

BOOK of the YEAR AWARDS 2008

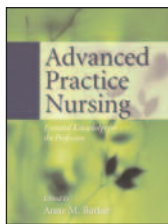
The most valuable texts of 2008, as chosen by AJN's panel of judges.

ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING

Chosen by V. Jude Forbes, MSN, RN-BC, FNP-C, family NP, Correctional Managed Care, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX.

1. Advanced Practice Nursing: Essential Knowledge for the Profession

Edited by Anne M. Barker. Sudbury, MA, Jones and Bartlett Publishers.

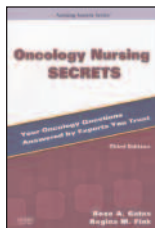


Barker challenges the reader with a provocative discussion of the future of the advanced practice nurse, from the mutability of clinical responsibilities, to determining minimum expectations for educational preparation, role identification, and driving public policy. Barker judiciously uses illustrations, tools, and charts. This is a must-have for APNs.

- Loved "Introduction to Ethics"—fun; Pozgar and Twomey included an assortment of atypical references that at times made me literally nod my head and at others, smile; often a sign of good writing is when the reader is exposed to a new source and is motivated to find more
- Good use of fonts, tables, and other formatting tools for ease of use
- The sections on public policy should be mandatory reading; these include not only Milstead's chapter on "Advanced Practice Nurses and Public Policy, Naturally," but also the 10-page chapter by Catherine Dodd on "Making the Political Process Work"; Dodd's chapter is a primer for empowering one voice in order to empower many voices

2. Oncology Nursing Secrets

By Rose A. Gates and Regina M. Fink. 3rd edition. St. Louis, Mosby Elsevier.



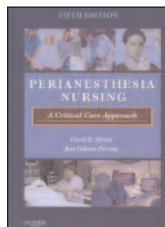
Gates and Fink provide a succinct but unadulterated update on the latest in the treatment of people with oncologic disorders, including specialty sections on topics like emergencies, pregnancy, caregiver burden, and end-of-life decisions. Though simple to read, the information is just as meaningful to the nurse specializing in oncology as to nonspecialist nurses. It is

a true feat to convey so much information so readily to a potentially broad audience and still retain relevance.

- TOP SECRET section: a three-page bulleted list of basic important cancer facts such as the most common reactions one should expect when a patient has a certain type of cancer and brief statements regarding the rapidly increasing use of nanotechnology, as well as biologic and targeted therapy agents
- Chapters 4 and 5 progressively build on the simplest questions (what are radiation and chemotherapy?) and gently lead readers to more complex issues, such as molecular therapy, DNA repair, nanotechnology, or angiogenesis inhibition; this inspires confidence in providers who may not specialize in oncology
- Although prevention, identification, and treatment of cancer are often "pathology heavy," Gates and Fink also consider less empirical realms such as complementary and alternative treatments along with the role of spirituality, cultural inclusion, and family supports

3. Perianesthesia Nursing: A Critical Care Approach

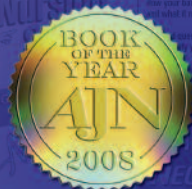
By Cecil B. Drain and Jan Odom-Forren. 5th edition. St. Louis, Saunders Elsevier.



In this continually morphing health care arena, there is greater emphasis than ever on postanesthesia care unit fast tracking. In the latest edition of *Perianesthesia Nursing*, Drain and Odom-Forren describe the latest in policy and practice issues as well as legal and bioethical challenges affecting the realm of perianesthesia. Feature sections on specialized clinical situations, such as

malignant hyperthermia, addiction, and even bioterrorism preparedness, round out this impressive book.

- Remarkably detailed yet concise and reader-friendly pathophysiology and pharmacology sections
- Great preparation tool for certification or review
- Excellent use of formatting, chapter delineation, and illustrations to present difficult information



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COMMUNITY-PUBLIC HEALTH

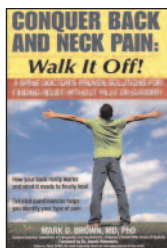
Barbara Glickstein, MPH, MS, RN, an independent broadcast journalist in New York City, the judge for this category, selected no winners this year.

CONSUMER HEALTH

Chosen by Pamela J. Haylock, PhD, RN, cancer care consultant, Medina, TX.

1. Conquer Back and Neck Pain: Walk It Off!

By Mark D. Brown. North Branch, MN, Sunrise River Press.



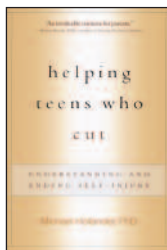
In the United States, neck and back pain account for many days lost from work, causing direct and indirect costs of an estimated \$800 million per year, and surgery can initiate a downward spiral to increased pain and disability. The surgeon-author thoroughly explains nonsurgical and surgical treatment of acute, subacute, and chronic back problems, all in nontechnical language, with an extensive simple

glossary. Common questions are addressed, including what to avoid, appropriate exercise, and sex and back pain.

- Reading level is appropriate for target audience
- Addresses common, serious, and potentially disabling problems
- Describes self-care as well as how to choose and use various health care providers

2. Helping Teens Who Cut: Understanding and Ending Self-Injury

By Michael Hollander. New York City, Guilford Press.



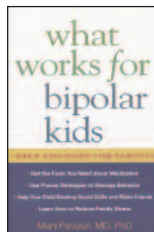
Teens' use of cutting and other forms of self-injury often go unrecognized and are poorly understood by professionals, parents, and teens themselves. This sympathetic, honest, and realistic book helps readers understand self-injury and application of dialectical behavioral therapy to address this problem quickly and effectively. Related topics include suggestions for finding and selecting a therapist

and treatment center, insurance coverage, discussion of how parents (divorced and single parents too) and siblings are affected and can be supported, and ways to approach school-related issues.

- Brings to light and explains a serious and potentially devastating problem affecting the quality of life of teens and their parents
- Uses case examples with which parents might identify, enhancing the likelihood of discovering the existence of this behavior and helping parents address it quickly and effectively
- The expertise and experience of the author is apparent, and suggested interventions seem reasonable for families to use

3. What Works for Bipolar Kids: Help and Hope for Parents

By Mani Pavuluri. New York City, Guilford Press.



Having a bipolar child can tear families apart and make parents question their parenting abilities. I found this book to offer a hopeful perspective and real guidance and help for parents and children, including discussions of managing a bipolar child's behavior, understanding commonly used medications and therapies, reducing family stress, dealing with

insurance issues, and helping the child develop coping and social skills.

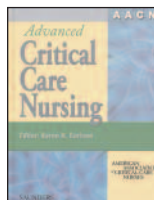
- Optimistic, evidence-based therapeutic approach
- Contains the practical and how-to information I would want to know if I were in this situation
- Writing style makes me imagine that I am sitting in Dr. Pavuluri's office talking with her about my child's diagnosis

CRITICAL CARE-EMERGENCY NURSING

Chosen by Polly Gerber Zimmermann, MS, MBA, RN, CEN, FAEN, assistant professor, Harry S. Truman College, Chicago.

1. AACN Advanced Critical Care Nursing

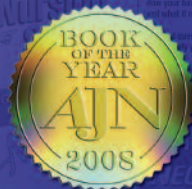
Edited by Karen K. Carlson. St. Louis, Saunders Elsevier.



The latest and greatest from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) is now readily available. The writing makes complex topics easy to understand and I frequently refer to the book. Accompanying resources available through the Web include animations, heart and lung

sounds, and selected AACN procedures. I predict this will become a standard textbook for critical care courses and a valued reference for the critically thinking practicing nurse.

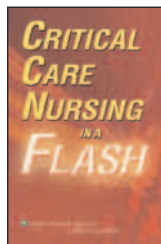
- Current, up-to-date information, including research and evidence-based information
- Good quality and helpful illustrations
- Good depth of content, such as improving outcomes through prophylaxis, symptom management, and environmental issues



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2. Critical Care Nursing in a Flash

Ambler, PA, Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.

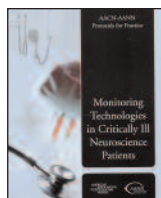


This latest “brains in the pocket” portable reference should win the best-of-breed award. Tabbed, with alerts and snapshots, it makes information easy to find, including critical lab values, 50 common critical care drugs, conversion charts, and monitor lead placement. I use it in my role as an assistant professor and I recommend it as mandatory for any nurse who is new to critical care nursing.

- Inclusive: the basics and beyond
- Convenient, one-stop reference
- Helpful essential illustrations

3. AACN–AANN Protocols for Practice: Monitoring Technologies in Critically Ill Neuroscience Patients

Edited by Linda R. Littlejohns and Mary Kay Bader. Sudbury, MA, Jones and Bartlett Publishers.



Once again, the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, with the American Association of Neuroscience Nurses, has helped nursing take a step toward having universal, evidence-based practice protocols for the bedside nurse. This book disseminates the latest patient care research findings in a format that

is easy to understand and integrate into clinical practice. It should be a mandatory reference on every appropriate unit.

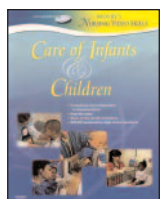
- Evidence based
- Best practices easy to implement
- Easy-to-use format

ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Chosen by Lissi Hansen, PhD, RN, assistant professor, Oregon Health and Science University, Portland.

1. Mosby's Nursing Video Skills: Care of Infants and Children

St. Louis, Mosby Elsevier.



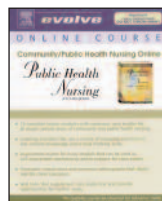
This excellent DVD features nursing procedures commonly used when caring for pediatric patients. The DVD is accommodating to both the visual and auditory learner and is easy to use and navigate.

This DVD includes procedures from preparation to documentation, to follow-up care, including step-by-step procedure checklists that can be printed for quick reference

- Detailed and easy-to-follow real-life video clips
- National Council Licensure Examination–style review questions

2. Community/Public Health Nursing Online for Stanhope and Lancaster, Public Health Nursing: Population-Centered Health Care in the Community

By Penny Leake. 7th edition. St. Louis, Mosby Elsevier.



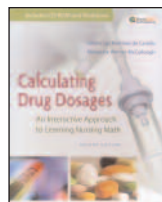
This innovative online course, which supplements a textbook by Stanhope and Lancaster, provides essential information on community–public health nursing. The easy-to-grasp content includes virtual tours and numerous photographs, and the course encourages applying the content to one’s own world. Interactive case

studies and learning activities challenge one to think critically and pay attention to the major concepts presented.

- Comprehensive with a variety of real-life scenarios covering the lifespan
- Engaging learning activities and quizzes that apply to and test content
- Numerous Web links providing more information for further study
- Various dates in early 2008 for different formats

3. Calculating Drug Dosages: An Interactive Approach to Learning Nursing Math

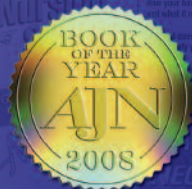
By Sandra Luz Martinez de Castillo and Maryanne Werner-McCullough. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.



This DVD provides an interactive approach to learning basic drug dosage calculations. Each section in each short, easily navigated module has clear and detailed objectives and a series of practice problems to help the student apply the content. The DVD comes with a specific test module to help students become familiar

with and practice National Council Licensure Examination questions.

- Simple, user-friendly DVD format, with varied, detailed content
- Interactive learning activities, including the module tests
- Excellent student workbook with extra practice questions and Focus on Safety exercises



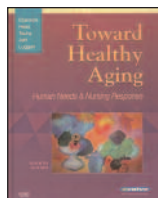
BOOK of the YEAR AWARDS 2008

GERONTOLOGIC NURSING

Chosen by Mary H. Palmer, PhD, RN-BC, FAAN, professor, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

1. Toward Healthy Aging: Human Needs and Nursing Response

By Priscilla Ebersole, Patricia Hess, Theris A. Touhy, Kathleen Jett, and Ann Schmidt Luggen. 7th edition. St. Louis, Mosby Elsevier.



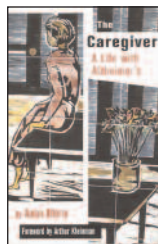
Twenty-seven years after its first edition, this still-pertinent book provides a comprehensive overview that includes the history of gerontologic nursing in the United States. Retaining the original theoretical underpinnings, this seventh edition addresses foundations of healthy aging with a clear discussion of current aging theories

and environmental, economic, and legal concerns. Each chapter includes learning objectives, key concepts, and a case study with critical thinking questions.

- Comprehensive table of contents
- Includes assessment tools, links to guidelines
- Attractive layout: graphics, photos, and case studies

2. The Caregiver: A Life with Alzheimer's

By Aaron Alterra. Ithaca, NY, ILR Press.



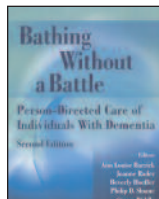
Aaron Alterra (a.k.a. E.S. Goldman) recounts the journey he and his wife took from her diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease to her death. Every caregiver should read this timeless book, a story of love, human connection, and compassion. This book serves as a poignant reminder to formal caregivers that behind inexplicable behavior, vacant stares, and long naps is a rich human story such as the life

of the doting mother, loving wife, and accomplished artist Alterra describes.

- Beautifully written testimony of a spouse caregiver
- Honest and straightforward writing style
- "It plays on a different reed"—Alterra uses this metaphor compellingly when describing the maintenance and nourishment of human connection

3. Bathing Without a Battle: Person-Directed Care of Individuals with Dementia

Edited by Ann Louise Barrick, Joanne Rader, Beverly Hoeffer, Philip D. Sloane, and Stacey Biddle. 2nd edition. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



Note: two authors of this book are former or current faculty at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. This straightforward, practical book is based on research from federally funded studies and written with evident compassion for people affected by dementia. Two of the authors (Rader and Barrick) worked

with nursing assistants to "learn how to increase pleasure and how to decrease distress for residents."

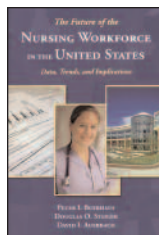
- Focus on the person was paramount; patient needs were placed above facility needs, such as a wife being invited to shower with her husband
- Changing nurses' role from "knowing best" to being supportive and fostering person-directed care
- Instructive illustrations and photographs show "how to" and types of shower and bath accessories
- Fascinating chapter on the history of bathing

HEALTH POLICY

Chosen by Joyce Pulcini, PhD, PNP-BC, FAAN, FANP, associate professor, Boston College Connell School of Nursing, Chestnut Hill, MA.

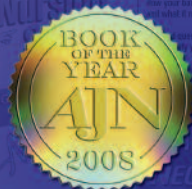
1. The Future of the Nursing Workforce in the United States: Data, Trends, and Implications

By Peter I. Buerhaus, Douglas O. Staiger, and David I. Auerbach. Sudbury, MA, Jones and Bartlett Publishers.



This is the definitive book on nursing workforce issues. The authors evaluate the nursing shortage and supply and demand of these health care workers, using up-to-date information, and set the stage for workforce analyses. This is an important book brings together the knowledge these well-known authors have compiled over years of publishing in peer-reviewed journals.

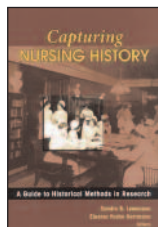
- Definitive work on nursing workforce
- The authors—nurses and economists who have published extensively—are the experts on this issue
- Compiles the relevant information on workforce issues in nursing



BOOK of the YEAR AWARDS 2008

2. Capturing Nursing History: A Guide to Historical Methods in Research

Edited by Sandra B. Lewenson and Eleanor Krohn Hermann. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



This book is an excellent text on historical research in nursing. It is a well-written and comprehensive text that covers all aspects of historical research. The methods sections are particularly helpful and guide the reader in the conduct of this important type of nursing research.

- Well-written, comprehensive text on historical research

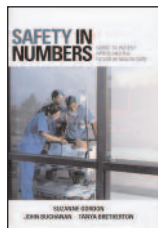
- Covers all aspects of historical research, from ethical issues to funding
- Excellent methodological issues section

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

Chosen by Jo Manion, PhD, RN, CNAA, FAAN, founder and senior consultant, Manion and Associates, Oviedo, FL.

1. Safety in Numbers: Nurse-to-Patient Ratios and the Future of Health Care

By Suzanne Gordon, John Buchanan, and Tanya Bretherton. Ithaca, NY, ILR Press.

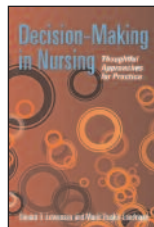


Whether or not you agree with mandated staffing ratios, this must-read book will help any nurse leader understand the issue more fully and will serve as validation for improving nurse staffing levels in health care organizations. The authors make the case for adequate nurse staffing ratios, but don't necessarily differentiate these from governmentally mandated ratios. The final chapter explores some arguments against mandated staffing ratios. At the heart of the issue is a philosophical difference between those who believe ratios should be mandated by law and those who prefer they be decided by practice.

- Great, easy-to-read journalistic style that flows well and moves quickly
- Thorough descriptions of historical events and precedents leading to the call for regulations mandating nurse-patient ratios and of current research linking patient and nurse safety and satisfaction to nurse-patient staffing levels
- Presentation of the Californian and Australian experiences with mandated nurse-patient staffing ratios

2. Decision-Making in Nursing: Thoughtful Approaches for Practice

By Sandra B. Lewenson and Marie Truglio-Londrigan. Sudbury, MA, Jones and Bartlett Publishers.



This is one of the first books to examine nurses' decision making, and it provides an invaluable contribution to our understanding. It explores the evidence that enables nurses to be reflective, critical, flexible, and more comfortable with the many decisions they make on a daily basis. Each chapter focuses on a specific approach used in decision

making, using a reflective, multidimensional style. The effects of self-reflection, history, legal and ethical factors, spirituality, culture, family, media, group, evidence-based practice, economics, and health policy on nurses' decision-making are all explored.

- Exploration of the depth and variety of factors that affect decision making
- Case studies help the reader see the application of each chapter's concepts
- Concepts are applicable to decision making at all levels, from individual decisions in day-to-day practice to larger issues shaping politics and policy

2. Healing with Heart: Inspirations for Health Care Professionals

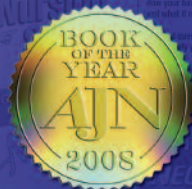
By Martin Helldorfer and Terri Moss. Orinda, CA, Moss Communications.



This wonderful book is full of inspirational messages and affirmations for health care professionals. Dr. Helldorfer is a hospital executive with psychology training and background as a de la Salle monk. Each beautifully written message is based on his reflections and experiences. These short essays reconnect us with the deep-felt purpose of our work and remind us of its

sacredness and the tremendous gift our work is for those who receive our caring, as well as for the professionals delivering the care. I love this book!

- Profound messages applicable to the daily work life of every health care professional: best read in short spurts to allow the messages to really sink in
- Sincerity, authenticity, and simplicity, challenging readers to reflect on their own practice and aspire to even stronger commitment and performance
- This book nourishes the soul, especially for health care professionals such as leaders and managers who are more removed from direct patient care.



BOOK of the YEAR AWARDS 2008

3. Patient Safety and Quality: An Evidence-Based Handbook for Nurses

Edited by Ronda G. Hughes. Rockville, MD, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Free download or ordering information available at www.ahrq.gov/qual/nursesfdbk.



This three-volume set is a phenomenal resource for nurses that examines a broad range of issues involved in providing high-quality, safe care in all health care settings. Each of the 51 chapters contains a background section and analysis of the literature. Each chapter shows how evidence can inform practice changes and outlines research gaps that researchers can target and that clinicians can use to inform and guide practice decisions.

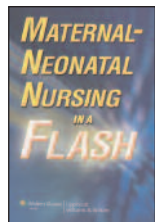
- Addresses critical issues for delivery of optimal health care
- Thorough presentation gives a wealth of information on every aspect of patient safety and quality improvement
- Exceptional, high-quality contributions and current information

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Chosen by Margaret Comerford Freda, EdD, RN, CHES, FAAN, professor of clinical obstetrics and gynecology and women's health, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY.

1. Maternal-Neonatal Nursing in a Flash

Ambler, PA, Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.



Because new graduates today may complete their nursing programs in one year or even less, they need complete information at their fingertips while caring for maternal-neonatal patients. This material is often truncated in nursing programs, so new nurses face caring for patients whose complications they know little about. How wonderful for them to

have this very small, yet very thorough book that outlines all the well care and the complicated care for this population! Its use for quick referencing at the bedside makes this an important book.

- Thorough, containing most topics in the field that a staff nurse will encounter in a typical month
- Compact and will fit in the pocket of scrubs or a lab coat
- Especially for new nurses, it will answer questions in an easy-to-access manner, giving enough information to help nurses provide safer care

2. Wong's Clinical Manual of Pediatric Nursing

By David Wilson and Marilyn J. Hockenberry. 7th edition. St. Louis, Mosby Elsevier.

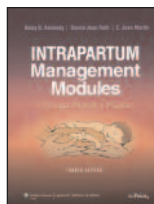


Every pediatric nurse should have this easy-to-read, comprehensive clinical manual on her or his desk at work. Excellent charts and graphs on the inside covers provide the conversions that are so often needed when caring for infants and children (pounds-kilograms, normal vital signs by age, Fahrenheit-centigrade, and more). Other wonderful items in this soft-cover book are the patient-family teaching guides and the assessment tools for both well and sick children.

- Evidence-based practice documented throughout the book
- Emphasis on safety precautions for pediatric care
- Thorough coverage of care for both the well child and the sick child

3. Intrapartum Management Modules: A Perinatal Education Program

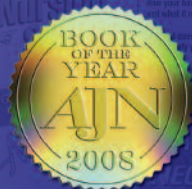
Edited by Betsy B. Kennedy, Donna Jean Ruth, and E. Jean Martin. 4th edition. Philadelphia, Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.



This soft-cover book would be excellent for a comprehensive orientation program for new intrapartum nurses, or for preparing seasoned nurses for certification. The topic of nursing care of women during labor has received far too little attention in the nursing literature.

These modules provide nurses who choose this specialty with the most up-to-date information, all in one convenient book.

- Intense focus on care during labor
- Individual modules with test questions
- Discussion of ethical as well as clinical issues in intrapartum care



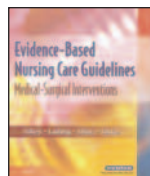
BOOK of the YEAR AWARDS 2008

MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSING

Chosen by Linda Honan Pellico, PhD, APRN, assistant professor, Yale University School of Nursing, New Haven, CT.

1. Evidence-Based Nursing Care Guidelines: Medical-Surgical Interventions

By Betty J. Ackley, Gail B. Ladwig, Beth Ann Swan, and Sharon J. Tucker. St. Louis, Mosby Elsevier.



How many times in practice do we find ourselves wondering whether an intervention is research-based or simply performed because “that’s the way we do things here”? Well, nurses in practice, administration, and academia can turn to this resource that details whether common

interventions have been deemed to be “effective,” “possibly effective,” “not effective,” or even “harmful.” This is a must-have resource for those in practice and academia who are concerned about providing high-quality care as well as a fabulous source of dissertation topics for those entering doctoral studies.

- Depth and breadth of 192 commonly performed nursing interventions
- Concise summary of research findings for the interventions
- Extensive list of references for each intervention

2. Medical-Surgical Nursing: Clinical Management for Positive Outcomes

By Joyce M. Black and Jane Hokanson Hawks. 8th edition. St. Louis, Saunders Elsevier.



I believe every nurse, regardless of her or his practice arena, needs a medical-surgical book, and this just may be the one to own. I appreciate that the text doesn’t overwhelm the reader with numerous care plans and superfluous content. This new edition is streamlined in content, and sprinkled with concise

algorithms and icons that alert the reader to crucial information. Although this medical-surgical text is still dense, it is worth the effort to haul this one home.

- Depth and breadth of text, laid out in a format that ranges from simple to complex, widespread disorders to singular
- Graphics and illustrations that don’t overwhelm the reader, but rather inform and highlight salient information about pathophysiology
- Extensive ancillary package for instructors and students

3. Patient Safety and Quality: An Evidence-Based Handbook for Nurses

Edited by Ronda G. Hughes. Rockville, MD, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Free download or ordering information available at www.abrq.gov/qual/nursesdbbk.



Rarely does a book traverse the divide of novice and expert, clinician and researcher, but this selection does so with clarity and meticulous, thoughtful analysis. The list of authors reads like a who’s who in nursing across six broad categories of practice. From pressure ulcers to burnout, medication reconciliation to care models, the editor has created a resource that proclaims nursing’s vital role in improving the safety and quality of patient care.

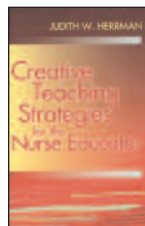
- After a thorough literature review, the authors provide practice implications for clinicians to use as a guide to clinical decision making and improving the delivery of care
- Research implications identify gaps in our current understanding across a variety of topics
- Broad range of authors who are experts in the field and who provide evidence-based practice recommendations

NURSING EDUCATION

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

1. Creative Teaching Strategies for the Nurse Educator

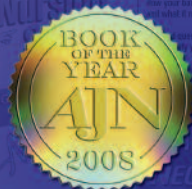
By Judith W. Herrman. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.



Rarely are books written for experienced nurse educators; Herrman’s book, even rarer, adds new strategies to a well-filled “bag of tricks” for teachers. The short quotations introducing each section in the table of contents caught my eye and made me want to read further. I have been an educator for more years than I care to remember, but in each

chapter I found several unique ideas to incorporate into my teaching. Suggestions about adapting the ideas to your own style and circumstances are also helpful.

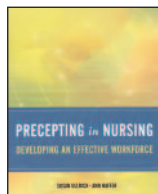
- Geared toward the experienced educator who is ready to incorporate a variety of creative teaching strategies, especially to different levels of learners
- The ideas presented made me want to try them in the classroom, and the details provided made me feel that I would be successful
- Annotated bibliography: a great time-saver when looking for additional resources



BOOK of the YEAR AWARDS 2008

2. Precepting in Nursing: Developing an Effective Workforce

By Susan Ullrich and Ann Haffer. Sudbury, MA, Jones and Bartlett Publishers.

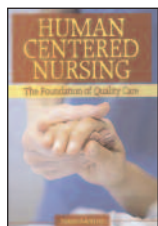


The questions “How do I get preceptors?” and “Is precepting a lost art?” are often heard at nursing education meetings. Ullrich and Haffer may help the faculty of schools of nursing and nursing education departments at health care organizations recruit more preceptors. Strategies for decreasing wasted time, handling common problems, and cultural competence are well developed. Hopefully, this workbook will help new preceptors develop confidence in their ability to nurture the future nursing workforce.

- Essentials of precepting, presented clearly, logically, and concisely
- Realistic self-evaluation questions help the reader gain insight into self-learning needs
- Self-contained course that the student can pursue at her or his own pace

3. Human Centered Nursing: The Foundation of Quality Care

By Susan Kleiman. Philadelphia, E.A. Davis Company.



Students are often attracted to the high-tech aspects of nursing. This book reminds them and us that as practicing nurses, the focus of our nursing care should be the human being who is the recipient of what we do. After spending many years in nursing, it reminded me why I became a nurse in the first place: to make a difference in someone's life.

- A conversation with Josephine Paterson and Loretta Zderad, discussing breakthroughs and setbacks in their thinking and theory development, illustrates the development of a nursing theory in a very human way
- Focus on ethical practice in health care, reinforced with the inclusion of the Belmont Report and the Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements
- Quiet insistence throughout the book that the art of nursing is an integral part of the care we provide for patients

NURSING RESEARCH AND EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

Chosen by Marsha E. Fonteyn, PhD, RN, OCN, nurse scientist, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston.

1. Patient Safety and Quality: An Evidence-Based Handbook for Nurses

Edited by Ronda G. Hughes. Rockville, MD, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Free download or ordering information available at www.ahrq.gov/qual/nursesdbk.

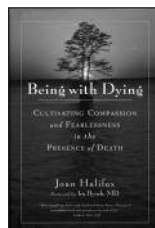


This book is exemplary. Although this isn't a “how-to” book on research and evidence-based practice, the entire content of the three volumes is directly and inherently relevant to research and evidence-based practice. Nationally recognized experts wrote chapters on every possible topic related to patient safety and quality. Given the paramount importance of patient safety and quality, this vast treatise could have a profound, far-reaching impact on our profession.

- Each chapter contains current, comprehensive research citations supporting and enhancing the chapter's content
- Excellent use of tables to clearly and concisely summarize the research within an area of focus, such as “falls and prevention”
- Extensive, helpful work for nurses in every role and area of practice

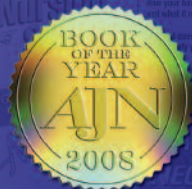
2. Being with Dying: Cultivating Compassion and Fearlessness in the Presence of Death

By Joan Halifax. Boston, Shambhala Publications.



One of the most challenging aspects of caregiving—indeed, of being mortal and human—is being able to accept an inevitable truth: everyone dies. In *Being with Dying*, Halifax takes us by the hand and guides us in an exploration of our deepest feelings and unspoken fears about death that might prevent us from truly being present with and ministering to our dying patients. The reader is led to gradually face and then let go of all fears and negative emotions associated with death, ultimately learning how to be more fully present in caring for patients and in the daily living of life.

- The author skillfully combines exemplars from practice, expert opinion, and contemporary and ancient wisdom to gently teach caregivers how to be compassionate and courageous when caring for those who are dying and those who grieve
- Meditation exercises at the end of each chapter apply directly to the content
- Beautiful and well-crafted piece of work with the potential to transform all who read and embrace its vision

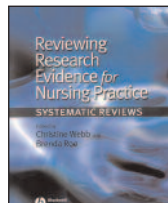


BOOK of the YEAR AWARDS 2008

3. Reviewing Research Evidence for Nursing Practice:

Systematic Reviews

Edited by Christine Webb and Brenda Roe. Malden, MA, Blackwell Publishing.



How many of us really understand how to locate, review, evaluate, and effectively use systematic reviews and metaanalyses? This book teaches us those skills in an interesting, comprehensible manner, culminating in a series of chapters that provide examples of high-quality reviews on topics directly relevant to

nursing practice. Nurses can gain a solid understanding of systematic reviews and learn how to use them to improve their evidence-based practice and help ensure more positive patient outcomes.

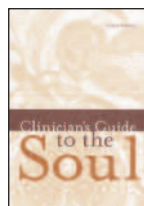
- Clear, comprehensive information about the most significant and powerful type of evidence—systematic reviews and metaanalyses—that would be useful both to those interested in carrying out a systematic review and to those who want to better understand and use reviews to guide their practice
- Presents a complex and often confusing topic in a clear, well-organized manner
- Uses a variety of formats (boxes, tables, figures) and extensive citations from current literature to enhance the information presented in each chapter

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Chosen by Joyce P. Griffin-Sobel, PhD, RN, AOCN, CNE, ANEF, acting assistant dean of curriculum and technology and director of undergraduate programs, Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing, New York City.

1. Clinician's Guide to the Soul

By Veneta Masson. Washington, DC, Sage Femme Press.

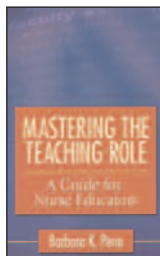


This is an uplifting and poignant reminder of the importance of our work as nurses, an enjoyable read even for those who don't care for poetry. I knew the author loved nursing and could describe the conflicting emotions we experience in the course of a career. This book should be in every nurse's library.

- Reaches deep into the emotional core of the nurse–reader
- Uplifting
- Beautiful presentation and illustrations

2. Mastering the Teaching Role: A Guide for Nurse Educators

By Barbara K. Penn. Philadelphia, PA, Davis Company.

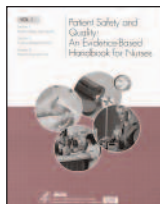


This book is a wonderful resource for nurse educators, whether novice or experienced, providing readily usable information on a wide array of nursing education topics. A section on flourishing in the faculty role is particularly interesting and addresses new educator, deanship issues, and maintaining enthusiasm in the role. References throughout the book and a bibliography would have been appreciated.

- Question-and-answer format addresses common situations in nursing education
- Quick reference

3. Patient Safety and Quality: An Evidence-Based Handbook for Nurses

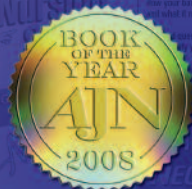
Edited by Ronda G. Hughes. Rockville, MD, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Free download or ordering information available at www.ahrq.gov/qual/nursesbdbk.



This landmark resource for anyone concerned with the quality of patient care includes sections on patient safety and quality, evidence-based practice, patient-centered care, tools for quality improvement and patient safety, working conditions and the work environment for nurses, and critical opportunities for

patient safety and quality improvement. Authored by the leading researchers and clinicians in the field, these three volumes will certainly become one of the most widely referenced resources in the health care literature.

- Comprehensive review of the literature and patient care recommendations
- Covers all areas of patient safety
- Addresses nurse and environmental contributors to patient safety



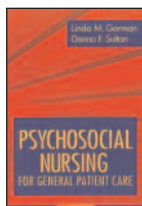
BOOK of the YEAR AWARDS 2008

PSYCHIATRIC-MENTAL HEALTH NURSING

Chosen by Charles Kaiman, MSN, APRN-BC, psychiatric-mental health clinical nurse specialist and NP, New Mexico Veterans Affairs Health Care System, Albuquerque.

1. Psychosocial Nursing for General Patient Care

By Linda M. Gorman and Donna F. Sultan. 3rd edition. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.

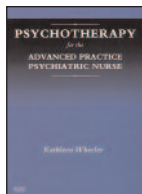


All nursing encompasses psychiatric nursing, as nurses must be able to manage patients and families in emotional crisis, in pain, in mourning, after a physical or emotional loss, or after a disaster. This book is a basic, user-friendly reference guide to dealing with some of the most common situations and clinical presentations requiring psychosocial interventions. Had a nurse been doing intakes at Ellis Island in 1906, this would have been an ideal book to have. For contemporary nurses, who are required to assess and intervene in complex biopsychosocial challenges, it belongs in their library.

- Relevance to common mental health problems encountered by nurses
- Simplifies complex mental health concepts to make them comprehensible to all nurses and even family members
- A guide to dealing with common problematic situations such as the anxious, angry, or suicidal patient

2. Psychotherapy for the Advanced Practice Psychiatric Nurse

By Kathleen Wheeler. St. Louis, Mosby Elsevier.



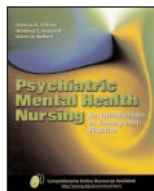
This book adds a unique nursing perspective to the art and science of psychotherapy. Intended primarily for the preparation of advanced practice psychiatric nurses, it is also an excellent reference for advanced practice nurse psychotherapists and other psychotherapists. The founder of psychiatric nursing,

Hildegard Peplau, would have been proud of this book, which shows how a truly therapeutic nurse-patient relationship transcends the competing demands and claims of the “newest and best and only” therapies. Experienced nurse psychotherapists adjust the therapy used, much as an artist mixes the correct colors for a painting.

- Excellent summary of advanced practice psychotherapy in nursing
- Easy to use in clinical situations
- Fills a void in the literature

3. Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing: An Introduction to Theory and Practice

Edited by Patricia G. O'Brien, Winifred Z. Kennedy, and Karen A. Ballard. Sudbury, MA, Jones and Bartlett Publishers.



I found this to be the overall best instructional tool of the introductory psychiatric nursing textbooks. I would choose this book as a text if I were teaching an introductory class, even if only one book was allowed. There is a very intelligent description of how to do a nursing assessment and how to dovetail it with the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders IV* for simplicity. Overall, this well-organized book is the superior general text for the modern busy student.

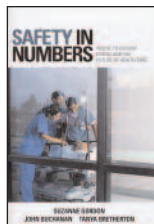
- Simplifies complex material to make it easily accessible to the busy student
- Excellent glossary of technical terms, which is so helpful to beginners
- Each chapter can be read and absorbed on the run: ideal for students with other responsibilities

PUBLIC INTEREST AND CREATIVE WORKS

Chosen by Raymond J. Bingham, BSN, RN, science writer and editor, Gaithersburg, MD.

1. Safety in Numbers: Nurse-to-Patient Ratios and the Future of Health Care

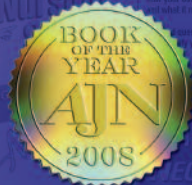
By Suzanne Gordon, John Buchanan, and Tanya Bretherton. Ithaca, NY, ILR Press.



This book reviews the political and legislative process that went into establishing the minimum nurse-patient ratios in California and Australia. The authors conclude that ratios are a necessary, but not sufficient, condition in modern health care to ensure that nurses can maintain some control over their professional practice. They also argue that improving

working conditions for nurses is a vital step in addressing the international nursing shortage.

- Clear, well-written accounts of the struggles of nurses in both California and Australia
- Well-researched examination of many sides of the debate on ratios, both for and against
- Clear connection of the need to maintain control over work conditions to advance the profession of nursing



BOOK of the YEAR AWARDS 2008

2. Nurse: A World of Care

By Peter Jaret, photographs by Karen Kasmauski. Atlanta, Emory University.

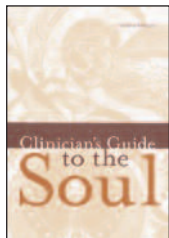


The candid, moving photographs and text work well together to depict the wide range of the work of nurses. The book discusses both the positives and negatives of nursing in the current health care system. It focuses on nursing in countries around the world, particularly in underdeveloped regions.

- Text casts a very positive light on nursing and the work of nurses around the world
- Pictures depict a wide range of nurses, nursing activities, and nurse-patient interactions
- Well-researched, with a good balance of the personal-intuitive and the professional-scientific sides of nursing

3. Clinician's Guide to the Soul

By Veneta Masson. Washington, DC, Sage Femme Press.



This heartfelt and evocative collection of poems explores the work of nurses. The poems describe interaction with patients and with other health care professionals and deals with many intensely personal reactions to illness, treatment, chronic conditions, and death. Together, the poems provide a look at the positives and negatives of the career of a dedicated nursing professional.

- Poems present the intensely personal side of nursing
- They depict views of human nature, patient interactions, health care interventions, illness, and death as filtered through a knowledgeable and caring nurse professional
- The closing poem, "Winter Count," outlines the career path of a nurse ▼