ADULT PRIMARY CARE

Chosen by Laurie Anne Ferguson, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, FAANP, dean and associate professor, Loyola University New Orleans College of Nursing and Health, New Orleans, LA.

1. Building Motivational Interviewing Skills: A Practitioner Workbook

Although motivational interviewing (MI) is not a new technique, its relevance to practice and its implications for health promotion are gaining more acceptance. Health care providers need MI skills in order to be effective clinicians and to encourage healthier living.

This 500-page resource is a keeper. Each chapter includes practical application tips, a quiz, and exercises to help readers develop MI techniques. In addition, practice pearls from clinicians provide important information and help solidify concepts.

• Is comprehensive, well organized, and thoughtful.
• Uses a practical approach to learning. The steps are broken down in tangible, manageable learning modules.
• Exercises at the end of each chapter offer valuable, in-depth opportunities to apply and reflect upon MI concepts.

2. Fast Facts for Managing Patients with a Psychiatric Disorder: What RNs, NPs, and New Psych Nurses Need to Know

This text provides a concise and practical overview of numerous mental health conditions. All primary care providers need a fundamental understanding of mental illness and psychiatric conditions that present in daily practice. With fewer available inpatient psychiatric beds, this primer is an invaluable resource for providers in primary care.

• Is pocket-sized—can easily be carried into the practice setting.
• Provides information across the life span. Also discusses genetic and environmental causes and triggers for psychiatric illnesses.
• Discusses addictive disorders, including dual diagnoses, treatment, and challenges in treating patients with these disorders. The final chapter discusses the practical reality of the settings where patients with psychiatric disorders often present—for example, in the ED or within the criminal justice system.

ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING

Chosen by Audrey Weymiller, PhD, APRN, Inpatient Palliative Care Consultation Service, Washington Regional Medical Center, Fayetteville, AR.

1. Population Health and Its Integration into Advanced Nursing Practice
   Edited by Mary A. Bemker and Christine Ralyea. Lancaster, PA, DEStech Publications, Inc.

Though I reviewed many worthy submissions, when selecting a first-place winner I looked for a book that was new, fresh, and promoted nursing being at the forefront of comprehensive, quality care in our dynamic health care system. This text hit the mark—it is the “how-to” book for population health. We are all conceptually aware of the importance of population health, social determinants of health, and big data; this book provides the tools we need to help us integrate these concepts into daily practice.

• Offers case studies and toolkit resources that effectively demonstrate integration of population health concepts into advanced practice nursing.
• Is grounded in advanced practice nursing expertise. The editors bring more than 70 years of combined experience to this very useful resource.
• Uses recent references.
2. Genetics and Genomics in Nursing and Health Care

Knowledge of genetics and genomics is a must for students and practicing clinicians alike. Genetics and Genomics in Nursing and Health Care is written for nursing students and includes access to a rich array of online student resources. However, this text is also a valuable reference for practicing nurses. It is a welcome resource for readers seeking to learn about genetics and the human genome. The authors make the complex subject matter understandable and interesting. A multitude of tables, charts, and photographs help clarify the material.
- Offers many ways to interact with the content, such as case studies, self-assessment questions, online resources, and memory hints.
- Is comprehensive yet not too dense.
- Has up-to-date references.

3. Varney’s Midwifery
Edited by Tekoa L. King, Mary C. Brucker, Kathryn Osborne, and Cecilia M. Jevitt. 6th edition. Burlington, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.

The latest edition of Varney’s Midwifery deserves recognition, particularly for its coverage of social determinants of health and the changing face of the population that midwives and other advanced practice nurses care for. I have been a family NP for nearly 30 years—we used a prior edition of this text during my NP training. Although it is directed at nurse midwifery students, this text is a useful resource for all advanced practice nurses who care for women across the life span.
- Is a classic text and the gold standard for midwifery care.
- Includes updated material and references.
- Has content on social determinants of health—an important aspect of advanced nursing care.

CHILD HEALTH

Chosen by Ruth Lebet, PhD, RN, CCNS-P, PCNS-BC, nurse scientist, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

1. Guided Participation in Pediatric Nursing Practice: Relationship-Based Teaching and Learning with Parents, Children, and Adolescents

This well-written book offers content that every pediatric nurse can incorporate into practice. While many texts cite the importance of including the family in the plan of care, few offer more than one or two paragraphs on how this can be achieved or focus on families as partners. This text outlines in a concrete way how nurses can support families to help them become experts in their child’s care.

An increasing number of children with special needs and technology dependence are being discharged to home settings. This book highlights the most commonly-seen issues that nurses need to understand in order to effectively partner with families and promote the successful development of this unique group of children.
- Provides nurses with strategies for working with families of children who have frequent interactions with the health care system.
- Chapters are logically organized, case studies are well written and useful, and supplementary materials support the content.
- Emphasizes nutrition, an area that has been underrepresented in the nursing literature.

2. Core Curriculum for Interdisciplinary Lactation Care
Edited by Suzanne Hetzel Campbell, Judith Lauwers, Rebecca Mannel, and Becky Spencer. Burlington, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.

This book is an excellent, comprehensive resource for any health care professional who works with breastfeeding families. It is useful for nursing staff across the continuum of care, as it addresses populations ranging from preterm infants to breastfeeding mothers returning to work. Organized in three sections, it discusses the science behind lactation and breastfeeding, management of specific populations, and professional aspects of working in lactation care.

The content is organized in outline format and is very readable. The chapters contain useful clinical tips, case studies, and key points, as well as many helpful tables, charts, and illustrations. Written to be interdisciplinary and inclusive, the authors provide practical information that can be rapidly implemented into practice.
- Takes a broad approach that incorporates cultural considerations, professional standards, and social determinants related to breastfeeding.
- Has an easy-to-follow writing style; information is presented in manageable chunks with a logical flow.
- Is written from an international, interdisciplinary perspective.


This text, organized using a developmental framework, provides a straightforward, useful method practitioners can easily incorporate into their workflow to proactively identify emerging behavioral issues in pediatric patients. Primary care providers are the clinicians children are most likely to encounter. Targeting this information toward these providers is a highly effective strategy for ensuring that children receive interventions that support their behavioral health. In the current era of children’s increasing need for behavioral health support, this book provides advanced practice nurses with the tools needed for effective and early intervention.
- Useful not only for advanced practice nurses, but for all care providers who see children in the primary care setting.
- Focuses on early intervention.
- Is strongly evidence based.
COMMUNITY/PUBLIC HEALTH

Chosen by Natalie L. Farrar, MSN, RN, CHPN, CENP, center manager, The Oaks PACE, Orangeburg, SC.

1. LGBTQ Cultures: What Health Care Professionals Need to Know About Sexual and Gender Diversity
   This book is a dedicated resource on a subject historically not included in health care training programs. It serves as a terrific guide for health care professionals (and students) to providing appropriate, culturally-sensitive care to persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities. A handy size with a fantastic layout featuring appealing and informative boxes, case studies, and learning aids, this text can be used for further exploration and discussion. It is an essential clinical guide and classroom resource applicable to all health care and health care policy settings.
   • Reflects current research.
   • Provides best practices for any health care professional, educator, community health worker, or policymaker.
   • Text boxes such as “Imagine This,” “Try This,” “Think About It,” “Read This,” “Watch This,” and “No Dumb Questions” pique the reader's interest and encourage learning.

   I have utilized this spectacular resource since its inception. “The little red book” covers everything one needs to provide quality home care and to appropriately and adequately document to ensure reimbursement for care and services provided. It is hands-down the best resource for home health care education and orientation. The latest edition of this text not only reflects updates to regulatory changes, but also has new content on the Outcome and Assessment Information Set, the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, and ICD-10 coding. It's handy and compact, with chapters tabbed for convenience and a place marker built in.
   • Continues to improve upon the greatness of previous editions.
   • Is an exceptional and comprehensive reference that supports evidence-based and patient-centered care.
   • Is compact and easy to understand, use, and navigate.

3. Family Health Care Nursing: Theory, Practice, and Research
   One of this text’s greatest assets is that it is easy to read and digest. Its concept-based content can be used for an individual course or applied across an entire program of study. Each chapter helpfully kicks off with a bulleted list of “Critical Concepts.” This edition includes a new chapter on caring for families with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer or questioning (LGBTQ) members, as well as an updated chapter on family policy, reflecting the current and changing times.
   • Has multifaceted usability.
   • Is a great read.
   • Is beautifully laid out.

CONSUMER HEALTH

Chosen by Anne Katz, PhD, RN, FAAN, clinical nurse specialist, Cancer Care Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

1. Your Guide to Cancer Prevention
   Edited by Joni L. Watson. Pittsburgh, PA, Oncology Nursing Society.
   Cancer prevention is something that most people are or should be interested in, especially as they age and their risk of developing cancer increases. This book covers the basics, from how cancer develops to lifestyle approaches for lowering cancer risk. It contains information about vaccines, radiation exposure, and environmental factors, as well as the growing body of knowledge on the role of genetics and genetic testing in cancer prevention. Perhaps most importantly, the chapters are authored by nurses who are experts in oncology.
   • Provides a comprehensive overview of the topic, with suggested readings and a glossary in each chapter.
   • “Fact or Fiction” callouts address commonly-held beliefs and misinformation.
   • Is written in a consumer-friendly style; uses text boxes, tables, and diagrams to highlight important information.

2. Aging with Care: Your Guide to Hiring and Managing Caregivers at Home
   By Amanda Lambert and Leslie Eckford. Lancaster, MD, Rowman and Littlefield.
   The care of aging family members presents unique challenges for those of us who have the responsibility or desire to ensure their well-being as they become less independent. Many people live away from their elderly relatives and/or have circumstances that require hiring caregivers to assist their loved ones. This book details how to do so. The authors use examples in narrative format to illustrate key points, and provide takeaway points in each chapter as well as a glossary of terms and a bibliography.
   • Includes stories of how individuals have coped with the many challenges of hiring, supporting, and even firing caregivers.
   • Offers helpful examples of interview questions and contracts, plus questions to ask administrators should placement in a care facility be required.
   • Discusses a sensitive, challenging topic using easy-to-read language.

3. Stronger After Stroke: Your Roadmap to Recovery
   There has been much recent research and evidence about stroke recovery, however, many people may not know what is possible for recovery and consequently do not avail themselves of treatments that can improve function and quality of life. This book focuses on neuroplasticity (brain rewiring) as the impetus for restoring function (recovery), rather than compensation, especially during
the first six months after a stroke. The advice provided is challenging but evidence based and has at its core the person who has had a stroke. The author uses photographs and diagrams to help illustrate key points, and includes tips for family and professional caregivers as well as a list of resources and a glossary.

- Focuses on recovery rather than compensation after stroke; this is a newer concept that may not be known to family members and even health care providers.
- Provides evidence-based strategies to help facilitate recovery, regain function, and motivate patients to do more.
- Illustrations, bullet points, and a positive, encouraging tone make the book easy to read.

**CREATIVE WORKS**

Chosen by Hui-wen Sato, MPH, MSN, RN, CCRN, bedside nurse, Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

1. **Taking Care of Time**  
   By Cortney Davis. East Lansing, MI, Michigan State University Press.

   This book of poems powerfully conveys the depth and range of nurses’ emotions and experiences. Using beautiful language, each concisely-written poem tells a story that will resonate with every nurse, and that nonnurse readers can empathize with. These poems communicate not just what nurses do, but why we feel called to the profession, and how we become recipients of life’s greatest lessons and gifts as a result of our interactions with our patients.

   - Captures the inner experience, growth, wonder, joys, and struggles of nurses on a profoundly intimate and insightful level. The author describes what can often feel indescribable for nurses: our everyday work and how it impacts our life perspective.
   - Conveys the depth of the impact that patients have on nurses, which is incredibly important in helping to bridge the nurse–patient divide and challenges the notion that nurses are just shoulders of the patients’ primary caregivers.
   - Shows readers the core humanity of nursing.

2. **Soul Stories: Voices from the Margins**  
   By Josephine Ensign. San Francisco, University of California Medical Humanities Press.

   This book shines an important spotlight on nurses in the community who work among some of the most vulnerable: the homeless. It highlights the fact that strong nursing skills are not limited to the confines of hospital walls, and shows the general public that nurses who work with this population must possess extraordinary medical as well as psychosocial skills to connect, build trust, and show compassion. This book also recognizes that nurses are humans who are just as susceptible to trauma and illness as the patients they serve, and yet even in bearing their own wounds, nurses can still be effective and compassionate healers.

   - Provides profoundly humbling vignettes about what nurses do to serve some of the most needy and vulnerable in our world, demonstrating the value of the critical thinking, astute assessment, and compassionate connection that nurses bring to the community.
   - Highlights the value of narrative medicine at a time when both patients’ and nurses’ stories can easily get lost in numbers, technology, and paperwork.
   - Reminds readers that nurses are not immune to trauma, grief, struggle, or illness. Nurses can often identify more closely with their patients than the public may realize.

3. **Just See Me: Sacred Stories from the Other Side of Dementia**  
   By Carmen Buck. Bloomington, IN, Balboa Press.

   This book made a strong impression on me because of the depth of its compassion for the people whose stories it tells. It highlights the fact that people with dementia—an often forgotten, overlooked population—were once vibrant, full, well-rounded, productive, emotional human beings. The book underscores the fact that people with dementia can still be many if not all of these things, though these individuals are very different from who they used to be. It also tells the important stories of the caregivers who love and devote themselves to those with dementia, who refuse to forsake them, and who struggle deeply to make good choices within the health care system for their loved ones. Finally, this book showcases nurses’ significant privilege of witnessing and being a part of these stories with dementia patients and their caregivers.

   - Demonstrates the intimate, bittersweet relationship that nurses can develop with their patients and the patients’ family members and/or caregivers.
   - Reminds readers of the humanity and vulnerability of those with dementia, as well as the pressures that weigh upon the shoulders of the patients’ primary caregivers.
   - Brings a voice to the voiceless, which is one of the greatest gifts that narrative medicine provides.

**CRITICAL CARE–EMERGENCY NURSING**

Chosen by Cindy Cain, DNP, RN, CNS, CCRN-K, clinical practice specialist, American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, Aliso Viejo, CA.

1. **AACN Core Curriculum for Pediatric High Acuity, Progressive, and Critical Care Nursing**  

   A go-to book for nurses who care for pediatric patients. The significance of this publication cannot be understated. In its newest edition since 2006, the text substantially contributes to imparting the knowledge and skills needed for pediatric high acuity, progressive, and critical care nursing. It contains the most current patient management strategies and updated pediatric drug information, presented in an easy-to-read format organized for quick reference. The information is comprehensive and in-depth.

   - Contains outstanding, well-developed, pertinent case studies.
   - Includes a new chapter on professional issues in pediatric nursing, which covers quality, safety, the components of a healthy work environment, and the importance of personal wellness.
   - Provides an extensive and thorough review of multisystem issues, from trauma to septic shock to toxicology.
2. Disaster Nursing and Emergency Preparedness for Chemical, Biological, and Radiological Terrorism and Other Hazards

This book offers a wealth of new and in-depth information on both natural and man-made disasters. It is an invaluable, comprehensive, and evidence-based text that most certainly delivers on its goal of “making every nurse a ‘prepared nurse’” by providing the knowledge needed to respond to disasters and public health emergencies safely and appropriately.

- Provides updated and expanded information on caring for the physical, mental, and behavioral health needs of high-vulnerability populations.
- Includes illuminating case studies and reflective questions.

3. Obstetric Triage and Emergency Care Protocols

A very timely resource in light of the increasing U.S. maternal mortality rate. I wish I had known about this book when I was still practicing at the bedside. While the book is geared toward developing an obstetric triage unit, it is an indispensable clinical reference for primary care providers, whether your practice is emergency, obstetrics, or critical care. It is concise yet packed with precisely the knowledge needed to address the urgent care and critical care needs of obstetric patients. This is an especially great resource for the nonobstetric practitioner who needs quick and reliable information on caring for obstetric patients in the ED or critical care setting.

- Offers expanded content in both its print and e-book formats.
- Provides best clinical practices for a broad range of topics, including obstetrical hemorrhage, sepsis in pregnancy, postpartum psychosis, the Zika and Ebola viruses, and much more.
- The “Clinical Pearls” feature gives a quick, concise look at each chapter’s key points.

1. Children and Environmental Toxins: What Everyone Needs to Know
By Philip J. Landrigan and Mary M. Landrigan. New York City, Oxford University Press.

I found this book to be an excellent introduction to the environmental health hazards faced by children. The content is well laid out, clearly written, and comprehensive—yet not overwhelmingly technical. A number of specific toxins such as lead, endocrine disruptors, and pesticides and herbicides are discussed, as well as concerns related to allergens and food. The authors also describe environmental hazards found in daycare centers and schools. This

3. Davis Advantage for Basic Nursing: Thinking, Doing, and Caring

This online personalized learning system accompanies a nursing fundamentals textbook and enables students to engage with interactive content that corresponds to the textbook’s chapters. Each online module begins with a pretest, followed by a video that summarizes or explains in further detail concepts from the text. Next, students partake in an activity in which they can assess their understanding of the concepts. A posttest using NCLEX-style questions concludes each module. The program’s scoring software allows students to maintain a personalized learning plan.

- Offers opportunities for students to assess their own learning.
- Helps students actively engage with difficult-to-learn content.
book is essential for parents, nurses, and other health care providers who want an easy and understandable reference on the complex problem of children’s exposure to toxins.

- Clearly presents complex information, enabling readers to easily grasp key points.
- Explains the physiological reasons why children are more susceptible than adults to exposure and harm from chemicals.
- Offers sound strategies for addressing and avoiding children’s exposure to environmental toxins.

2. Occupational and Environmental Health


The latest edition of this book has been extensively updated to reflect current topics. Of note are new chapters on climate change and children’s environmental health. Content related to occupational and environmental surveillance is clearly presented, as are the 11 chapters on specific hazardous exposures. Adverse health effects are summarized per body system.

The authors address how to conduct an occupational/environmental assessment, as well as hazards encountered in various occupations. The chapter on hazards for health care workers is useful for all nurses to review. Hazards discussed include biological hazards such as hepatitis B, chemical hazards such as antineoplastic drugs, hazards related to violence such as assaults, and psychosocial hazards such as work stress.

- Includes illustrations and case studies.
- The chapter on climate change highlights the environmental health effects of climate change and the impact of climate change on workers.
- Is an excellent resource for anyone interested in environmental and occupational health.

2. Handbook of Geriatric Assessment

Edited by Terry Fulmer and Bruce Chernof. 5th edition. Burlington, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.

Handbook of Geriatric Assessment is a comprehensive and elegant clinical compendium of evidence-based approaches to identifying and managing a range of health and social problems commonly experienced by older adults. Written by experts in the field, this book not only guides clinicians through the finer points of conducting comprehensive assessments, but also through integrating evidence-based practices to create age-friendly health care services. Highly recommended for novice and expert clinicians alike.

- Helps hone clinicians’ skills in conducting comprehensive assessments to more effectively care for older adults.
- The authors do a great job of arguing for the use of evidence-based clinical practices as a vehicle to transform the care delivery system so that it is more age-friendly.
- Readers learn from leading experts in the field: the authors are also the creators of many of the clinical assessment tools presented in the text.

3. Self-Neglect in Older Adults: A Global, Evidence-Based Resource for Nurses and Other Health Care Providers


This well-written handbook seeks to help nurses and other clinical professionals identify, understand, and manage the issue of self-neglect among older adults. The authors bring this important problem to life through detailed case studies that apply assessment and intervention techniques. This book is a useful resource for professionals who work with older adults across the health and social care sectors.

- Is comprehensive and well organized. Focuses on both the concept of self-neglect and how to best manage it in clinical and community settings.
- Includes interesting case studies that illustrate the issues associated with self-neglect in older adults. The cases are well-crafted and provide substantive strategies for addressing common issues associated with self-neglect.
- The authors’ approach is positive and action-oriented, which engages the reader and serves to motivate clinicians to address this important issue in their practice.
and Why Clinicians and Managers Should Care
By Gordon Moore, John A. Quelch, and Emily Boudreau.
New York City, Oxford University Press.

Drawing deeply upon insights from a wide array of interdisciplinary research studies, the authors highlight the rational (and at times less-than-rational) ways that health care consumers decide what is or is not in their best interest. The data and arguments presented are critical to understanding all the dimensions of what we call “patient-centered care.”

- Investigates the accelerating drivers that promote active consumer choice when accessing the health care system.
- Presents data about the rapidly changing points through which consumers access the health care system.
- Explores points of fundamental misunderstanding among consumers and clinicians about what happens within the health care system.

1. History of Professional Nursing in the United States: Toward a Culture of Health
By Arlene W. Keeling, Michelle C. Hehman, and John C. Kirchgessner.
New York City, Springer Publishing Company.

This new history of nursing in the United States synthesizes recent research on the importance of gender, race, geography, and religion in understanding the discipline’s past. It authoritatively ranges from nursing in the colonial era to the public and environmental health issues with which nurses now engage.

- Includes illustrative photos and primary care documents.
- Presents discussion questions useful for classes and callouts that highlight areas for further investigation.

1. Maternal, Fetal, and Neonatal Physiology: A Clinical Perspective

This is a practical, hands-on, readable text that provides sufficient detail on the essentials of nursing informatics without being overwhelming. This book would be useful in a standalone informatics course, or, as the authors note, in various courses within a nursing curriculum in order to introduce informatics concepts and principles.

The 16 chapters are written by a wide range of experts in informatics. Each chapter includes objectives, key terms, figures, and illustrations. The book also includes access to online materials, including an e-book, assessments, and activities.

- Is clearly written.
- Features a wide variety of contributors with expertise in nursing informatics.
- Is supplemented by electronic resources for assessment and evaluation.

1. Maternal, Fetal, and Neonatal Physiology: A Clinical Perspective

This book fills a gap in the informatics literature: it’s a basic primer on information technology in long-term/post-acute care settings. As such, it will be welcomed by readers as they work to advance their health information technology capabilities.

- Is written to be consistent with the Certified Professional in Healthcare Information and Management Systems certification course, so would likely be a useful text for readers pursuing that credential.
- Is well documented and well referenced. Reference lists at the end of each chapter are a useful resource for readers who are seeking more information.

1. Maternal, Fetal, and Neonatal Physiology: A Clinical Perspective

Maternal, Fetal, and Neonatal Physiology: A Clinical Perspective, now in its fifth edition, is a classic reference that many of us have used for years. It continues to be the “go-to” physiology reference for advanced practice maternity and neonatal students and clinicians. This book is a complete, seamless reference that integrates maternal, fetal, and neonatal physiology into a smooth continuum, with applications for the clinical setting. The material is skillfully presented with extensive detailed illustrations and tables. Both the text and the illustrations deliver clear explanations of complex topics.

While this text is useful for teaching students core physiology for the specialty practice, experienced nurses can use it to reexamine or more deeply explore the physiologic basis for care. Any nurse practicing in the maternity or neonatal specialties should have this book on her or his shelf.

- Is engaging.
- Provides a scientific understanding for informed assessment and care.
- Is comprehensive and detailed.
2. Varney’s Midwifery
Edited by Tekoa L. King, Mary C. Brucker, Kathryn Osborne, and Cecilia M. Jevitt. 6th edition. Burlington, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.

This book is a classic, respected resource that has evolved through many editions and is inclusive of all types of midwifery within the United States. This edition brings many new expert contributing authors and a timely new chapter, “Midwifery: Clients, Context, and Care,” that integrates determinants of health beyond the biomedical model.

Varney’s Midwifery provides comprehensive core material for midwifery education and practice. It includes clinical applications and procedural information in the text and illustrations. The book is a valuable single source for midwifery and advanced practice nursing students.
- Is wide-ranging.
- Is timely yet enduring. Includes the history of midwifery while situating practice in the contemporary world.
- Is clear and organized.

3. Genetics and Genomics in Nursing and Health Care

Understanding genetics and genomics is essential for contemporary practice. The science is evolving, and many of us did not study this content in our basic nursing education programs. Yet we all need to keep up-to-date with this information and its application to nursing care. Genetics and genomics is the future of health care.

This book covers genetics and genomics across health care. However, much of the content has direct relevance to maternity and neonatal nursing practice. Maternity and neonatal nurses will find information on gametogenesis, inheritance genetic testing, epigenetics, pharmacogenetics, and precision medicine. The roles of various health care professionals in genetics are presented, including the role of the general RN in genomics care. This is valuable in justifying why an RN needs a background in genetics and genomics—because the nurse has the most interaction with patients and can conduct a first-line assessment for genetic risk.
- Is reader-friendly. Information is presented in a straightforward and understandable style, with color illustrations.
- Has potential use beyond the classroom. Although intended to be a textbook for students, this book is a valuable resource for practicing nurses who have never taken a genetics course.
- Includes learning outcomes, key terms, summaries, case studies, and self-assessment quizzes in each chapter. Also includes access to supplemental online study tools.

1. Nursing: A Concept-Based Approach to Learning, Volumes 1 and 2; Clinical Nursing Skills: A Concept-Based Approach to Learning, Volume 3

This three-volume collection of nursing texts is an excellent resource for concept-based learning within a nursing curriculum. Not limited to medical–surgical nursing, the texts cover nursing care across the life span.
- Volume 1 includes 21 modules on biophysical concepts within nursing, such as comfort, infection, perfusion, and oxygenation. Volume 2 offers 30 modules covering psychosocial concepts, reproduction concepts, the nursing domain (such as assessment, caring interventions, and clinical decision making), and the health care domain (such as accountability, advocacy, health policy, and informatics). Each concept-based module is presented using understandable narratives, charts, colorful photos, and diagrams. The modules are comprehensive, discussing each concept in terms of physiology, alterations and manifestations, risk factors, nursing assessment, independent and collaborative interventions, health promotion, and exemplar scenarios. Diversity and culture, and their relevance to each concept, are addressed in each volume. Modules also include safety alerts, case studies, and practice exercises.

Volumes 1 and 2 are supplemented by the accompanying Volume 3, which addresses clinical nursing skills using a concept-based approach. Volume 3 would serve as a useful resource to support clinical skills learning in the skills/simulation lab or the patient care setting.
- Uses a concept-based approach to presenting nursing knowledge.
- Exemplar scenarios enhance learning.
- Can be utilized throughout the undergraduate nursing curriculum as well as during the transition from student to RN.

2. Medical–Surgical Nursing: Concepts for Interprofessional Collaborative Care

The latest edition of this text continues its excellent tradition of presenting care of the adult patient in a detailed, comprehensive, and evidence-based manner. The narrative is accompanied by effective photos, charts, figures, and diagrams to enhance learning. The authors discuss nursing safety priorities in each chapter, as well as topics for patient and family education. Key points for NCLEX preparation are presented at the end of each chapter.
- Is wide-ranging and thorough.
- Includes helpful visuals.
- Helps prepare students for the NCLEX.

This text presents medical–surgical nursing knowledge in a nonintimidating manner that simplifies learning for the undergraduate nursing student. Each of its many topics is presented in a consistent format that includes an overview, background information, clinical aspects (assessment, interventions, and outcomes), a summary, and references.
- Presents complex nursing knowledge using a simple approach.
- Covers a vast range of topics.

NURSING EDUCATION/CONTINUING EDUCATION/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Chosen by Donna M. Nickitas, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, CNE, FNAP, FAAN, dean and professor, Rutgers School of Nursing–Camden, Camden, NJ.


After 33 years of teaching, I know firsthand what it takes to be a nurse educator. This textbook is a must-read. The editors and authors have carefully cultivated the “secret sauce” that every nurse educator needs before, during, and after teaching. Whether teaching in a classroom, laboratory, or online, this book provides evidence-based theory, principles, and methods for nurse educators of all levels. Deconstructing nursing education through the roles of teacher and learner is the perfect approach to sound teaching and successful learning. Better to use this complete guide than be left behind guessing the role of the 21st-century nurse educator.
- Expert educators translate the science of nursing education in a simple, clear, and sound manner.
- Has excellent organization, flow, and evidence, plus helpful tables, boxes, figures, and references.
- Each chapter acts as a standalone lesson within the continuum of teaching.

2. Evidence-Based Practice in Action: Comprehensive Strategies, Tools, and Tips from the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics
By Laura Cullen, Kirsten Hanrahan, Michele Farrington, Jennifer DeBerg, Sharon Tucker, and Charmaine Kleiber. Indianapolis, IN, Sigma Theta Tau International.

Everything that is relevant to evidence-based practice can be identified, applied, and measured in this text. The authors guide the reader from the fundamentals of evidence-based practice to implementation. No matter how much knowledge the reader has about evidence-based practice, this book provides a comprehensive approach to tackling any clinical issue, problem, or project. Organization matters—especially when it comes to adopting an evidence-based practice model. This book will prepare nurse readers well to make clinical decisions and improve patient outcomes with ease and confidence.
- Chapter content structure and tools are extremely helpful.
- Eloquently defines and describes the phases of the model.

3. Unitary Caring Science: The Philosophy and Praxis of Nursing

In this comprehensive guide, Jean Watson advances Unitary Caring Science by helping the reader to better understand its practice and the meaning of human caring—healing and health. To be a nurse requires deep compassion for the self and others. Through her vision and voice, Watson demonstrates that all nurses can experience personal and professional joy, health, and healing. Her unitary healing principles are pathways toward a meaningful, fulfilling nursing career.
- Puts forth a vision for how the unitary principles can bring a new dimension to affirming and sustaining nursing science and practice.
- Has strong content, format, photos, and quotes.
- Offers beautiful and compassionate words and grounded principles.

NURSING MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

Chosen by Beverly Hancock, DNP, RN-BC, senior director of leadership development, American Organization of Nurse Executives, Chicago.

1. Health Policy and Advanced Practice Nursing: Impact and Implications

An excellent summary of current policies impacting health care and the nursing profession. Written for advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), this engaging book is relevant for any nurse leader. Each chapter focuses on one policy, providing the history of the policy, its current state, and its associated challenges. From Title VIII to the Affordable Care Act, and from policies regarding mental health to end-of-life care, the authors offer implications for the APRN that can be translated into action. Knowledge of health care policy is critical for nurse leaders if they desire to have influence through advocacy. This book equips nurses to be influential leaders by providing the knowledge and insight they need in order to speak boldly on issues that impact care delivery and nursing practice.
- Is well written; tells the complicated stories of policy history in an engaging manner.
- Is relevant. As nursing continues to be seen as the most trusted profession, but lags in influence, this book speaks to an area identified by nurse leaders as necessary in their quest for influence.
- Is action-oriented. In addition to explaining the policies, the authors provide relevant action steps. While some are specific to APRNs, many are appropriate for all nurses.
2. 21st Century Nursing Leadership
Edited by Mary Magee Gullatte. Pittsburgh, PA, Oncology Nursing Society.

T here are many books about nursing leadership. What makes this book stand out is the variety of topics covered that pertain to the leader of the future, beyond typical competencies seen in leadership books—multigenerational communication, balancing competing priorities, professional association and board leadership, and care of self. Its variety of authors and writing styles is reflective of the many different types of leaders and personalities in leadership. Nurses at all levels of leadership will find something that pertains to their journey now, and can come back to the book at another time and glean something new as they grow in their understanding of what it means to be a leader in a complex, ever-changing environment.

- Features diverse expert authors. Although initially a bit confusing—there is no set format for presenting information in each chapter—I came to appreciate this style and hearing the voice of the author.
- The chapter on becoming a chief executive officer represents a growing phenomenon in nursing leadership, and one that is important particularly for younger leaders to see is possible.
- Many chapters include relevant tools.

3. Clinical Leadership for Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners

T his book fills a gap in leadership literature in health care. While leadership principles are consistent, differing situations and roles may require different application of those principles. NPs and physician assistants (PAs) have unique roles in leadership, frequently without formal titles, and often lead peers and interprofessional teams.

The author begins with a thoughtful commentary on the two roles and their distinctions and commonalities. He has used that knowledge to create case scenarios, relevant to both groups, to show how a PA or NP might demonstrate leadership in a variety of settings. In addition to the solid foundation of leadership principles he provides, I appreciated the author’s emphasis on ethics in leadership and spiritual leadership, which often go overlooked.

- Is unique in addressing both NPs and PAs.
- Focuses on the team and uses case studies to address interprofessional and multidisciplinary situations that NPs and PAs encounter.
- While I would have liked if this book had a nurse coauthor, the author did a good job of being inclusive in his descriptions of leadership required of both NPs and PAs.

NURSING RESEARCH

Chosen by Karen Roush, PhD, RN, assistant professor, College of Nursing, University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth.

1. Statistics for Nursing: A Practical Approach
By Elizabeth Heavey, 3rd edition. Burlington, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.

T his book is an excellent introduction to statistics for nursing students or clinicians doing quality improvement or conducting research. The author takes a topic that nurses often find intimidating and presents it in an engaging and encouraging style. She addresses readers directly as she guides them through statistical techniques. The information is exceptionally clear and is further explicated by sidebars written by a statistician. There are nursing-related examples throughout the book to enhance understanding. And finally, there are tons of review questions in each chapter.

- Presents difficult information in a straightforward manner.
- Includes many practical examples and review questions that enable students to apply information as they learn it.

2. Person-Centred Healthcare Research
Edited by Brendan McCormack, Sandra van Dulmen, Hilde Eide, Kirsti Skovdahl, and Tom Eide. Hoboken, NJ, John Wiley and Sons Ltd.

T his book provides nurses with an innovative and transformative approach to health care that is founded on a person-centered philosophy. There are few, if any, publications that explore this topic in depth, making this book an important resource for nurses—particularly given nursing’s focus on patient- and family-centered care. The authors provide a thought-provoking exploration of what it means to be a person-centered researcher and practitioner, beginning with an in-depth discussion of philosophical and theoretical principles. They then demonstrate how those principles are put into practice, using case studies on actual person-centered research and practice.

- Fills a gap in resources for nurses interested in or doing person-centered research or practice.
- Is thought-provoking and may be transformative for readers.
- Balances a deeply philosophical discussion of the ontological and epistemological foundational values of person-centered research with real-world applications.

PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE

Chosen by Gracelyn Spears, MSN, FNP-BC, ambulatory care NP, Ardmore VA Clinic, Ardmore, OK.

1. Palliative Care Nursing: Quality Care to the End of Life

T his book is packed with valuable information spanning palliative care to the end of life. I really liked the case studies at the beginning and end of each chapter; they keep the reader engaged and help ensure that the material is interpreted as intended. The flow of the book is smooth and readable, and the information is current. It’s a
book that can be used throughout one’s career, whether while pursuing an undergraduate degree or working as a palliative care provider.

- Discusses the role of the nurse in palliative care.
- Takes an in-depth approach. Provides an extensive overview of numerous diseases and illnesses, covering diagnosis, progression, managing symptoms and acute exacerbations, and determining prognosis.
- Key points lists, case studies, and conclusion sections tie concepts together.

2. Hospice and Palliative Care Handbook

If I worked in hospice today, this book would never leave my side. It packs a lot of content into less than 300 pages and summarizes information that would normally take a lot of time to look up in a busy setting. I never once felt overwhelmed while reading it. This book would be ideal for the whole hospice team to read to help them understand their roles and become familiar with issues of quality and guidelines for care.

- Defines hospice, identifies the roles of team members, discusses the services hospice offers, and gives a brief history.
- Provides an overview of diagnoses, hospice eligibility, guidelines for care, safety considerations, and diagnosis codes.
- Explains hospice reimbursement.

3. Good Grief: Strategies for Building Resilience and Supporting Transformation
By Cheryl A. Barrett. Parker, CO, Outskirts Press, Inc.

In life we plan for everything. There are books to help plan for a wedding, a baby, and even college. But no one ever really plans to grieve. While this book is for those who are preparing for the loss of a loved one or who have experienced that loss, I believe it would be beneficial for palliative care nurses and providers to read. The author provides resources for coping with grief and loss. Some of her ideas can easily be taken to the bedside or clinic to help our patients’ families.

- Gives readers a starting point that walks them through what needs to be done following a loss, such as making funeral arrangements and organizing bills and finances. Encourages self-care.
- Lists positive affirmations at the end of the chapter.
- Includes quotes and poems throughout the book.

PROFESSIONAL ISSUES

Chosen by Christopher A. VanFosson, PhD, MHA, RN, Lieutenant Colonel, United States Army, nurse scientist at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research, Joint Base San Antonio, San Antonio, TX. The views of the author are his own and do not reflect the official opinion or endorsement of the United States Army or the Department of Defense.

1. Quality Caring in Nursing and Health Systems: Implications for Clinicians, Educators, and Leaders

Human relationships are the cornerstone of our profession. In this expertly-written book, Joanne R. Duffy presents a detailed description of the Quality-Caring Model. The model highlights the importance of human relationships in improving care in the classroom, at the bedside, and across organizations. From the evolution of the model to its implementation in a variety of sites, Duffy details the importance of “feeling cared for” and describes how caring human relationships can result in improved outcomes in any organization. At a time when caring is less and less of a commodity, this book is a must-have for nurses and organization leaders of all kinds!

- Each chapter contains reflective questions designed to provoke thought from the perspectives of nursing students, clinicians, nurse educators, and nurse leaders.
- The appendices are full of practical tools for implementing the Quality-Caring Model, including a guide to assessing the professional work environment for Quality-Caring practice, potential research questions, and a Quality-Caring organizational self-assessment tool.
- Numerous conceptual diagrams and charts clarify the characteristics and relationships of the model.

2. Leddy and Pepper’s Professional Nursing

Well-designed and well-written, this book is laden with detailed yet focused discussions about the important issues that shaped today’s professional nursing environment. After describing more than 2,000 years of nursing history, Lucy J. Hood discusses the profession of nursing in terms of philosophy, ethics, technology, the environment, health care delivery systems, and health care policy. Additionally, for the scholarly reader, various aspects of the text are designed to challenge critical thinking and writing skills for even the most experienced professional nurse. This text is an important addition to any professional nursing library.

- Each chapter highlights nursing research.
- “Professional Building Blocks” callouts highlight clinical and professional implications, as well as examples of relevant documents, concepts, and philosophies.
- Online multimedia resources illustrate many of the important professional nursing concepts discussed.
3. The Doctor of Nursing Practice: A Guidebook for Role Development and Professional Issues

In today’s professional nursing landscape, understanding the role of the doctor of nursing practice (DNP) remains elusive for many. Lisa Astalos Chism and colleagues provide an expertly-written, clarifying perspective on the role of DNP-trained nurses in the modern health care system. The authors describe DNP professionals as expert clinicians, policy advocates, educators, and ethicists. Uniquely, the authors discuss the eight DNP Essentials using the art of storytelling, providing the reader with a vivid understanding of the traits of DNP practice. Finally, this informative text describes the history of the DNP and proposes future influences of DNP-trained nurses on the needs of society.

- Contains numerous enlightening interviews with nurse professionals who have influenced the evolution of the DNP since the degree’s inception.
- Includes thought-provoking questions in each chapter to stimulate discussions among students and professionals.
- Key points integrated throughout the text illustrate the unique position DNP-trained nurses hold within the interprofessional health care team.

PSYCHIATRIC AND MENTAL HEALTH NURSING

Chosen by Geraldine S. Pearson, PhD, PMH-CNS, FAAN, associate professor, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Farmington, CT.


It was not difficult to select this compelling and thorough book as my first choice. What is fascinating about it is its integration of Donna Hallas’ conceptual model, Intercepting Behavioral Health, which she has developed and researched over several decades. The premise of the model is early recognition of a potential emerging behavioral health disorder followed by immediate intervention.

At its base, this book integrates primary care with behavioral health care. It offers a variety of topics aimed at helping pediatric NPs identify early symptoms and provide brief intervention. (Hallas and the contributors are clear that pediatric NPs need to rely on specialty services if they identify a developmental or behavioral problem necessitating assessment or treatment outside the primary care setting; the scope of practice is clearly delineated.) The integration of primary care with behavioral health care is underway in most care settings, particularly in federally qualified health centers. This book will be especially useful to nurses involved in this integration, whether in public or private settings.

The book includes chapters specific to age group, as well as chapters on topics like intercepting behavioral health problems, psychotropic medications, and specialized populations. I especially liked the chapter on LGBTQ populations, which includes a comprehensive list of key terms that would be useful for health care providers.

- Is aimed at pediatric NPs; focuses on integrating pediatrics with psychiatry.
- Is well organized and well referenced. Includes innovative topics plus digital access to the book.
- Provides detailed descriptors of screening tools applicable to specific disorders.

By Margaret Jordan Halter. 8th edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.

This book is incredibly thorough and touches upon aspects of psychiatric nursing that undergraduates need to understand, including treatment of trauma and management of grief reactions. The chapters are comprehensive and thorough, and offer key points, critical thinking exercises, and review questions. Boxes and tables illustrate useful information. The chapters on clinical conditions include case studies and associated nursing diagnoses and Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition diagnoses. Additionally, the examples of dialogue between nurses and patients are excellent, and the resources and references give readers the option to delve further into the material. There are so many psychiatric nursing texts that could be used to teach an undergraduate course—this one continues to stand out.

- Is comprehensive, clear, easy to read, and logically organized.
- Includes access to online study resources, including NCLEX review questions and pre- and posttests.
- Gives undergraduate nursing students exactly what they need to gain a basic understanding of psychiatric mental health nursing.

3. Fast Facts for Managing Patients with a Psychiatric Disorder: What RNs, NPs, and New Psych Nurses Need to Know

This pocket-sized book caught my attention. While it is likely not for experienced nurses, it could be very useful for RNs or NPs who need to familiarize themselves with caring for a psychiatric patient population. It provides quick information about a variety of psychiatric issues that any nurse might encounter.

Chapters are organized around presentation, symptoms, assessment, nursing interventions, nursing diagnoses coordinated with ICD-10, and relevant medications. The content is accurate and relevant. Thematically, this book delivers a nonjudgmental assessment and treatment model that aims at reducing stigma. Case studies bring the information to life and enhance the manual’s usefulness.

- Is well written, systematically organized, and highly useful for any nurse new to working with psychiatric patients.
- Is portable.
- Provides excellent references and websites.▼