory and other diagnostic tests for each symptom. It then presents the differential diagnosis along with a very accessible table that includes key elements of each possible condition, its typical presentation, physical findings, and diagnostic tests. It also provides a diagnostic reasoning process with questions that are, as the authors state, “questions that experienced clinicians ask themselves” to organize their thinking, followed by relevant key questions to ask patients.

- Uses a symptom/chief complaint approach.
- Implements a critical thinking process to determine the differential diagnosis.
- Offers an excellent presentation plus clear and well-organized writing.

2. Fundamentals of Nursing, Volume 1: Theory, Concepts, and Applications, and Volume 2: Thinking, Doing, and Caring

By Judith M. Wilkinson, Leslie S. Treas, Karen L. Barnett, and Mable H. Smith. 3rd edition. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.



Fundamentals of Nursing stands out from other fundamentals of nursing textbooks. First, the two-volume set format works wonderfully to integrate theoretical/conceptual (Volume 1) and clinical practice (Volume 2) knowledge. These two types of knowledge are folded into each other in practice, so presenting

them together is a great benefit to both students and instructors. Both volumes have the same chapters, and throughout Volume 1 students are directed to corresponding procedures, guidelines, and applications in Volume 2. A single family case study is threaded throughout Volume 2, thus emphasizing family-centered care and continuity across settings. There are numerous interactive tools and learning aids throughout both volumes, including key points, knowledge maps, knowledge

checks, and critical thinking and clinical reasoning exercises (for example, “Think Like a Nurse”). The authors also incorporate evidence-based practice and Quality and Safety Education for Nurses principles. The writing style is engaging, and the use of graphics and illustrations is excellent.

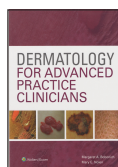
- Integrates theoretical/conceptual and clinical practice knowledge.
- Provides extensive interactive features.
- Uses engaging writing, graphics, and illustrations.

ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING

Chosen by Amanda Schultz, MSN, APRN, NP-C, senior NP for advanced disease management, Heartland Care Partners, Oklahoma City, OK.

1. Dermatology for Advanced Practice Clinicians

By Margaret A. Bobonich and Mary E. Nolen. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer.

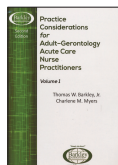


Dermatology for Advanced Practice Clinicians is an essential resource for any advanced practice nurse's personal reference library. This visually intriguing book will catch the eye of both expert and novice nurses. It provides appealing clinical photography to illustrate the most common dermatologic disorders, and identifies those with the highest morbidity and mortality in the community. Tables, algorithms, and lists are provided for seamless reference. The content includes pathophysiology, clinical presentation, diagnostic management, prognosis and complications, referral and consultation, special considerations, and patient education along with appropriate follow-up. This book is a valuable resource for nurses in many clinical areas, and especially for those who specialize in dermatology.

- Has excellent content, practical topics, and captivating photographs.
- Includes new ICD-10 billing codes at the end of each section.
- Written by clinicians with years of experience.

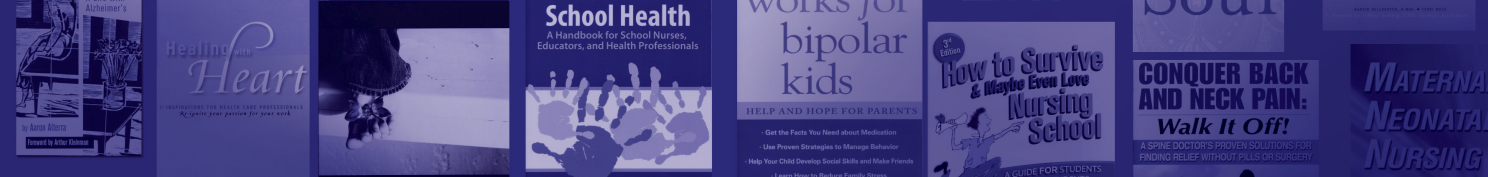
2. Practice Considerations for Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioners, Volumes 1 and 2

By Thomas W. Barkley Jr. and Charlene M. Myers. 2nd edition. West Hollywood, CA, Barkley and Associates, Inc.



This two-volume set provides concise, evidence-based guidelines for acute care NPs and is a quick reference for more than 350 conditions commonly seen in the acute care setting. It gives clinicians a quick overview plus resources for each condition and includes information such as incidence/predisposing factors, subjective and physical exam findings, laboratory and diagnostic findings, and management. This text can easily be used in many settings that meet acute care needs, including busy clinics, hospitals, and EDs.

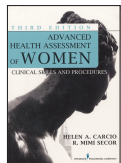
- Its comprehensive, easy-to-follow format makes it a useful on-the-go resource.



- It's also available as an e-book, allowing for quick glances at your electronic devices.
- Tables and appendixes present condensed essential material for patient management.

3. Advanced Health Assessment of Women: Clinical Skills and Procedures

By Helen A. Carcio and R. Mimi Secor. 3rd edition. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



The scope of practice for women's health practitioners is growing in our ever-changing health care system. Advanced practice clinicians are at the forefront of providing health care to women, including to the aging baby boomer population. In response, the authors have written a text that appropriately addresses women's health needs: answering the demand for education beyond the basic curriculum from those clinicians who provide care to women in a multitude of settings.

This book excels at telling advanced clinicians what they need to know in areas such as the anatomy and physiology of the female reproductive system, contraception, infertility assessment, menopause, and assessment of women at risk. It is refreshing to see coverage of topics like skin assessment, lesbian health, pelvic pain, pessary insertion, and obesity. This text is an all-in-one tool for those who practice in internal medicine; family practice; and specialty areas such as women's health care, infertility, or aesthetics.

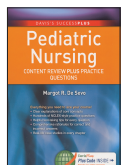
- An exceptional reference for any clinician who works with women of all ages.
- Addresses hot topics using compelling, updated content.
- Uses an outline format to organize each chapter.

CHILD HEALTH

Chosen by Mary Anne Gallagher, MA, RN-BC, director, Patient Care Services, Quality, Professional Practice and Standards, Mount Sinai Beth Israel, New York City.

1. Pediatric Nursing: Content Review Plus Practice Questions

By Margot R. De Sevo. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.



Pediatric Nursing is bursting with knowledge presented in a logical flow. The book establishes a foundation of basic information in the early chapters, then progresses to focus on nursing assessment and the care of specific conditions and diseases in infants, children, and adolescents. The later chapters tie the book together by building on the earlier content, case studies, and review questions.

This book uses a formula that nurtures critical thinking in the reader. I applaud the use of an outline format that's succinct yet comprehensive and a layout that facilitates learning and recall. Additionally, the "Did You Know?" feature interspersed throughout the book provides readers with real-life facts and tips.

- Easy to use; its format facilitates studying.
- Includes a case study at the end of each chapter, so readers can conduct a self-assessment of what they have learned.

2. Screen-Smart Parenting: How to Find Balance and Benefit in Your Child's Use of Social Media, Apps, and Digital Devices

By Jodi Gold. New York City, The Guilford Press.



Author Jodi Gold aligns the content of *Screen-Smart Parenting* with the stages of a child's growth and development, making this a handy resource for use during the entire span of childhood. Its approach enables parents and care providers to focus on their child's current stage and can be used for anticipatory guidance for the

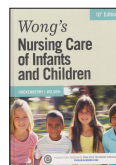
next stage.

A generation ago, parents worried about the impact of television on their children; now technology has brought an even further-reaching and uncensored world into their homes and their children's hands. Dr. Gold offers parents practical advice for managing technology use, reaping its benefits for their child, and dealing with their own fears. *Screen-Smart Parenting* is a helpful guide to coach parents and care providers in developing tech-savvy, safety-conscious children.

- Offers practical advice and information presented in a realistic manner.
- Includes recommendations for apps and programs to promote children's reading and math skills, creativity, and physical activity.
- Provides digital technology family agreements for different age groups.

3. Wong's Nursing Care of Infants and Children

By Marilyn J. Hockenberry and David Wilson. 10th edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.



As a pediatric nurse, I can't leave *Wong's Nursing Care of Infants and Children* off the list. This textbook is an established reference for pediatric nurses and nursing. Now in its 10th edition, the content remains focused purely on pediatric nursing; however its presentation and tools and techniques to promote studying, learning, and

knowledge retention reflect evidence-based research. The foundation of nursing care is the nursing process, and this is evident in the textbook's nursing care plans for specific ages, diseases and conditions, and wellness events. Online resources such as case studies, animations, a care plan creator, and NCLEX review questions are also available.

- A comprehensive text.
- Provides helpful tables, nursing care guidelines, and nursing alerts that highlight essential assessment and practice information.
- Offers a "Translating Evidence into Practice" feature that walks the reader through the steps of applying research and critical thought processes, from asking a question to searching for and finding answers.



COMMUNITY-PUBLIC HEALTH

Chosen by Maureen Anthony, PhD, RN, associate professor, University of Detroit Mercy, and editor, *Home Healthcare Now*.

1. VNAA Clinical Procedure Manual

By the VNAA Expert Clinical Review Panel. 19th edition. Arlington, VA, Visiting Nurse Associations of America (VNAA).



Every home care and hospice agency should have this book readily available for its educators, managers, and clinicians. Written by experts in each content area, this amazing reference is the only procedure manual your agency needs. It is detailed and current, covering all the topics of importance to home care and hospice providers. In addition to sections focused on body systems, it also covers important subjects such as infusion, infection control, medications, pain, patient education, nutrition, and safety. Each content area also includes details on related procedures. The manual is available both as an e-book and as a printed version in a three-ring binder.

- Is evidence based; each section is written by content experts.
- Provides easy-to-follow practice guidelines.
- Is easy for readers to navigate and to quickly find information.

2. Nurse Coaching: Integrative Approaches for Health and Wellbeing

By Barbara Montgomery Dossey, Susan Luck, and Bonney Gulino Schaub. North Miami, FL, International Nurse Coach Association/Create Space.



The United States consistently lags behind other developed nations in health outcomes, yet we lead the world in health care spending. A new approach is needed—*Nurse Coaching* is the foundation for a model that could transform the way we approach patient care. While relatively few nurses will work strictly as nurse coaches,

the principles in this book guide all nurses in moving from a model based on patient education and patient compliance to one in which the patient is a fully engaged health partner. The nurse coaching process is patient centered and relationship based. Nurses in all specialty areas can benefit from this informative guide.

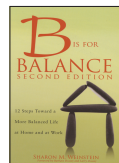
- Comprehensive—addresses all aspects of nurse coaching.
- Advocates a model based on patient strengths rather than deficits.
- Applicable to nurses in all specialties.

CONSUMER HEALTH

Chosen by Jamie M. Smith, MSN, RN, CCRN, instructor, Jefferson College of Nursing at Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia.

1. B Is for Balance: 12 Steps Toward a More Balanced Life at Home and at Work

By Sharon M. Weinstein. 2nd edition. Indianapolis, IN, Sigma Theta Tau International.



B Is for Balance is focused on the concept of achieving balance in life. Author Sharon M. Weinstein provides readers with a simple but powerful narrative on balance and suggests practical steps for streamlining all aspects of everyday life. The book is a pleasure to read. It is organized into concise and targeted chapters for busy people with limited time. “Balancing Act” boxes that offer reflection and planning exercises are embedded in each chapter. The thoughtful quotes and sage advice sprinkled throughout the text contribute to the richness of the commentary. While the chapters build on one another, I found myself noting which sections I could pull out for activities with colleagues and students. The wealth of resources at the end of each chapter allows readers to dive more deeply into a particular topic or strategy.

All too often, we are overcommitted and overextended, struggling in both our personal and professional lives and lacking a way to regain equilibrium. Weinstein forces us to stop and ask ourselves what gives our lives meaning. This is where the journey toward a balanced life begins. *B Is for Balance* provides a realistic framework for taking inventory of our lives and finding a path toward living with intention and balance. It is a call to all of us to reflect on what we truly want out of life.

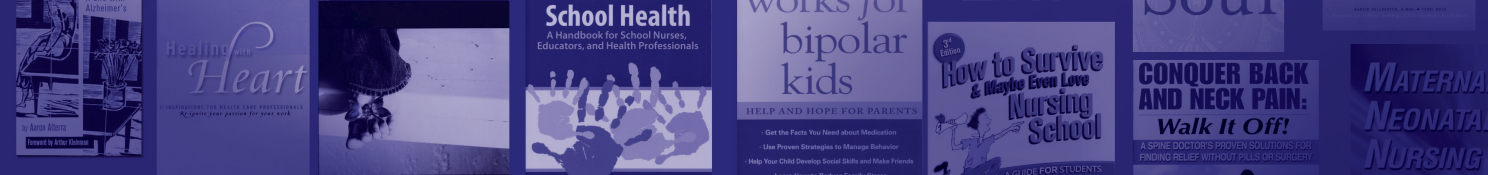
- Allows busy readers to work through the activities and resources at their own pace.
- Is universal: the topic of finding balance applies to all of us.
- Provides engaging and thought-provoking “Balancing Act” exercises.

2. Saving Lives: Why the Media's Portrayal of Nursing Puts Us All at Risk

By Sandy Summers and Harry Jacobs Summers. 2nd edition. New York City, Oxford University Press.



Saving Lives is an engaging exploration of how nurses are portrayed in the media and how flawed images impact the nursing profession and health care. While its cover reminds us of cringe-worthy nurse stereotypes, inside readers will find a thorough critique of the media's portrayal of nurses and its impact on societal views. The authors argue that the misrepresentation of nurses weakens the profession and the health care delivery system as a whole. This is particularly poignant given the current state of health care transformation in the United States. Considering the size of the nursing profession and its broad scope, one would expect nurses to have a loud voice in policy changes. But *Saving Lives* points out that countless misrepresentations of the largest, most diverse sector of health care professionals have muffled its voice and strangled its influence. Summers and Summers suggest ways to join the conversation, and offer important messages for nurses, policymakers, and the general public.



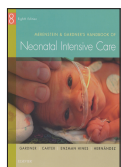
- Offers suggestions to improve nursing's image, from small everyday changes to large campaigns.
- A well-thought-out call to action for society to understand the roles of nurses.
- Filled with contemporary examples, making it both relevant and enjoyable to the reader.

CRITICAL CARE—EMERGENCY NURSING

Chosen by Christopher A. VanFosson, MSN/MHA, RN, Major, United States Army Nurse Corps and PhD student, The University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing. The opinions are the judge's and do not represent an endorsement or the approval of the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. Army.

1. Merenstein and Gardner's Handbook of Neonatal Intensive Care

By Sandra L. Gardner, Brian S. Carter, Mary Enzman Hines, and Jacinto A. Hernández. 8th edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.

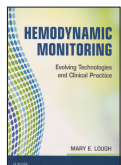


As the health care world flirts with interprofessional practice to achieve better patient outcomes, this text by both physicians and nurses is a forerunner in the care of the most fragile patients and their families. Nurses and physicians alike will find *Merenstein and Gardner's Handbook of Neonatal Intensive Care* to be a complete guide to the care challenges they face daily. The reader is first introduced to the general considerations of care for every neonatal patient, and is then expertly guided through clinical considerations for sick newborns, with entire chapters dedicated to the most serious conditions. Each chapter contains recommendations for parent teaching and emotional support, and four chapters are dedicated to the psychosocial aspects of neonatal care. The text is well organized and appropriately detailed without being so dense that it is difficult to understand.

- Provides a blend of medical and nursing considerations throughout the text.
- Highlights aspects of the text deemed to be of critical clinical importance so the reader can quickly identify and integrate them into practice.
- Includes a chapter on perinatal transport, which clinicians involved in the transport of neonates to and from facilities will find exceptionally helpful.

2. Hemodynamic Monitoring: Evolving Technologies and Clinical Practice

By Mary E. Lough. St. Louis, Elsevier.



Hemodynamic Monitoring is a key tool for nurses involved in one of the most important aspects of patient care. This quality text is appropriate for both novice nurses looking to grasp some of the more difficult concepts of critical care and expert nurses who want a refresher in some of the basics of critical care. Mary E.

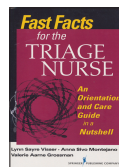
Lough begins with the basics of hemodynamic monitoring, walks the reader through the physiology of the cardiovascular system, and finishes with a timely discussion of goal-oriented hemodynamic monitoring. Throughout the text, the author provides expert, practical insight into the technology nurses use to monitor their patients.

- Contains callouts that point to important nursing considerations for patient comfort and safety; other boxes provide “clinical reasoning pearls” that stimulate critical thinking and offer practical knowledge for providing patient-centered care.

- Provides high-quality photographs, diagrams, charts, and illustrations to enhance the reader's understanding of the material.
- Includes hemodynamic considerations for specific patient conditions, such as mechanical circulatory support, sepsis, and right or left heart failure.

3. Fast Facts for the Triage Nurse: An Orientation and Care Guide in a Nutshell

By Lynn Sayre Visser, Anna Sivo Montejano, and Valerie Aarne Grossman. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



Triage is one of the most important aspects of emergency nursing. It is also one of the most challenging. This text is a great resource for novice and experienced triage nurses; even administrators and preceptors are addressed in this how-to manual! The authors do an admirable job of walking the reader through the entire triage process. They begin by properly identifying triage staff, then address “red flag” patient presentations and areas of special consideration. The concise nature of this text provides the reader with the information necessary to get the job done, and fosters critical thinking as the reader is guided through the time-honored triage process. From beginning to end, the authors provide useful tools to ensure that patients are ordered to receive care in a time frame most appropriate to their condition.

- Each chapter has descriptive section headings that make it easy to reference a specific portion. Are you an administrator with a question about precepting at triage? Go to the heading “Tips for Nursing Leadership and Nursing Educators” in Chapter 2.
- Chapters related to patient presentation are peppered with important considerations for “red flag” conditions, questions to ask to differentiate between conditions, and potential interventions.
- Case studies provide the novice triage nurse with practical examples of situations in which triage principles are used to ensure that a patient receives the most appropriate ED care.

ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Chosen by Susan McBride, PhD, RN-BC, CPHIMS, professor and program director for Masters and Post Masters in Nursing Informatics, Texas Tech University School of Nursing, Lubbock.

1. Transcultural Nursing: RN to BSN OLC

By Lippincott Williams and Wilkins. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer.



Transcultural nursing is an important topic for professional nurses, especially given the diversity of populations served in the United States. The online text and supporting resources for this online course are exceptionally well done; they lay a foundation that enables professional nurses to address population health, health disparities, and cultural differences in nurses and patients.

The RN to BSN online course has substantial value for a broad audience owing to the importance of its topic. It strategically integrates up-to-date and innovative online instructional design strategies and relays content using storytelling, modeling, case-based scenarios, and other activities likely to engage students—particularly younger users who are adept at



working with online educational modalities. The online course content is clearly noted within an easy-to-use structure that showcases nicely designed syllabi and modules. Supporting content includes case studies, literature assessment activities with questions, pre- and postmodule quizzes, and faculty support (complete with documentation). The content is excellent and timely.

- Could support community health, public health fundamentals, and population health courses.
- Offers unique content and resources.
- Assignments for students are interesting and synthesize content through individual and group projects.

2. Family Nurse Practitioner Certification Q&A Review

By Maria T. Codina Leik. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



The modules in this user-friendly app are comprehensive and will effectively prepare students for family NP (FNP) certification. Students will love the app's mobile approach to learning and to certification preparation: it is easily downloadable from Apple's App Store, and it supports

busy, on-the-go lifestyles. The material is well presented and helpful.

- Makes an effective pocket study guide for FNP certification preparation.
- Offers excellent usability. The app is compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch; the one downside is that it is only available on Apple devices.
- Makes an important contribution to helping meet the demand for certified FNPs.

3. Certified Nurse Educator Q&A Review

By Ruth A. Wittmann-Price and Maryann Godshall. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



The Certified Nurse Educator Q&A Review app offers a user-friendly approach to certification preparation. It provides strong review content, intuitive interactivity, and the ability to create customizable quizzes and view scores for particular topics or for overall performance. This

enables users to focus on reviewing material in the areas in which they need the most improvement.

- Provides on-target information.
- Is useful in enhancing knowledge and competencies related to instructional design, testing, and many other topics.
- The app is compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch; the one downside is that it is only available on Apple devices.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Chosen by Stephanie Chalupka, EdD, RN, PHCNS-BC, FAOHN, FNAP, visiting scientist, Environmental and Occupational Medicine and Epidemiology Program, Department of Environmental Health, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston.

1. Climate Change and Public Health

Edited by Barry S. Levy and Jonathan A. Patz. New York City, Oxford University Press.



Climate change is now recognized as an unprecedented threat to human health. This detailed, comprehensive-yet-accessible text is an important contribution to the literature addressing climate change and public health. Editors Barry S. Levy and Jonathan A. Patz frame climate change as a health issue rather than as

a purely environmental challenge, putting a human face on what can sometimes seem like an abstract threat. They provide nurses and other health professionals with a vivid portrait of the profound impact of climate change on human health in chapters addressing respiratory and allergic disorders; vector-, water-, and food-borne diseases; how heat impacts work and daily life; food and nutrition insecurity; mental health; and collective violence. Importantly, this text also addresses what can be done to adapt to climate change using specific preventive measures against adverse health consequences, plus policies and actions to address climate change and promote public health.

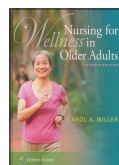
- Offers well-written and informative chapters that are greatly enhanced by case studies, graphs, tables, and photographs.
- Is comprehensive in scope; chapters are written by more than 78 experts from diverse disciplines within the climate change and public health fields.
- Provides outstanding coverage of policies and actions to address climate change and promote public health. Includes an excellent exploration of policies that would move us toward a more sustainable society.

GERONTOLOGIC NURSING

Chosen by Margaret R. Nolan, DNP, GNP-BC, New York-Presbyterian, Department of Palliative Care, New York City.

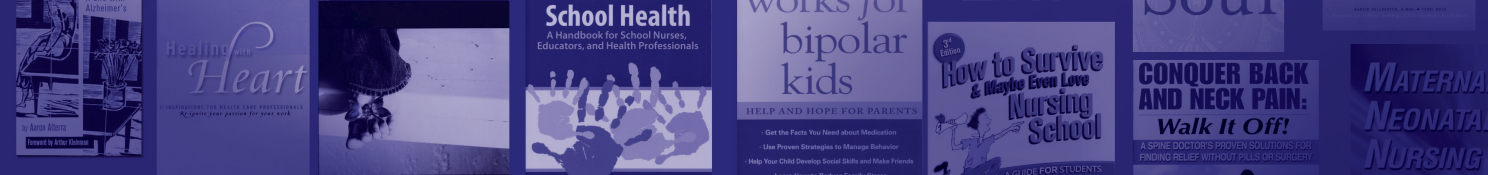
1. Nursing for Wellness in Older Adults

By Carol A. Miller. 7th edition. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer.



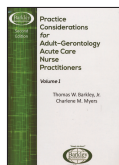
This is a wonderful book on geriatric nursing that should be read by nurses, nursing educators, and anyone who cares for older adults. It is well organized, rich in content, and relevant to day-to-day nursing practice. The chapters are very well crafted and include student perspectives, global perspectives, cultural issues, nursing diagnoses, and nursing care plans, plus critical-thinking questions. There are scales and risk assessment tools throughout the book that should be useful across care settings. Additionally, all of the chapters are paired with interactive online learning activities. I cannot imagine a more important text for teaching geriatric nursing.

- Comprehensive but extremely readable and interesting.
- Outstanding for nursing students in developing nursing diagnoses.
- Well organized; should be mandatory in the undergraduate nursing curriculum.



2. Practice Considerations for Adult–Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioners, Volumes 1 and 2

By Thomas W. Barkley Jr. and Charlene M. Myers. 2nd edition. West Hollywood, CA, Barkley and Associates, Inc.



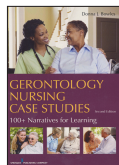
This is an excellent two-volume resource for the advanced practice nurse. It includes sections on neurologic disorders, cardiovascular disorders, endocrine disorders, common problems in acute care, and health promotion—to name a few, and each chapter is focused on a disease. Each diagnosis is briefly defined, then outlined

to include information such as predisposing factors and incidence, subjective and objective diagnostic findings, and management. The outline format is very accessible to the reader and is a good way to introduce the array of diseases commonly encountered in the acute care setting. This book can serve as a teaching tool for graduate level students and as a reference while in practice. Both volumes include appendixes with ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes, which make these essential to have in the practice setting.

- Covers comprehensive disease management using evidence-based practice.
- Breaks chapters into disease management, workup, and treatment.
- Is an excellent reference for use in day-to-day practice.

3. Gerontology Nursing Case Studies: 100+ Narratives for Learning

By Donna J. Bowles. 2nd edition. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



This book is an outstanding teaching tool for nurses who care for older adults. It presents case studies organized by topic (loss, end-of-life issues) and system (neurologic, pulmonary). The cases are wonderfully rich, and thought-provoking questions are offered at the end of each one. The most exciting part of this

book is that answers are not given to the questions. Reading resources are recommended after each case study, which gives learners a chance to formulate their own answers and approaches. The material is interesting, current, and enjoyable to read. This learning approach is very successful; it enables teachers to focus on the content instead of spending time creating their own scenarios.

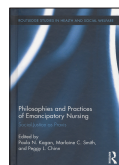
- A wonderfully creative teaching tool that can be used for nurses at both undergraduate and graduate levels.
- Includes interesting cases and actively encourages learners to read current articles about the issues in order to come up with their own answers.
- Can be used as a teaching tool in many settings (online education, classroom, inpatient), as much of the reading entails accessing the reference articles online.

HISTORY AND PUBLIC POLICY

Chosen by Katheren Koehn, MA, RN, executive director, Minnesota Organization of Registered Nurses, St. Paul.

1. Philosophies and Practices of Emancipatory Nursing: Social Justice as Praxis

Edited by Paula N. Kagan, Marlaime C. Smith, and Peggy L. Chinn. New York City, Routledge.



Provision 9 of the American Nurses Association's newly revised *Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements* describes the professional nurse's obligation to work toward social justice: "The profession of nursing, collectively through its professional organizations, must articulate nursing values, maintain the integrity of the profession, and integrate principles of social justice into nursing and health policy." *Philosophies and Practices of Emancipatory Nursing* is a thoughtful anthology of the scholarly works of many nurses whose work reflects the mandates of this provision of the code.

This book is about social justice and nursing's role. It is a book about partnership rather than domination. The word "emancipatory" implies "doing with" rather than "doing for" and "giving voice to" rather than "speaking for." It is about "person-centered care" rather than "patient-centered care." Each chapter is rich with content that has the ability to transform the thinking of individual nurses—and our profession—while answering a question posed by the editors: "How, even in light of structural challenges, can nurses best contribute to social justice?"

- An amazing anthology of essays written from a global perspective. The authors admit that it has a Western, Eurocentric point of view, but, even so, reading the perspective of nurse scholars from outside the United States is fascinating.
- Clearly articulates the relationship between politics and policy development. In today's political environment many nurses are turned off by politics and want nothing to do with it. Within the context of this book, being political is defined as having "the ability to guide or influence policy"—something nurses desperately need, whether it's where they work or in the larger state, national, or global community.
- Offers rich content that could lead to an extended conversation among nurses and other health care professionals about how to move forward through our collective action to fulfill the definition of "praxis"—to transform the world.

2. Saving Lives: Why the Media's Portrayal of Nursing Puts Us All at Risk

By Sandy Summers and Harry Jacobs Summers. 2nd edition. New York City, Oxford University Press.



When RNs watch health care–related television, we rarely see our important work being portrayed accurately, if at all. The typical health care team on TV is distilled into a single person: the physician. If a nurse is depicted, she or he is in the background rather than the foreground. Nurses rarely exist in the world of the media, and when we do we are almost always portrayed as supportive, nonessential personnel.

Authors Summers and Summers posit that this lack of media attention on the real and important work of nurses is more than annoying—it is dangerous. They believe it is a



significant contributor to the undervaluation of nursing in our society. The power of this book is that once the authors lay out the problem, they move on to solutions that are practical and doable by individual nurses as well as groups of nurses, whether they are in a health care setting, an educational setting, or an organization. The authors believe that nurses have the power to make the necessary changes to the public's image of nursing and that all nurses are responsible for making that happen. They do not ask us to act with "one strong voice," as we have been urged to do in the past, but to "find common ground and work together, because it's the only way [to] effect change."

- Points out the invisibility of nurses on TV shows such as *House*, *Scrubs*, and *ER*, making the case that invisibility has consequences that are far-reaching and harmful, not only to nurses, but to our patients.
- Reminds us that the words we use make a difference: avoid terms like "angel" and "former nurse"—use "nurse" instead—and use "health care" rather than "medicine." Instead of saying "I work as a nurse," say "I practice nursing." Words matter.
- Discusses how nurses can improve their image, again with practical suggestions. In the section "Accentuate the Positive: Promoting Nursing in Hard Times," we are reminded to focus on the "tangible difference" we make in the lives of others.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/SOCIAL MEDIA

Chosen by Craig Button, BA, RN, CEN, CCRN, John L. McClellan Memorial Veterans Hospital, Little Rock, AR.

1. Information Overload: Framework, Tips, and Tools to Manage in Complex Healthcare Environments

By Mary C. Sitterding and Marion E. Broome. Silver Spring, MD, American Nurses Association.



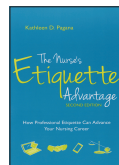
This book opens with a nursing theory that makes sense and is useful. Referencing Benner's "novice to expert" model, it paints a picture of how expert and novice nurses handle information overload. As nurses we are bombarded with information—some of it important, some of it static—coming from patient monitors, journal articles, blogs, other providers, and so on. So much information surrounds us that it's easy to get overloaded and distracted from patient care. In *Information Overload*, the authors describe how nurses can use the tools available to them not only to manage that overload, but to provide the best patient care possible. The information they present keeps the patient at the center.

My copy of the book is tagged, underlined, and commented in. While reading it during downtime at work, I could look around and see real-life examples of what the authors were writing about. I found it to be a practical guide supported by solid academic research. It's not an overwhelming book—it's a little over 100 pages—and although it is packed with information, it's both an easy read and a good reference for the future.

- Builds on a useful framework based on Benner's "novice to expert" model. Paints a practical picture of how expert nurses deal with information overload.
- Covers the many implications of information overload and maintains a patient-centered focus.
- Provides practical tips and tools for nurses who are working on becoming nurse leaders.

2. The Nurse's Etiquette Advantage: How Professional Etiquette Can Advance Your Nursing Career

By Kathleen D. Pagana. 2nd edition. Indianapolis, IN, Sigma Theta Tau International.



The Nurse's Etiquette Advantage covers most facets of the social aspects of nursing, from job interviews and writing e-mails to dining etiquette. It discusses how to best present yourself in a professional light. Given the advent of social media and how easy it is to hit that "Enter" key, it's important to understand how posting or sharing content online can affect your career, or how something as simple as the wording of an e-mail can make a difference in getting a promotion or a job.

This book is lighthearted and includes well-thought-out highlights and key points. It should be mandatory reading for all nurses—not just nursing students.

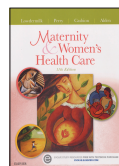
- A light, easy read packed with useful information.
- Covers everything from shaking hands and making small talk to having an "elevator speech" prepared in case you have the opportunity to talk to someone who can help your career.
- Addresses how mistakes made on social media can negatively affect your career.

MATERNAL-CHILD NURSING/CHILDBIRTHING

Chosen by Lynn Clark Callister, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor emerita, Brigham Young University College of Nursing, Provo, UT.

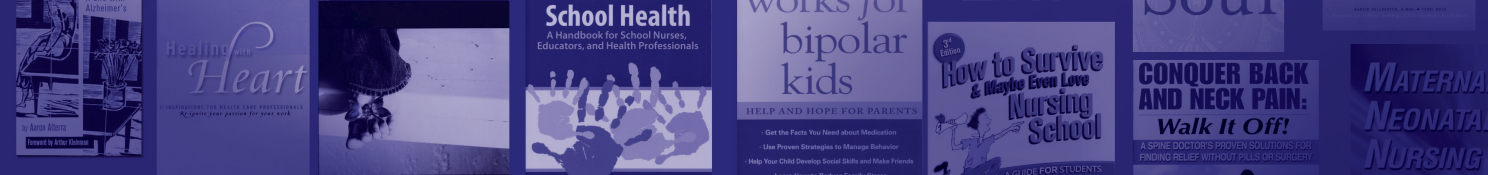
1. Maternity and Women's Health Care

By Deitra Leonard Lowdermilk, Shannon E. Perry, Kitty Cashion, Kathryn Rhodes Alden, and Ellen F. Olshansky. 11th edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.



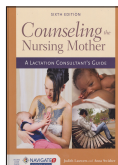
Now in its 11th edition, this textbook's longevity is evidence of its great value. Its comprehensiveness stands out from that of other texts; it's also supplemented by electronic study resources, including virtual clinical "excursions" in acute care and community settings. Other outstanding elements of this text are its use of clinical reasoning case studies, identification of potential community resources, and inclusion of legal tips and important cultural considerations in the provision of care. Its main strengths are its genomics content, its strong focus on evidence-based clinical practice, and the abundance of references published within the last five years.

- Includes case studies that promote critical thinking through strong clinical application.
- Uses current evidence-based content documented by recent references.
- Highlights cultural content to promote cultural competency in providing nursing care.



2. Counseling the Nursing Mother: A Lactation Consultant's Guide

By Judith Lauwers and Anna Swisher. 6th edition. Burlington, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.

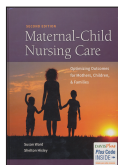


The 6th edition of *Counseling the Nursing Mother* celebrates the 30th anniversary of the lactation consultant profession (see the Dedication page). Strengths of this edition include the inclusion of new evidence on the composition of breast milk and the importance of gut microbiome and skin-to-skin care. Another strength is that the majority of the references were published in the last five years. Additionally, the text offers strategies for critically reading and applying current research findings in support of breastfeeding. The emphasis on the promotion of breastfeeding by lactation consultants and nurses and the empowerment of breastfeeding women adds clinical value to this work.

- Covers evidence-based strategies developed over decades.
- Includes up-to-date content that addresses essential topics for lactation consultants.
- Offers strategies to promote breastfeeding and empower breastfeeding women.

3. Maternal-Child Nursing Care: Optimizing Outcomes for Mothers, Children, and Families

By Susan L. Ward and Shelton M. Hisley. 2nd edition. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.



This combined maternal-child nursing text is of value in undergraduate nursing courses that cover both specialties. Strengths of this text include its evidence-based practice boxes and questions highlighting current research. PICO(T) questions at the beginning of each chapter focus readers on the importance of evidence-based

clinical practice and promote critical thinking; they can also help students connect maternal-child nursing with nursing research courses. The text focuses on patient care quality and safety in the care of childbearing families, which is essential in the current patient care environment. The learning targets that start each chapter are also helpful.

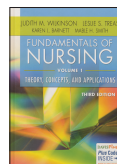
- Promotes evidence-based clinical nursing practice by encouraging readers to use PICO(T) questions to guide their thinking while reading.
- Provides learning targets to help readers focus on essential content.
- Offers comprehensive content for maternal-child nurses who work in perinatal and pediatric acute care and community-based practice settings.

MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSING

Chosen by Patricia A. Connor Ballard, PhD, MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, assistant clinical professor, School of Nursing, The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC.

1. Fundamentals of Nursing, Volume 1: Theory, Concepts, and Applications, and Volume 2: Thinking, Doing, and Caring

By Judith M. Wilkinson, Leslie S. Treas, Karen L. Barnett, and Mable H. Smith. 3rd edition. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.



Together, both volumes of *Fundamentals of Nursing* provide a valuable, comprehensive resource for entry-level nursing students transitioning into direct patient care. Volume 1 is similar in appearance to a traditional medical-surgical nursing text, but geared to the nursing student at the start of clinical practice. The narrative is easy

to read and understand, and is supplemented by meaningful and colorful graphics (photos, diagrams, figures, and charts). Learning objectives at the start of each chapter are clear and achievable. "Knowledge Checks" throughout the chapters provide questions that stimulate the nursing student to think about justification for specific nursing actions as well as strategies for risk mitigation to optimize patient outcomes. "Think Like a Nurse" provides simulated RN scenarios for contemplation and discussion. Volume 1 also addresses the historical evolution of the nursing profession, evidence-based nursing practice, ethical/legal issues, geriatric implications, critical thinking, and the importance of nursing research.

In comparison, Volume 2 is a clinical skills reference in which a wide variety of clinical nursing procedures are described in a clear, concise, step-by-step fashion (including justification for each step). Included are important features such as expected-versus-abnormal findings and critical thinking/clinical reasoning activities, as well as implications for patient education, home care, and documentation. Jointly, both volumes are a valuable resource for entry-level nursing students in both fundamental nursing and medical-surgical nursing courses (for use in both didactic and clinical course components). This resource would also be an advantageous addition to the unit reference material for the nursing staff of any inpatient medical-surgical unit.

- Provides in-depth coverage of fundamental nursing topics in a reader-friendly manner.
- Includes features (such as "Knowledge Checks," "Think Like a Nurse," and "Clinical Insight Hints") to supplement the content.
- Would be beneficial to take Volume 2 into the skills lab or a direct patient care setting.



2. Fostering Clinical Success: Using Clinical Narratives for Interprofessional Team Partnerships from Massachusetts General Hospital

By Jeanette Ives Erickson, Marianne Ditomassi, Susan Sabia, and Mary Ellin Smith. Indianapolis, IN, Sigma Theta Tau International.



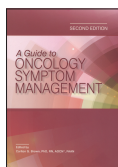
Fostering Clinical Success provides a multitude of fascinating clinical narratives describing the holistic and therapeutic interaction between caregivers (not just nurses) and patients across the continuum of health. Written by RNs and other essential members of the interdisciplinary health care team (such as a speech therapist, physical therapist, and medical social worker) at a historical tertiary and academic medical center in Boston, each clinical narrative is inspiring and heartwarming in its ability to provide examples of exemplary care—and to force us to acknowledge that exemplary care requires significant time, effort, dedication, commitment, and professionalism. Exemplary care is far from easy and goes beyond the mastery of clinical knowledge and skill, a fact that is too frequently underestimated and overlooked.

In addition to sharing clinical narratives based on real-life caregiver/patient scenarios, this text also offers helpful guidelines for writing and editing clinical narratives, as well as for developing a work environment that values clinical narratives. This text is a useful resource for the academic nursing setting (both undergraduate and graduate) as well as for any health care facility that desires to document and recognize patient care excellence.

- Presents clinical narratives in an inspiring and heartwarming manner.
- Provides documentation as to what really occurs within caregiver/patient interaction in a clinical setting.
- Provides a means to continue the “storytelling” tradition in nursing education.

3. A Guide to Oncology Symptom Management

Edited by Carlton G. Brown. 2nd edition. Pittsburgh, PA, Oncology Nursing Society.



This book provides comprehensive and evidence-based coverage of the potential multitude of problematic symptoms experienced by oncology patients during disease duration and treatment. The wide range of symptoms include anxiety, sleep disturbances, alopecia, nausea/vomiting, bowel dysfunction, changes in skin

integrity, depression, fatigue, anorexia, and cachexia. Each chapter is dedicated to a particular oncology symptom and begins with a case study; the chapters also discuss key topics such as evidence-based practice, pathophysiology, assessment, risk factors, patient education, and implications for nursing research. Valuable information is offered regarding caregiver burden, end-of-life care, and age-related factors.

The value of this resource lies in its ability to advise nurses on strategies that can improve the quality of life of oncology patients who experience problematic symptoms to such a degree that the symptoms may hinder or disrupt effective treatment options. This text is a strong resource for oncology nurses (in both inpatient and outpatient settings), for medical-surgical and advanced practice nurses who care for oncology patients, and in the academic nursing setting (both undergraduate and graduate).

- Offers comprehensive information regarding oncology symptom management.
- Provides valuable information regarding end-of-life care.
- Provides valuable information regarding age-related changes.

NURSING EDUCATION/CONTINUING EDUCATION

Chosen by Susan Salmond, EdD, RN, ANEF, FAAN, executive vice dean, Rutgers University School of Nursing, Newark, NJ.

1. Nurse Coaching: Integrative Approaches for Health and Wellbeing

By Barbara Montgomery Dossey, Susan Luck, and Bonney Gulino Schaub. North Miami, FL, International Nurse Coach Association/Create Space.



This comprehensive text is an informative resource for helping nurses assist patients with behavioral change. In light of the epidemic of chronic illness and the need for patient self-management and engagement, nurses can no longer consider teaching strictly as information giving; they must adopt new strategies to help

individuals and communities achieve healthier lifestyles and manage care needs. This text highlights a coaching approach in which partnerships are established, clients are viewed from a holistic perspective, and a variety of strategies such as motivational interviewing, deep listening, appreciative inquiry, and storytelling/reflective practice are used within the integrative nurse-coaching process. The authors provide both the theory and application of nurse coaching in practice, education, research, and health care policy.

- Demonstrates the critical imperative of using a coaching-versus-telling approach in preparing individuals to make health and wellness decisions.
- Offers a variety of tools that can be used for self-reflection, motivational interviewing, lifestyle readiness change, and specific behavioral change (such as exercise, nutrition, and stress management).
- Uses detailed case studies to illustrate the coaching approach.

2. Innovations in Nursing Education: Building the Future of Nursing, Volume 2

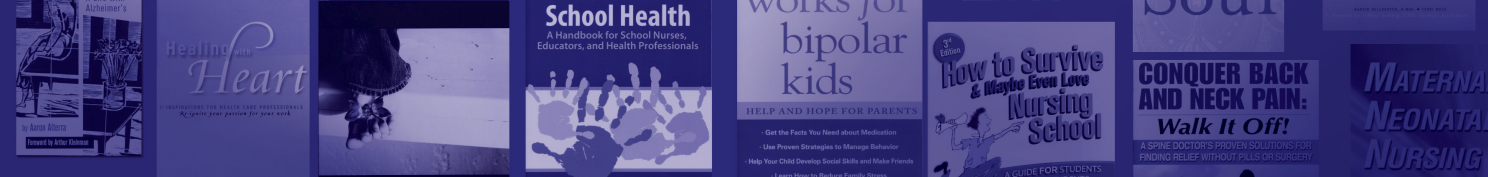
Edited by Linda Caputi. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer.



The Building the Future of Nursing part of Caputi's title captures the reality that innovative approaches to nursing education can, in fact, make a difference in developing the next generation of nurses and nursing's future. The book provides strategies for educators to advance the

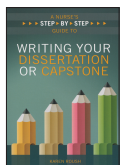
Future of Nursing report's agenda by addressing faculty development and excellence; student-centered, interactive, innovative programs and curricula; and evidence-based teaching and evaluation methods. It targets key issues in education such as the nurse faculty shortage, student retention, civility and incivility, content overload, simulation, diversity, and population health.

- Provides an array of innovative teaching approaches to promote excellence, including strategies that are a direct response to key issues facing nurse educators today.
- Chapters are short but comprehensive; each provides background on the issue and the strategy it will be addressing.



3. A Nurse's Step-by-Step Guide to Writing Your Dissertation or Capstone

By Karen Roush. Indianapolis, IN, Sigma Theta Tau International.



Having worked for years with doctoral students to complete dissertations and capstones, I found this book to be a refreshing, practical, organized framework for guiding students toward success. Each of the components of a dissertation or capstone is addressed in its own chapter, and one chapter is devoted to the basics of writing well. Not only will this book help students get started, its guidance will help them complete the task.

- Offers easy-to-read, straightforward, practical advice for what should be contained in each chapter of a dissertation or capstone.
- Provides tips on organization, academic integrity, and time management.
- Includes examples of key components (questions, samples, budgets, and analysis approaches).

NURSING MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

Chosen by Joanne Disch, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor ad honorem, University of Minnesota School of Nursing, Minneapolis.

1. Policy and Politics in Nursing and Health Care

Edited by Diana J. Mason, Deborah B. Gardner, Freida Hopkins Outlaw, and Eileen T. O'Grady. 7th edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.



When I opened *Policy and Politics in Nursing and Health Care*, I expected to find familiar content and a number of familiar authors, with some new information and repackaging. After all, this is its 7th edition. However, what I found was a classic text with an updated and contemporary flavor. Diana Mason continues as

one of the editors, but there are three new coeditors, and more than half of the chapters' authors are new to this edition. More than the numbers, though, what's impressive is the content, which provides up-to-date coverage of key topics with significant policy implications for nursing: the Affordable Care Act, health insurance exchanges, evidence-based policy as well as evidence-based practice, patient engagement, emergency preparedness, quality and safety, advanced practice, ethical dimensions, community activism, and the upstream factors and social determinants that are increasingly recognized as core factors shaping health. The insights and wisdom from more than 140 policy experts—almost a who's who of leaders in health care policy—enhance the reader's understanding and commitment to take action. This content needs to be understood at some level by *every* nurse if we are to be ready to fully engage—and help shape—health and health care.

- Includes in-depth analyses of complex policy issues and political action at the local, state, national, and international levels.
- Provides pragmatic strategies and “Taking Action” vignettes to help nurses become politically active and effective.
- Offers strong collective expertise from its editors, authors, and Foreword contributors (Mary Wakefield and Sheila Burke).

2. Nurse Coaching: Integrative Approaches for Health and Wellbeing

By Barbara Montgomery Dossey, Susan Luck, and Bonney Gulino Schaub. North Miami, FL, International Nurse Coach Association/Create Space.



This comprehensive text on coaching is stunning in its breadth and depth. Written by experts and pioneers in this area, it is the first major text to pull together the research, theories, principles, and practices for effective coaching. As the authors point out, coaching is not new, but it fits so well within today's health care context: an increased focus on social and environmental determinants of health, person and family engagement, and a shift from disease care to disease prevention and health promotion. And nurses are so appropriate to take the lead in the coaching role.

The book is organized according to the nurse coach core values: philosophy, theories and ethics; the coaching process; communication and the coaching environment; education, research, and leadership; and self-development. Woven throughout are numerous case studies, reflections, vignettes, and tools to help the reader better understand the concepts and how to effectively coach. While the book is certainly targeted toward those who teach or wish to practice nurse coaching, I believe that nurse leaders in administrative roles must also become familiar with this content. Coaches and care navigators are two roles that are increasingly being used in health care settings. It's imperative that we understand, include, and promote the unique benefits gained through the use of nurse coaches.

- Provides extensive coverage of nurse coaching practice, education, research, and policy.
- Offers numerous case studies, vignettes, teaching tools, and appendices to enhance learning.
- Includes and integrates content on health, well-being, spirituality, and ethics.

3. Health Literacy in Nursing: Providing Person-Centered Care

By Terri Ann Parnell. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



Health Literacy in Nursing addresses one of the most problematic and least understood phenomena in health care today. More than one-third of Americans have basic or below basic health literacy levels—and yet most health care clinicians think that the key strategies to fix this are ensuring that medication labels are readable

and that printed material isn't written above a sixth-grade level. The issue is so much more complex than that.

This text provides a wealth of information on the history, multiple definitions, and models of health literacy; the implications of low health literacy; and the challenges of delivering person-centered care when illiteracy from any cause is present. A particularly interesting section highlights strategies for enhancing effective communication and offers practical alternatives for simplifying written and oral messages. Many of these I had never considered—and yet they make such sense.

The only criticism I have of the book is that it's misnamed. A more appropriate title would be *Health Literacy in Health Care* since the content would be useful to anyone working in health care—and there should be copies dog-eared from use in every clinical facility.



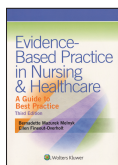
- Offers in-depth coverage of a complex and critically important topic from many perspectives.
- Provides pragmatic strategies for improving written and oral communication.
- Includes sections on health literacy in unique populations and circumstances, such as the elderly, pediatrics, mental health, the end of life, and research subjects.

NURSING RESEARCH

Chosen by Wendy C. Budin, PhD, RN-BC, FAAN, research scientist/adjunct professor, New York University College of Nursing, New York City.

1. Evidence-Based Practice in Nursing and Healthcare: A Guide to Best Practice

By Bernadette Mazurek Melnyk and Ellen Fineout-Overholt. 3rd edition. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer.



This comprehensive text provides a strong foundation for implementing and sustaining evidence-based practice (EBP) in clinical decision making for all levels of nurses, from undergraduate nursing students to doctors of nursing practice and seasoned practitioners. The critical appraisal checklists, evaluation tables, and synthesis tables are extremely useful in helping students master key concepts.

The chapters designed for clinical and academic educators who teach EBP in educational and clinical settings set this text apart. Its rich, real-world exemplars plus its outstanding resources like the “Making EBP Real” feature are invaluable in assisting educators with helping readers see how the principles are applied.

Other important strengths are the authors’ easy-to-read, conversational style and the accomplished list of contributors. Even beginner students will find the information interesting and will be encouraged to actively engage in EBP to improve patient outcomes.

- Offers a wide range of information, pedagogical features, and relevant exemplars for application.
- Is accessible and reader friendly in its approach.

2. Fostering a Research Intensive Organization: An Interdisciplinary Approach for Nurses from Massachusetts General Hospital

By Jeanette Ives Erickson, Marianne Ditomassi, and Dorothy A. Jones. Indianapolis, IN, Sigma Theta Tau International.



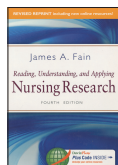
This unique book describes how a trailblazing group of nurse leaders, scientists, educators, and clinicians worked to transform a health care setting to create a culture of inquiry in which evidence-based decision making shapes patient care and improves patient outcomes. Unlike most nursing research texts geared toward nurses in academic settings, this book supports the practice environment as an important place to advance nursing science through research. The authors provide examples from their work at Massachusetts General Hospital to illustrate the importance of creating and sustaining an infrastructure that fosters an integrated nursing research agenda.

Additionally, the authors include useful suggestions based on their personal experiences of seeking and securing funding, developing partnerships, fostering team building, and engaging in multidisciplinary research activities. For individuals at hospitals seeking Magnet designation, this book is a must read!

- Provides examples that can be used to inspire clinical nurses to engage in research and its application.
- Offers helpful insight drawn from the authors’ experiences.

3. Reading, Understanding, and Applying Nursing Research

By James A. Fain. 4th edition. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.



This classic text provides students with an in-depth understanding of the importance of nursing research. It offers a detailed, step-by-step overview of the research process to assist readers with planning and conducting their own research. The author covers foundational research elements like identifying and articulating a clear problem statement, critically appraising the literature, choosing appropriate methods and design, analyzing and interpreting data, and presenting findings. Each chapter begins with clearly articulated learning objectives followed by a glossary of key terms. Subject headings separate the content into easy-to-read sections. The chapters conclude with a summary of key ideas and suggested learning activities that reinforce concepts. Useful tables throughout the book also help readers synthesize the material.

Reading, Understanding, and Applying Nursing Research is an excellent resource for those who have not taken a research course in a while. I strongly recommend this book for adult learners who are returning to school and need a refresher on the steps of the research process.

- Covers how to read research reports and critically appraise existing research.
- Provides students with a well-rounded foundation in nursing research.
- Presented in a clear, organized manner that is conducive to learning.

PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE

Chosen by Marianne Matzo, PhD, APRN-CNP, FPCN, FAAN, professor and Frances E. and A. Earl Ziegler Chair in Palliative Care Nursing, University of Oklahoma College of Nursing, Oklahoma City.

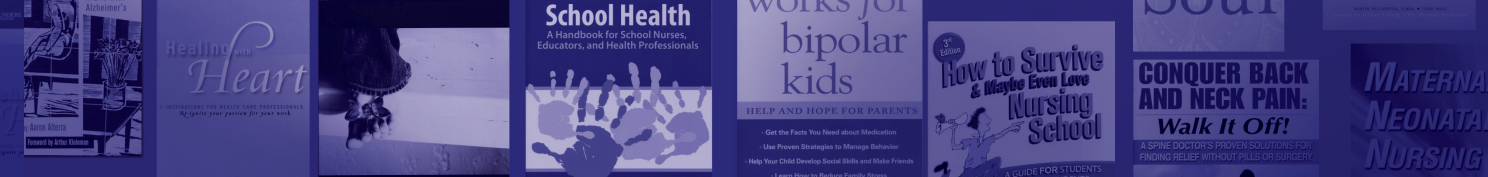
1. Four Seasons of Grieving: A Nurse's Healing Journey with Nature

By A. Lynne Wagner. Indianapolis, IN, Sigma Theta Tau International.



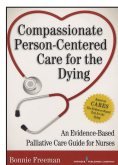
The work of a hospice and palliative care nurse is difficult in many ways, not the least of which is saying goodbye to our patients, sometimes more than once a week. After each of those patients’ deaths comes another patient and family who need our skills and compassion as they, too, face the end of life. As nurses we focus on providing excellent patient care and typically spend very little time on our own healing. *Four Seasons of Grieving* offers nurses a contemplative look at grieving in a way that makes the journey accessible and relevant to our lives.

- Contains beautiful artwork and contemplative text.
- Is brief enough to be useful to busy nurses.
- Provides nurses with an example of working through the grieving process and rebuilding after suffering a loss.



2. Compassionate Person-Centered Care for the Dying: An Evidence-Based Palliative Care Guide for Nurses

By Bonnie Freeman. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



Caring for patients during their last hours is always challenging because no two deaths are alike, and no two families react the same way to the experience. In *Compassionate Person-Centered Care for the Dying*, author Bonnie Freeman describes how her research-based CARES tool helps practicing nurses navigate these uncertain waters with compassion and precision.

- Offers nurses a new evidence-based model for end-of-life care.
- Helps nurses learn practical interventions for providing excellent symptom management during patients' last hours.
- Integrates research into practice in a user-friendly way.

3. The VNAA Manual of Hospice and Palliative Care

Edited by Margaret Hadley and Margaret Terry. Arlington, VA, Visiting Nurse Associations of America (VNAA).



The VNAA Manual of Hospice and Palliative Care is a comprehensive procedures manual that's useful for nurses at a wide range of skill levels. This manual offers basic, easy-to-follow information that encompasses the entire gamut of hospice care. Easy to use and portable on an iPad or laptop, it is a helpful resource for

patient care.

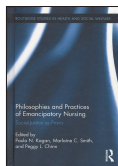
- Links to articles and assessment tools.
- Uses an outline format for easy review and implementation.
- Can be downloaded on a computer or mobile device for use in patients' homes.

PROFESSIONAL ISSUES

Chosen by Michael R. Bleich, PhD, RN, FAAN, president and Maxine Clark and Bob Fox Dean and Professor, Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish College, St. Louis.

1. Philosophies and Practices of Emancipatory Nursing: Social Justice as Praxis

Edited by Paula N. Kagan, Marlaine C. Smith, and Peggy L. Chinn. New York City, Routledge.



During a tumultuous year in American life, there has never been a better time to examine the role of nursing as a discipline that can provide an antidote to brutality, violence, and chaotic, disrespectful discourse among persons with differences, and in response to environmental challenges facing the world. The authors of

Philosophies and Practices of Emancipatory Nursing write with scholarly acumen, but sensibly shape and articulate messages in a manner that develops the mind and spirit of the nurse. They evoke moral courage and the power of nursing's contribution in service to others—from being compassionate and caring to using our voices rather than remaining silent. Additionally, this book explores structural inequities in institutional confinement, issues of race and gender, sexual trauma in the military, and global health inequity with new power.

- An extremely thoughtful effort written at a high level, yet the authors have sensibly explained each and every term so the content is accessible to all.

- From Ferguson to climate change, from harsh political discourse that discredits humans to the full acceptance of people in search of holistic opportunities to live and be—this book frames a role and function of nursing that is beyond one-to-one bedside care.
- Introduces theorists and philosophers that readers will have never heard of—and each has a relevant message and voice worth exploring.

2. Reflective Organizations: On the Front Lines of QSEN and Reflective Practice Implementation

By Gwen D. Sherwood and Sara Horton-Deutsch. Indianapolis, IN, Sigma Theta Tau International.



Reflective Organizations addresses the rebirth of Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN), synthesizing key social statements made by the Institute of Medicine, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and others that call for protecting the public from individuals and organizational processes that have led

to iatrogenic consequences.

This book supports models for transformational change: how to identify needs, achieve outcomes, establish standards of care and practice, and orchestrate measurement to detect progress. The reclamation of the focus on quality and safety is introduced early in the book, followed by models that can animate teaching (classroom or field based). Exemplars focused on interprofessional teams, electronic health records, patient-centered care, and more are presented without great depth, but with sufficient coverage that change concepts can be recognized at the individual practitioner level, the process improvement level, and the organizational level (micro- and mesolevel dynamics).

- Relevant: quality and safety remain current issues. Despite efforts like QSEN, more issues with quality and safety breakdowns are discovered as the health system changes and stretches across continuums of care.
- Comprehensive in scope. I sense a broad appeal to this book—it is surely an outstanding and necessary reference for those in academic and clinical settings—and it also synthesizes quality and safety science in the context of interprofessional issues, care model development, and transformational change.
- Offers a high author-credibility factor. Both lead authors have summoned authoritative experts in the field and were present at the onset of the QSEN initiative; they have captured the deep essence of this work.

3. Global Health Nursing: Narratives from the Field

Edited by Christina A. Harlan. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



There are many paths to cultural awareness and responsiveness, and this book is one. While reading, I took a global journey, envisioning myself in a variety of roles, from community worker to advanced practice nurse. I imagined tribal living and working to prioritize the health needs of people in cultures beyond my experience. This is the strength of *Global Health Nursing*: the contributing authors speak from a wide range of places spanning the globe, and with passion for having embraced and respected the lessons learned from other cultures.



As global health issues expand each year with the increasing connectedness among countries and cultures, this reference guides readers' thinking through its accounts of heterogeneous experiences lived by health care providers. It explores relationships and collaborations framed in various countries of origin—allowing readers to note similarities and differences. It expands our imaginations as to where we might work and how we might experience the world. It adds insight into disease and disability, and the role of the family and community.

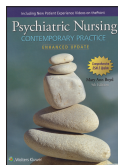
- Reads like a travelog. This book has a nonlinear element to it that I found unique and not at all distracting.
- Features some out-of-the-ordinary contributors; an aura of authenticity came through to me while reading, like I was part of each contributor's diverse journey.
- Although the narratives are presented in an unadorned manner—simple text and black-and-white photographs—it adds to a certain milieu that I believe the editor was trying to create.

PSYCHIATRIC AND MENTAL HEALTH NURSING

Chosen by Donna Sabella, PhD, MEd, MSN, PMHNP-BC, coordinator of the Human Trafficking Certificate, Drexel University College of Nursing and Health Professions, Philadelphia, and associate professor of nursing, Widener University, Chester, PA.

1. Psychiatric Nursing: Contemporary Practice

By Mary Ann Boyd. 5th edition. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer.

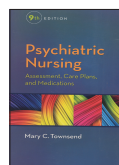


Boyd's textbook offers undergraduate nursing students a solid and thorough introduction to the world of mental health and psychiatric nursing. I was particularly impressed by how the author organized the textbook: in addition to standard content such as foundations of psychiatric nursing and chapters on the various disorders, there are units that focus on mental health care in contemporary society, mental health promotion across the life span, and prevention and care of special populations. The chapters have excellent graphics, crisp summaries of key points, and even a section at the end of each that provides the titles and summaries of movies related to the chapter's content. (Who doesn't like a good movie? Watching one could be an excellent way to help humanize so many of the issues surrounding mental health and mental illness, and expand students' horizons.)

- Has plenty of valuable student resources, including those containing videos depicting real-life patient experience.
- Chapters are easy on the eye without being too busy or too dense.
- Highlights how famous people with mental health issues have managed to be successful despite their disorders, which demonstrates to students that patients with mental health problems can be successful in life (see the "Fame and Fortune" feature).

2. Psychiatric Nursing: Assessment, Care Plans, and Medications

By Mary C. Townsend. 9th edition. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.



What a versatile, user-friendly, informative, and handy reference tool this small book is! Loaded with important and useful information, it offers guidelines on how to develop care plans and work with psychiatric clients who suffer from a variety of mental health issues (and whom nurses would encounter in a variety of settings). This little gem begins with a unit that discusses the foundations of planning psychiatric nursing care. Then, in "Unit Two: Alterations in Psychosocial Adaptations," the author provides a thorough, to-the-point discussion of the major psychiatric disorders. Of particular interest—and of value in helping students work with clients from a variety of backgrounds—is Unit Three, which focuses on topics such as homelessness, loss and bereavement, working with military families, and forensic nursing. And finally, where would good mental health nursing care be without an understanding and appreciation of the medications used to treat our clients? Unit Four provides information on the most commonly used psychotropic drugs.

- Offers something for everyone, including nursing students, practicing nurses from all specialties, and advanced practice psychiatric nurses.
- Is small in size, making it an easy, portable reference tool.
- Provides numerous appendixes covering topics such as development theories, treatment theories, defense mechanisms, electroconvulsive therapy, and more.

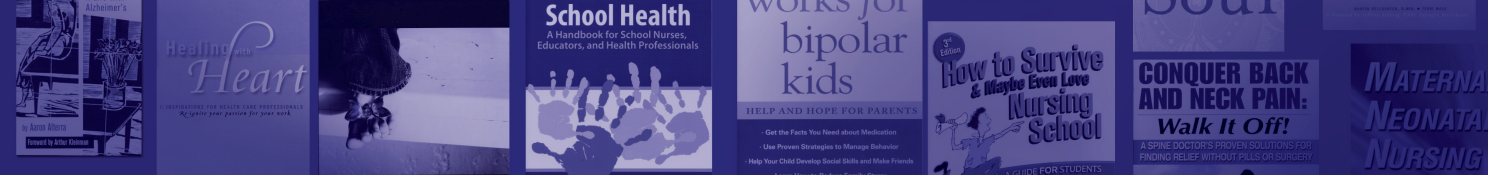
3. Introductory Mental Health Nursing

By Donna M. Womble. 3rd edition. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer.



Introductory Mental Health Nursing is a tight, lean, and straightforward overview of the essentials of mental health nursing. It is geared to students in LPN or LVN programs—especially to those who may not get much experience on an inpatient psychiatric unit. The author writes in a way that does not sacrifice content or quality. (To wit, the chapter on theories of personality development covers the same content as the bigger textbook I use to teach bachelor of science in nursing students.) The chapters are well organized and contain numerous points of interest and client teaching notes. At the end of each chapter is a "Student Worksheet" that helps to reinforce what students have just read. Numerous resources are also provided for both faculty and students. This is a must-have for students in LPN and LVN programs.

- Lightweight and easy to carry so students can make full use of it, even in a clinical setting.
- Features a "Case Application" in each chapter, which offers a real-life scenario plus guided questions for students to answer based on the material they have just read.
- Each chapter contains interesting facts and points to ponder, as well as a bibliography.

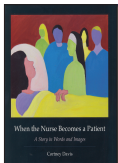


PUBLIC INTEREST AND CREATIVE WORKS

Chosen by Madeleine Mysko, MA, RN, coordinator, *AJN's Reflections* column.

1. When the Nurse Becomes a Patient: A Story in Words and Images

By Cortney Davis. Kent, OH, *The Kent State University Press*.



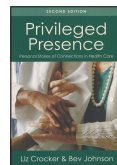
Readers of contemporary poetry know Cortney Davis as a gifted poet who happens to also be a nurse. Those readers may be surprised to discover that Davis is also a gifted visual artist. This beautifully designed book presents 12 paintings depicting crucial moments over the course of Davis's recent serious illness and

12 accompanying prose reflections that address not only her experiences but also the healing grace of the creative process. With deep empathy for human suffering, Davis leads us surely into the depths of illness—and safely out again.

- Both the paintings and the accompanying reflections are crafted with beauty and humanity.
- The author writes with empathy for those readers she leads, through the book, into the terrifying depths of her illness and back out again.
- Uses her knowledge of nursing to depict the hospital experience while at the same time revealing the vulnerable point of view of the seriously ill.

2. Privileged Presence: Personal Stories of Connections in Health Care

By Liz Crocker and Bev Johnson. 2nd edition. Boulder, CO, *Bull Publishing Company*.



Since the beginning of time, the personal story has been elemental—wired into the human brain—as a means of survival, a means of solving problems both for individuals and for the communities into which those individuals are born and ultimately die. The powerful tool in this collection of 60 honest, straightforward, and unadorned stories is the underlying faith that personal narratives can indeed address the crushing problems inherent in our current health care system. The authors of this book bear witness to the hope that human compassion is where we must start—together—in solving those problems.

- Uses stories—plain, honest, straightforward—to address the impersonality of the health care delivery system.
- Helpful to a wide readership—the general reader and also health care providers, patients, and their family members.
- Offers a diverse, readable, and organized collection of personal stories. ▼