

BOOK of the YEAR AWARDS 2011

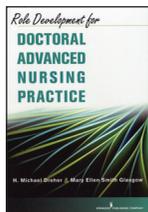


The most valuable texts of 2011, as chosen by AJN's panel of judges.

ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING

Chosen by Jane Jeffrie Seley, MPH, DNP, BC-ADM, CDE, diabetes NP, NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, New York City.

- 1. Role Development for Doctoral Advanced Nursing Practice**
Edited by H. Michael Dreher and Mary Ellen Smith Glasgow. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.

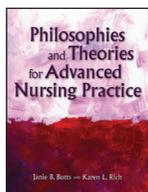


This book offers a stroll down memory lane, tracing the roots of nurse education and its evolution to advanced practice. The authors offer unbiased accounts of controversies in nursing practice, such as the differences in various doctoral degrees and whether a doctorally prepared nurse should be allowed to use the title “Doctor” in the clinical setting. Contributors are advanced

practice nurses from a variety of settings, which enables readers to benefit from the breadth of their experiences. Each chapter offers a reflective response and critical thinking questions that can inspire readers to think about the content and discuss it with peers.

- Uses an easy-to-read format that allows adult learners to pick and choose which chapter to read at any time based on interest.
- Provides reflective responses and critical thinking questions that add an interactive component to the learning experience.
- Incorporates tables and figures throughout the text to make it easy to read and interpret.

- 2. Philosophies and Theories for Advanced Nursing Practice**
Edited by Jamie B. Butts and Karen L. Rich. Sudbury, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.



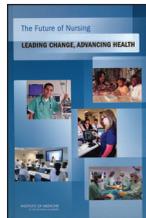
This excellent overview of nursing knowledge includes a history of nursing as a science, the need to apply theory in practice, and nursing models and theories. It also provides an excellent discussion on often-overlooked interdisciplinary theories. The greatest strength of this book is its ability to explain complex ideas in simple and easy-

to-understand language.

- Offers a well-organized presentation, including five main sections: foundations of nursing science, structure and function, interdisciplinary philosophies and theories, nursing models/theories, and disseminating nursing knowledge.

- Fosters reader engagement through use of easy-to-read and interpret bulleted lists, discussion questions, summaries, and tables.
- Provides a comprehensive, up-to-date review of the literature.

- 3. The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health**
By the Committee on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Initiative on the Future of Nursing, at the Institute of Medicine. Washington, DC, National Academies Press.



This book is a must-read for nurses at all levels of education and in all settings.

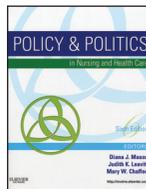
For nurses to have the voice we deserve (as the largest group of health care professionals), we need to learn how to be more active in health care decision making and care delivery.

- Covers the impact of the many roles of the nurse, and delineates and supports the expanded role of nurses in the future, such as eliminating scope of practice barriers.
- Includes barriers and challenges to practice and uses case studies to illustrate points.
- Summarizes information using appendixes, tables, figures, and boxes.

COMMUNITY-PUBLIC HEALTH

Chosen by Anne Katz, PhD, RN, clinical nurse specialist, CancerCare Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

- 1. Policy and Politics in Nursing and Health Care**
Edited by Diana J. Mason, Judith K. Leavitt, and Mary W. Chaffee. 6th edition. St. Louis, Saunders Elsevier.



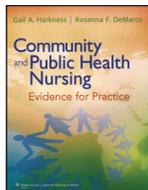
This book is the bible of public policy on health care. If you're interested in making a change, large or small, it will tell you how. It covers a large range of actions, from taking action in the community or through associations and special interest groups, all the way to influencing government policy and politics. It provides how-to's and personal

stories—for example, a nurse who learns about the issues regarding the use of medical marijuana. Want to know how to influence the policy process at the national level? A chapter on how the U.S. government works provides a step-by-step, office-by-office explanation of who does what and how. Although there are few illustrations, it's packed with useful information, including an emphasis on evidence-based policy.

- Contains useful information not easily accessible elsewhere.
- Focuses on community activism.
- Includes evidence-based policy.

2. Community and Public Health Nursing: Evidence for Practice

Edited by Gail A. Harkness and Rosanna F. DeMarco. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.



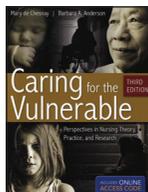
This is an excellent general textbook on community and public health nursing. What I admire most is the style and presentation of information. Each chapter contains highlights, key terms, and objectives. But the most interesting parts (especially for students) are clearly identified case studies and sections with evidence for practice, practice points,

and student reflections. These break up the text and present key information in an easily accessible format. There are also lists of critical thinking exercises and community resources. The graphs, tables, and charts are bright, eye-catching, and not overly complicated.

- Uses a very attractive layout and format.
- Provides useful features that capture the reader's attention.
- Published in paperback, so it's not too heavy!

3. Caring for the Vulnerable: Perspectives in Nursing Theory, Practice, and Research

Edited by Mary de Chesnay and Barbara A. Anderson. 3rd edition. Burlington, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.



This book provides an overview of the vitally important topic of caring for the vulnerable. It offers the novice nurse everything she or he needs to know about working with people in these populations—from mothers with HIV to adolescents with substance abuse problems. For those who've worked in the community, it provides the theoretical underpinnings of caring for vulnerable populations and suggestions for policy, both local and national.

There are seven sections: concepts, nursing theories, research, practice, programs, teaching-learning, and policy implications. Each chapter offers stories of how nurses have made a difference (by developing an NP-run center in rural Appalachia, for example).

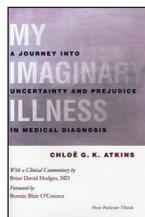
- Focuses on populations that all nurses will encounter no matter what the health care setting.
- Provides real world examples illustrating key concepts and ideas.
- Includes additional resources such as online and instructor resources.

CONSUMER HEALTH

Chosen by Michael C. Desjardins, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC, clinical director, Nexstep Medical Detox, Orem, UT.

1. My Imaginary Illness: A Journey into Uncertainty and Prejudice in Medical Diagnosis

By Chloe G.K. Atkins. Ithaca, NY, ILR Press, an Imprint of Cornell University Press.



This book provides an exceptional account of a young woman struggling with a disease that eludes diagnosis for many years. Her narrative touches the heart and soul in ways that few have. It addresses several underlying challenges in medicine and nursing. Importantly, it provides commentary on an issue that health care professionals will understand: patients suffering from

serious medical conditions have to not only endure the effects of ravaging illness, but also survive a health care system that punishes those whose diseases are misunderstood or not readily diagnosed. Even worse is the notion that the patient is faking the diagnoses.

The author takes great care to provide a balanced approach in her assertion that medical and nursing professionals are both perpetrators and victims of the diagnostically driven, Hippocratic medical model. A strong case is made that changes are desperately needed in hospitals as well as in the structure, function, and teaching of educational settings.

- Is extremely well written, organized, and interesting to read.
- Provides a compelling picture of health care today and connects with the reader on an emotional level.
- Helps health care providers transcend the bias against clients with disorders they're not able to diagnose or those that are somatoform in nature.

2. The Complete Human Body: The Definitive Visual Guide

Edited by Dr. Alice Roberts. New York City, DK Publishing.



This is one of the finest entry-level books on the subject that I've ever read. The format is impressive, including detailed outlines of human anatomy, physiology, development, and several common disease states. The initial chapters begin from the foundation up, starting with an overview of evolution and genetics and moving on to a description of the cell cycle, tissues, and composition of the body.

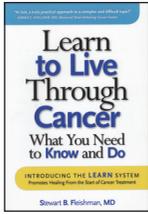
The book presents difficult concepts in an easy-to-read style. The pictures and graphical representations are extremely well done and the picture quality is excellent. The care and attention to detail in this book provide the reader with information that is easy to follow. Finally, a manual on how the body works that the layperson can actually understand.

- Is well written, organized, and interesting to read.
- Provides extremely detailed images and graphics.

- Uses the latest research to provide readers with up-to-date information that offers the perfect balance of science, technology, and a straightforward approach.

3. Learn to Live Through Cancer: What You Need to Know and Do

By Stewart B. Fleishman. New York City, Demos Medical Publishing.



Learn to Live Through Cancer is a much-needed text in an era in which patients live longer and more fulfilling lives, but often lack the information needed to manage the emotional, physical, social, financial, and logistical challenges of cancer. It provides an amazing resource for patients with cancer, as well as for their families, care managers, and other health care professionals.

This book takes a broad approach to the subject and even provides readers with lifesaving information. The author's "Learn System" provides information that's not often given upon diagnosis, leaving patients in a highly emotionally charged situation to fend for themselves. Providers are often busy and even those with the best intentions can't hope to provide the detail that this book does. It covers everything from diet to managing work and financial commitments. This book should be provided by insurance companies to those newly diagnosed with cancer. It can support a recovery-oriented approach to cancer instead of the typical attitude of disability and disease.

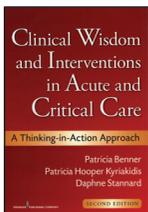
- Provides important information that's often missed because of a lack of time and the stress of the health care setting.
- Should be provided to all patients to reduce the stress that can accompany the diagnosis of cancer.
- Is an exceptional resource for health care consumers that will help them make better and more informed decisions.

CRITICAL CARE—EMERGENCY NURSING

Chosen by Rachel L. Zastrow, MSN, RN, patient safety program supervisor, ICU staff nurse at Central DuPage Hospital, Winfield, IL.

1. Clinical Wisdom and Interventions in Acute and Critical Care: A Thinking-in-Action Approach

By Patricia Benner, Patricia Hooper Kyriakidis, and Daphne Stanward. 2nd edition. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



This book presents stories of complex or unique clinical situations, told in the words of nurses who lived them. The authors divide these stories into chapters that approximate the route a patient may take through her or his hospital visit. From crisis identification, management of unstable patients, and teamwork improvement to end-of-life care and ethical decision making, this

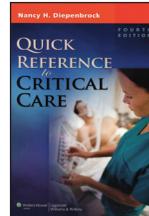
work brims with real-life stories and brief author explanations of each story's importance. The safety section contains compelling stories of nurse heroics in the face of technological failures and of nurses' disappointment when they felt the documentation and regulatory requirements interfered with the care patients deserved. The communication stories reveal the transition from novice to expert, from the scared graduate nurse on her first physician phone call to the expert cardiovascular surgery RN navigating the political minefield of

refusing to carry out an unsafe order. After each of the vignettes, the author provides a brief explanation of the important universal principles or recurrent themes represented by that story. An experienced nurse will find much in common with the interviewed nurses, and, more importantly, the novice or beginner nurse will find much to emulate. Despite the look and feel of a textbook, *Clinical Wisdom and Interventions in Acute and Critical Care* reads like a collection of short stories—and you will probably learn something on the way!

- Includes firsthand accounts from nurses.
- Has a unique chapter layout, following patients through a typical hospital course.
- Contains especially helpful chapters about safety and expert communication.

2. Quick Reference to Critical Care

By Nancy H. Diepenbrock. 4th edition. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.



This quick reference guide makes an excellent companion for a new or seasoned nurse caring for critical patients in any environment. Other guides provide shorter, less detailed references, but this book offers an almost ideal blend of brevity and depth. The layout seems slightly awkward at times, but the compact size still manages to achieve a

level of detail in basic anatomy, patient discharge instructions, nursing procedures, and even details of less common illnesses. The "remember" points are especially helpful, providing quick and useful information on a variety of topics. Although the book could be a comprehensive picture of critical care nursing, I see its primary value as a bedside reference with great practical tips and critical thinking aides.

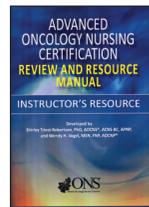
- Offers interesting artwork selections, including, for example, a graph of Starling's Law, drawings of different types of cardiomyopathy, and cerebral blood-flow diagrams.
- The "remember" sections provide practical advice and easy-to-remember mnemonics and word games.
- Has an index section with excellent cross-references for quick navigation.

ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Chosen by Marianne Matzo, PhD, GNP-BC, FPCN, FAAN, professor and Frances E. and A. Earl Ziegler chair in palliative care nursing, Sooner Palliative Care Institute, adjunct professor, Department of Geriatric Medicine, University of Oklahoma College of Nursing, Oklahoma City, OK.

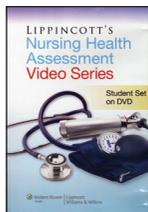
1. Advanced Oncology Nursing Certification Review and Resource Manual: Instructor's Resource

By Shirley Triest-Robertson and Wendy H. Vogel. Pittsburg, PA, Oncology Nursing Society.



- Organized into specific modules to help nurse educators plan and present content related to oncology nursing.
- Includes reviews for the advanced oncology certification exam, continuing nursing education, staff development, and master's level nursing education.
- Facilitates the work of presenting complex topics.

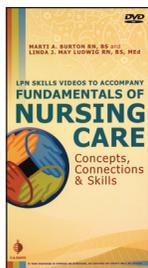
2. Lippincott's Nursing Health Assessment Video Series
Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.



- Instructs nursing students in basic and complex health assessment skills using content from *Bates' Visual Guide to Physical Assessment*.
- Presented in a clear and engaging format that will be helpful for both visual and auditory learners.

3. LPN Skills Video to Accompany Fundamentals of Nursing Care

By Marti A. Burton and Linda J. May Ludwig. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.



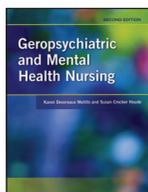
- Allows students to immerse themselves in basic clinical skills.
- Presents skills in movie form (useful for visual learners) or in an auditory format in which voice-overs explain necessary clinical skills.

GERONTOLOGIC NURSING

Chosen by Margaret R. Nolan, DNP, GNP-C, acute care NP, Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, clinical assistant professor, New York University College of Nursing, New York City.

1. Geropsychiatry and Mental Health Nursing.

Edited by Karen Devereaux Melillo and Susan Crocker Houde. 2nd edition. Sudbury, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.



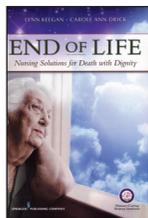
This book is extremely timely as the number of older adults continues to increase. The chapters are comprehensive and full of valuable information about the psychosocial needs of older adults. It could be essential in both undergraduate and graduate nursing curricula. It's extremely well written, and includes wonderful screening

tools as well as a chapter on research ideas and future implications.

- Offers comprehensive, well-written, and practical information.
- Written by nurses for nurses.
- Applicable to clinical practice.

2. End of Life: Nursing Solutions for Death with Dignity

By Lynn Keegan and Carole Ann Drick. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.

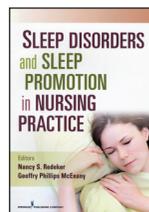


This book is very well written, interesting, and applicable to end-of-life care, with a focus on providing this service in an appropriate environment. This environment is described in great detail and ways to achieve it are addressed. This book could be used in long-term care, hospitals, clinics, and home care. It empowers nurses and

gives real solutions to help them provide care for the dying in a comfortable and rewarding manner.

- Offers a comprehensive overview.
- Covers important material.
- Is very well written and readable.

3. Sleep Disorders and Sleep Promotion in Nursing Practice
Edited by Nancy S. Redeker and Geoffry Phillips McEnany. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



This well-written book provides a thorough exploration of sleep disorders. It outlines nursing care and guidelines to assist in the workup for sleep disturbances. As many geriatric patients experience such disorders, it's extremely relevant for nurses caring for this population. However, because it discusses sleep disorders in all age groups, it doesn't earn the number one ranking in the

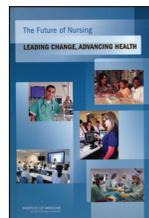
geriatric category.

- Is very well written.
- Provides information on a topic that's not always covered in curriculum but is relevant to all patients.
- Offers good nursing measures and treatment plans.

HISTORY AND PUBLIC POLICY

Chosen by Donna Diers, PhD, RN, FAAN, Annie W. Goodrich Professor Emerita, Yale University School of Nursing, New Haven, CT.

1. The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health
By the Committee on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Initiative on the Future of Nursing, at the Institute of Medicine. Washington, DC, National Academies Press.

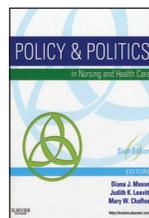


This unusual collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Institute of Medicine has two main messages: nursing—get your act together. Everybody else—get out of nursing's way. These two messages in this richly researched and elegantly argued book should spur the profession to a gallop. It is both a text on contemporary nursing issues in the United States and a peek into a future where nursing might finally get credit for its daunting and transformative work. A definite "must read" for all nurses.

- Provides comprehensive coverage.
- Offers clear presentation without whining.
- Includes fascinating illustrative "cases."

2. Policy and Politics in Nursing and Health Care

Edited by Diana J. Mason, Judith K. Leavitt, and Mary W. Chaffee. 6th edition. St. Louis, Saunders Elsevier.



This now-classic book only gets better and better. Always engaging and full of sources and resources, this edition pushes into new content in evidence-based policy, community activism, and health care reform, and covers contemporary topics such as medical homes, workplace abuse policy, quality and safety, retail health care, and global nurse migration. Both a text and a

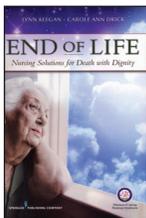
reference, this book in all its editions should be within every nurse's easy reach.

- Is comprehensive and wide ranging.
- Contains threads of advocacy throughout.
- Offers well-written, well-edited, clear, transparent prose with little jargon.

HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE

Chosen by Alma Yearwood Dixon, EdD, MPH, RN, executive director, Health Equity, Odessa Chambliss Wellness Center Bethune-Cookman University, Daytona Beach, FL.

1. End of Life: Nursing Solutions for Death with Dignity By Lynn Keegan and Carole Ann Drick. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.

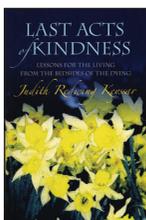


The book reviews the latest information on end-of-life care, beginning with a comprehensive review of causes of death that sets the stage for the need to face its inevitability. The first chapter places death as a part of the life cycle. Subsequent chapters clearly identify the challenges to dying with dignity, including advance directives that aren't honored, clinicians who insist on medical interventions, and families who are unprepared to let go.

Each chapter is beautifully written with descriptive case studies that are both informative and thought provoking. I was constantly challenged to place myself in the position of the dying person in a manner that reminded me of my own mortality.

- Contains beautifully written case studies of patients who are easy to relate to.
- Raises important questions that frame the discussion in the material.
- Presents "The Golden Room" as a nursing solution that can be implemented in many settings with caregivers prepared to be actively present as the dying person transitions from this life.

2. Last Acts of Kindness: Lessons for the Living from the Bedsides of the Dying By Judith Redwing Keyssar. Albion, CA, Transformations-in-Care.

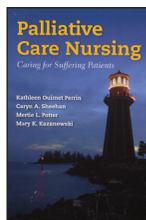


This book contains forceful and heart-rending stories of patients facing the end of life in different settings. It provides clinicians the opportunity to quietly and honestly reflect on the meaning of being present during this time of transition and what it means to be a "midwife to the dying." The essence of the book is stated in the following: "Since dying in hospitals is

still so common in our culture, we must educate hospital staff about compassionate care for each and every dying patient. We must encourage the understanding that the last breaths are as holy as the first ones, and it is an honor to witness them, not a curse."

- Elevates the process of dying to a poetic transition through beautifully written case studies.
- Relates to patients with transparency of emotion.
- Provides detailed stories of patients who died in various settings to illustrate what can be accomplished through compassionate, caring interactions.

3. Palliative Care Nursing: Caring for Suffering Patients By Kathleen Ouimet Perrin, Caryn A. Sheehan, Mertie L. Potter, and Mary K. Kazanowski. Sudbury, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.



This book details the concept of suffering as it relates to nursing practice. Spiritual and ethical issues related to suffering are explored, as is suffering in patients receiving palliative care and those experiencing acute and chronic pain. Case studies are used to define various aspects of suffering throughout the lifespan and in different patient populations. Importantly, this book examines how suffering affects the nurse's ability to

- assume a professional role and provides suggestions about optimizing coping skills to enhance personal growth.
- Explores the depth of suffering of the individual involved as well as the nurse caregiver.
 - Covers key topics such as identification of suffering, coping techniques, and alleviating pain.
 - Enhances the nurse's ability to reflect on case studies through questions at the end of each one.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Chosen by Joyce P. Griffin-Sobel, PhD, RN, CNE, ANEF, professor, School of Nursing, Hunter College, City University of New York, New York City.

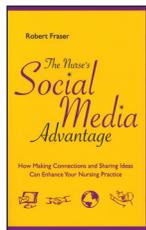
1. Health Technology Literacy: A Transdisciplinary Framework for Consumer-Oriented Practice By Maryalice Jordan-Marsh. Sudbury, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.



This is a very well-written book that will be very helpful to health care professionals as care becomes increasingly dependent on technology. Providers today must understand how to use technology and be able to help patients and consumers do so as well. Chapters include telehealth, health literacy, medical devices, personal health records, and digital games. Privacy issues and security are extensively discussed, along with the ethical implications of technology.

- Describes technologies without excessive use of jargon.
- Provides a visionary perspective on research with health technologies.
- Has a transdisciplinary perspective.

2. The Nurse's Social Media Advantage: How Making Connections and Sharing Ideas Can Enhance Your Nursing Practice By Robert Fraser, Indianapolis, IN, Sigma Theta Tau International.



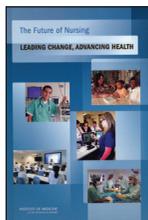
This book provides a short introduction to various uses of social media and advice on managing an online presence. It addresses privacy issues and suggests a number of useful shortcuts and Web sites.

- Describes ways to enhance online productivity.
- Explains social media clearly, including its potential for health care.
- Is a quick read.

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

Chosen by Amanda L. Stefancyk, MSN, MBA, RN, CNML, director, Center for Care Innovation and Transformation, Chicago.

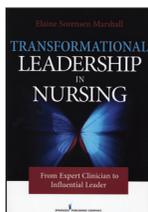
1. **The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health**
By the Committee on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Initiative on the Future of Nursing, at the Institute of Medicine. Washington, DC, National Academies Press.



In this definitive report, the Institute of Medicine assembles a thought-provoking series of discussions and recommendations on nursing's role in meeting the challenges of a transformed health care system. It covers a wide range of topics, including nurse education and training, workforce deployment and care delivery models, and partnerships with policymakers and other health care providers to redesign U.S. health care. Part III of the book, "A Blueprint for Action," is a must-read set of priorities and recommendations for any nursing practice leader or health care policymaker interested in improved, innovative patient care.

- Organization is excellent.
- Provides a tangible blueprint for the future of nursing.
- Offers a timely report supported by data and recommendations for the future.

2. **Transformational Leadership in Nursing: From Expert Clinician to Influential Leader**
By Elaine Sorensen Marshall. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



Elaine Sorensen Marshall shows us how nurse leaders are created, not born. In a straightforward approach, Marshall demonstrates how a nurse leader can become exceptional by applying the habits, characteristics, and practices of transformational leadership to tackle a plethora of modern health care changes, challenges, and complexities. Marshall then expands the book's

framework to explore the need for innovation, entrepreneurialism, and creative thinking in all aspects of health care. These include new delivery models, practice design and management, cultures, team dynamics, and the ever-present financial budgeting and regulatory stresses.

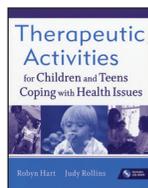
In the end, we may not all achieve a level of transformational leadership that Marshall describes, but every nurse leader can take innumerable ideas and practices from this very readable book.

- A valuable contribution to rethinking nurse leadership.
- Covers an innovative and timely topic.
- Is well organized and easy to read.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Chosen by Patricia Robin McCartney, PhD, RNC, FAAN, director of the Nursing Research and Faculty Georgetown Scholars Program, Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC.

1. **Therapeutic Activities for Children and Teens Coping with Health Issues**
By Robyn Hart and Judy Rollins. Hoboken, NJ, John Wiley and Sons.



What an excellent practice tool for pediatric nurses! I found this collection of therapeutic activities to help children cope with health care experiences to be unique, innovative, and thorough. It begins with the theoretical framework for therapeutic play. Each of the 16 chapters provides current research evidence to support the activities along with guidelines to individualize activities based on developmental level, cultural considerations, physical restrictions, and behavioral or developmental disabilities.

Chapters are organized by important concepts (for example, body image, separation, and desensitization to medical implements) and contain activity goals, clear directions and illustrations, safety precautions, and lists of materials and the time needed for the activity. Activities are appropriate for use in both acute care and community settings. This book is accompanied by a companion disk that contains all of the activities in Word documents, which can be printed and modified. Web sites, references, and even an option for continuing education credit complete the book. Nothing has been overlooked!

- Provides practice activities.
- Incorporates evidence-based activities.
- Makes it possible to individualize activities.

2. **Developmental Care of Newborns and Infants: A Guide for Health Professionals**
Edited by Carole Kenner and Jacqueline M. McGrath. 2nd edition. Glenview, IL, National Association of Neonatal Nurses.



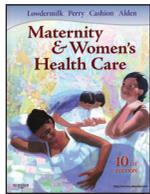
This book truly answers the call for interdisciplinary education and practice in health care. It is the outcome of an ongoing process of interdisciplinary collaborations led by the National Association of Neonatal Nurses (NANN) to provide family-centered developmental care with standardized evidence-based interventions. This second edition

includes 27 chapters contributed by nurses, physicians, psychologists and therapists in roles as educators, researchers, primary providers, advance practice nurses, and staff nurses. The practice recommendations in each chapter align with NANN's four standards for developmental care and are supported by extensive tables that include the level of evidence and relevant studies. A number of chapters illustrate applications of quality improvement models that clinicians can use to change practice. There's even an option for continuing education credit through NANN. It provides a wealth of background physiology, assessment and care guidelines, research, and contributions from experts in the field.

- Created through collaborations led by a professional nursing organization—a model for how nursing organizations can lead.
- Provides evidence-based practice recommendations using a consistent format.
- Fills an important need for a comprehensive source for neonatal ICU developmental care.

3. Maternity and Women's Health Care

By Deitra Leonard Lowdermilk, Shannon E. Perry, Kitty Cashion, and Kathryn Rhodes Alden. 10th edition. St. Louis, Mosby Elsevier.



This popular textbook continues to be an excellent resource for students. The organization is clear and consistent, with illustrations and feature boxes that are informative and comprehensive but not overwhelming. It incorporates contemporary topics such as evidence-based practice, safety, cultural differences, complementary therapy,

and obesity. It provides traditional resources including an extensive Web site, study guides, pocket companions, and multiple electronic instructor resources. It also makes available newer resources such as simulation scenarios and audience-response technology questions.

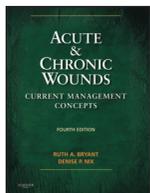
- Is a classic textbook that remains state-of-the-art.
- Contains essential information yet stays within a manageable size.
- Makes available a companion paper and electronic resources.

MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSING

Chosen by Monica Staples, MSN, RN, clinical nurse specialist, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston.

1. Acute and Chronic Wounds: Current Management Concepts

Edited by Ruth A. Bryant and Denise P. Nix. 4th edition. St. Louis, Mosby Elsevier.



This comprehensive guide to wound care outlines the process of conducting a careful assessment and provides treatment guidelines that are detailed enough for even the novice clinician. It's also an excellent resource for the experienced practitioner, providing discussions about topics as timely as reimbursement issues for hospital-acquired pressure ulcers. This book has a permanent place on my desk and I have found myself using it on a daily basis. Pictures are clearly representative of the different disease processes linked to wound care. It's also an excellent reference for those studying for the WOCN examination.

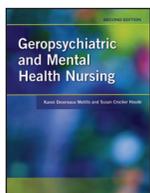
- Provides thorough assessment guidelines.
- Offers thoughtful discussions about treatment modalities.
- Uses relevant pictures as examples.

MENTAL HEALTH

Chosen by Lauren Tavolaro-Ryley, MSN, RN, CS, associate professor of nursing, Community College of Philadelphia.

1. Geropsychiatric and Mental Health Nursing

Edited by Karen Devereaux Melillo and Susan Crocker Houde. 2nd edition. Sudbury, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.



While geriatric nursing remains a specialty, older adults have an increased presence in all aspects of nursing care. In addition, mental health issues are hardly confined to psychiatric units. *Geropsychiatric and Mental Health Nursing* addresses issues ranging from adjustment to developmental challenges to cognitive concerns to grief and loss.

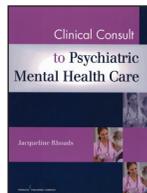
It does so succinctly, in a manner pertinent to a wide range

of nursing professionals. Additionally, it covers the atypical presentation of symptoms often seen in older adults; this information is essential to provide optimum care. Interventions specific to the care of this vulnerable population are superbly executed. It's a must-have for all nurses caring for older adults.

- Includes case studies that present issues pertinent to older adults, and questions that prompt critical reflection.
- Highlights well-written, applicable screening tools, assessment measures, and medication considerations for older adults.
- Provides an appendix of geriatric psychiatric competencies for entry level and advanced practice practitioners.

2. Clinical Consult to Psychiatric Mental Health Care

By Jacqueline Rhoads. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



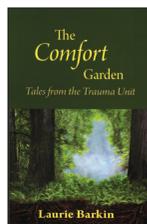
Psychiatric issues are present in many hospitalized patients and outpatients. While these issues may not be the patients' presenting complaint, they may complicate care. *Clinical Consult to Psychiatric Mental Health Care* is an excellent resource for practitioners faced with clients exhibiting psychiatric symptoms. It's easy to read, organized in a style similar to the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. Clear and concise, the illustrations of symptoms, demographics, diagnostic workup, and differential diagnosis are bulleted and prioritized.

Proposes efficacious interventions and addresses risks and benefits of treatment.

- Provides additional resources at the end of each chapter, including evidence-based references and online resources.
- Includes issues specific to particular diagnoses, such as prioritized patient education goals and possible medical and legal pitfalls.

3. The Comfort Garden: Tales from the Trauma Unit

By Laurie Barkin, San Francisco, Fresh Pond Press.



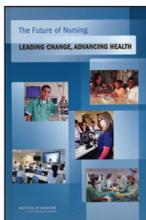
The Comfort Garden brings to life the poignant nurse-patient relationship. In a heartfelt and personal style, it articulates the complications in the daily life of a nurse and the issues that evolve with patient care. Out of need for survival, nurses are often unable to process their experiences and thoughts. Tragedy can become part of a normal routine. But for their own well-being, it's imperative that nurses process such thoughts. Laurie Barkin sets the standard for therapeutic processing of nurse-patient interactions. This book will enable health care professionals to begin breaking down barriers and shining a light on the core aspects of a caring relationship.

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NURSING EDUCATION

Chosen by Thomasine D. Guberski, PhD, CRNP, associate professor, University of Maryland School of Nursing, Baltimore.

1. The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health *By the Committee on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Initiative on the Future of Nursing at the Institute of Medicine. Washington, DC, National Academies Press.*



The nursing profession is at a crossroads. Health insurance reform has arrived, health care reform is being discussed, but, as the largest health care profession, where is nursing's input?

Discussion abounds, but there has not been much action to transform nursing or to take advantage of opportunities to implement its role in the health care system of the

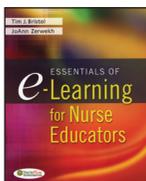
future. This publication provides four key messages: transform practice, education, leadership, and improve nursing workforce data. Each of these messages is accompanied by specific recommendations for action to ensure that nursing assumes a collaborative, full leadership position and partnership with others. Selected case studies illustrate how transformation has begun.

A blueprint to transform practice is also included. It can be implemented in nurse education, inspiring students to become activists for nursing at the local, state, and federal levels. I believe the section on transforming leadership is the biggest contribution of this report. Specific actions are recommended for nursing leaders to realize the vision for the transformed nursing profession. We need to hold nursing leaders and ourselves accountable to implement our vision of nursing in the 21st century. This publication is an action plan to do that.

- Remains focused by exploring only four key messages.
- Offers a reasonable number of recommendations and specific actions for each key message.
- Illustrates how practice, education, and leadership are being transformed.

2. Essentials of e-Learning for Nurse Educators

By Tim J. Bristol and JoAnn Zerwekh. Philadelphia, FA, Davis Company.



Are your students asking you to present course information via podcast? Do you think "second life" is something you will have after retirement? Increasing numbers of students are proficient in using technology for learning and for social networking. How can we use technology to teach and help them learn nursing? This publication

provides many suggestions on how faculty can use e-learning effectively and efficiently.

The authors address how to create an optimal learning environment for interactive education, not only for didactic content but to enhance clinical learning for students and practicing nurses. They address all varieties of e-learning from Web-supported, traditional classroom teaching to full Web-based learning. The chapters on building community—especially important when you may not see each other face to face—are very helpful.

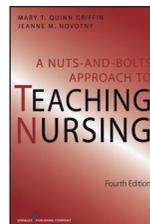
Each chapter contains plenty of resources, including online learning activities. Ideas for evaluation are also included. In addition to the textbook, online resources such as a concept map generator and case studies are available from

the publisher's Web site. This book will help you incorporate technology into your teaching and take advantage of your students' technological savvy.

- Provides access to online resources.
- Uses evidence-based practice for teaching and learning.
- Offers practical technology tips.

3. A Nuts-and-Bolts Approach to Teaching Nursing

By Mary T. Quinn Griffin and Jeanne M. Novotny. 4th edition. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



This very practical book is a survival guide for new faculty and those engaged in curriculum or course revision. Although focused on the needs of nurses relatively new to teaching, this publication deals with issues facing nurses at all levels of education in a variety of nursing programs. It begins with valuable practical information about clinical teaching. This could easily be shared

with preceptors as well as clinical instructors, allowing faculty to focus on challenges to clinical teaching. Practical, easy-to-implement suggestions for using a variety of teaching methods in didactic and other kinds of classroom teaching are abundant.

Both experienced and novice faculty will benefit from the reading assignment section, as well as the one on designing and grading assignments. To make evaluating student assignments easier, grading rubrics, checklists, and evaluation forms are provided; these can be used "as is" or as the basis for individual development. I found two evaluation forms extremely helpful: the textbook selection form (which can be used to standardize evaluation by all faculty teaching a course) and the software evaluation form (which will help me ask appropriate questions in evaluating the myriad software programs available to enhance student learning). In addition, each chapter follows the same format, which facilitates looking back to find answers to questions raised as new material is presented. A link to online resources available on the publisher's Web site is provided.

- Presents practical, useful, clear information.
- Offers a variety of useful, relevant grading rubrics, checklists, and evaluation forms.
- Covers a wide range of pertinent topics for educators at all levels of experience.

NURSING RESEARCH

Chosen by Sean Clarke, PhD, RN, FAAN, Royal Bank of Canada chair in cardiovascular nursing research, University of Toronto and University Health Network, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

1. Nursing Research: Generating and Assessing Evidence for Nursing Practice

By Denise F. Polit and Cheryl Tatano Beck. 9th edition. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.



This classic research text shows the benefit of sustained refinements over time. Excellent in its earlier incarnations, the authors have kept it fresh, relevant, and useful through a willingness to strengthen presentations using reader feedback and by keeping a close eye on research trends. For example, this edition contains sections on mixed-methods research and its application to complex interventions—a topic not widely discussed when earlier

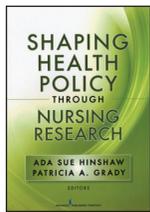
editions of the book were published, but definitely part of the dialogue today.

The comprehensiveness of the coverage, the handling of advanced concepts, and the dual emphasis on conducting as well as critiquing research would all suggest use in graduate courses; however, this text is accessible to nearly any nurse reader. The presentation is clear, with useful diagrams and checklists, tips, and examples. Current high-quality references from the methodological literature are threaded throughout the text. I would recommend this book to anyone in the profession expecting any kind of sustained involvement in research. I would especially recommend it to established researchers and teachers of research methods and evidence-based practice—they will find it a meticulously prepared, well-written, and up-to-date discussion of the state-of-the-art in nursing research across a variety of methodological traditions.

- Is smoothly written, clearly laid out, attractively presented, and useful for many audiences.
- Is comprehensive and respectful of the diversity of current methodologies.
- Integrates advanced research content in current high-interest areas.

2. Shaping Health Policy Through Nursing Research

Edited by Ada Sue Hinshaw and Patricia A. Grady. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



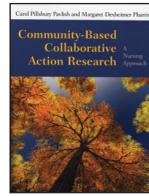
This volume includes chapters dealing with the translation of nursing research into practice; local, regional, and national health policy; and a discussion of specific high-impact programs of research (including a number of programs funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research [NINR] at the National Institutes of Health). The emphasis on research as a vehicle for achieving nursing's social mission is anchored by excellent introductory chapters discussing the characteristics of both research studies and policy landscapes that favor effective translation of findings.

This book, coedited by a past and a current NINR director, deserves a number of different audiences. The early as well as the later researcher-authored chapters are likely to be inspirational to graduate students and early-career researchers. Indeed, “younger” researchers who aspire to high-impact research careers ought to consider the book required reading. As the title of the book indicates, it would make good reading for all nurses interested in health policy and would serve as a wonderful graduate-level text. It will promote reflection by more established investigators about shaping research studies and programs. It should also find a readership among nurse leaders and scholars tracking the development of the profession and the discipline; they will find much food for thought regarding possible directions for research.

- Provides numerous richly detailed examples of how research translates into policy, including firsthand accounts from accomplished researchers.
- Covers research programs that address a wide range of subject matter.
- Focuses on “lessons learned” that will be helpful to both researchers and leaders at multiple levels in the profession.

3. Community-Based Collaborative Action Research: A Nursing Approach

By Carol Pillsbury Paulish and Margaret Dexheimer Pharris. Sudbury, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.



Community-based collaborative action research (CBCAR) has emerged as a dynamic and culturally appropriate approach to developing and implementing programs for a variety of settings and populations. More a range of methods drawing heavily from the qualitative research tradition than a specific data collection technique, CBCAR has gained well-deserved popularity and respect but is still unfamiliar to many nurses, particularly those who were educated in earlier research methods. This well-written, carefully referenced volume provides clear arguments for the legitimacy and rigor of CBCAR, and amply demonstrates its usefulness for nursing. More importantly, however, it provides a comprehensive guide to conducting CBCAR research and puts a wide-ranging and practical treatment of many aspects of study planning and data collection and analysis in the hands of graduate students, clinicians, and researchers. (It even includes a handy guide for developing funding proposals.) The authors' examples are drawn from the community health tradition, but the principles described have wide applicability to the full range of health care settings.

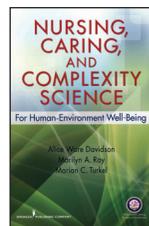
- Provides comprehensive coverage of an increasingly popular but perhaps less well-understood research tradition.
- Offers “one-stop shopping” for readers wanting to think through implementing their own study.
- Is an engaging, easy-to-read, yet scholarly presentation, clearly infused with the personalities of the authors.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ISSUES

Chosen by Pamela J. Haylock, PhD, RN, FAAN, chief executive officer, Association for Vascular Access, Herriman, UT.

1. Nursing, Caring, and Complexity Science: For Human-Environment Well-Being

Edited by Alice Ware Davidson, Marilyn A. Ray, and Marian C. Turkel. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.

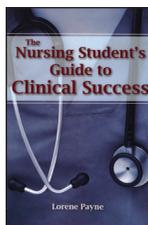


Purported to be a “first of its kind,” this book offers an introduction to complexity science as it relates to professional nursing. It integrates the concept of complex systems with current and future populations and settings; it also frames this concept within the context of professional nursing, chronic health conditions, and health care organizations. It can help nursing students understand what their professional futures hold. Practicing nurses who read this book will gain a better understanding of the health care environment and the ability to identify effective practice applications of complexity science.

- Reinforces caring as the central construct of nursing.
- Applies complicated concepts to current and anticipated real-world situations.
- Provides an excellent and logical integration of theory, health, and nursing science.

2. The Nursing Student's Guide to Clinical Success

By Lorene Payne, Sudbury, MA, Jones and Bartlett Publishers.

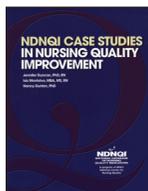


This book gives nursing students advice about making the best of their student experience. I especially like the insight about the expectations of nursing school faculty, clinical instructors, and nursing staff in clinical areas. I haven't seen such information in print before. Many of the suggestions offered may help prevent, or at least minimize, the culture shock that new graduates experience. For example, I especially like the commonsense suggestions—such as “knocking on the patient's door before entering,” “using patients' last names and titles,” and making introductions to patients—which are among the time-honored professional manners that have seemingly slipped over time.

- Provides concrete suggestions for applying knowledge to clinical situations.
- Helps students feel more in control of their clinical experiences.
- Offers students guidance on end-of-shift reporting, documentation and charting, and performing basic skills.

3. NDNQI Case Studies in Nursing Quality Improvement

By Jennifer Duncan, Isis Montalvo, and Nancy Dunton.
Silver Spring, MD, Nursesbooks.org



Nurses are increasingly held responsible for patient outcomes, particularly those that are clearly nurse sensitive. Nevertheless, step-by-step directions for nurse-initiated quality improvement (QI) processes haven't been readily available outside of institution-based programs. As a result, they remain mysterious to many clinicians. This book demystifies these processes by offering real-world examples of QI initiatives for some of the most common clinical dilemmas, including falls, pain assessment, hospital-acquired catheter-related urinary tract infection, central catheter-related bloodstream infections, and pressure ulcers. This book can help clinicians fully participate in QI initiatives.

- Includes step-by-step description of nursing QI processes that any nurse can follow.
- Offers a concise description of real QI initiatives for common quality-associated dilemmas from a variety of clinical settings.
- Provides a variety of online and written QI resources.

PUBLIC INTEREST AND CREATIVE WORKS

Karen Roush, MSN, RN, FNP-BC, *AJN* clinical managing editor, New York City, the judge for this category, selected no winners this year. ▼