

The most valuable texts of 2024, as chosen by AJN's panel of judges

ADULT PRIMARY CARE

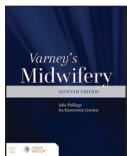
Chosen by Leslie Neal-Boylan, PhD, CRNP, Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic

FIRST-PLACE WINNER: Contraceptive Technology. By Patty Cason, Carrie Cwiak, Alison Edelman, Deborah Kowal, Jeanne Marrazzo, Anita Nelson, Michael S. Policar, and Robert A. Hatcher. 22nd edition. Burlington, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.



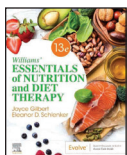
Sexual health is vital to overall health. This book offers a wealth of current information on contraception options and how to help patients choose what might be best for their needs. I appreciate the content on contraception for gender diverse individuals; as an NP in primary care, I found this especially pertinent to providing respectful, high-quality care. The chapter on abstinence and sexual health is also very helpful. Useful digital resources and appendices are included.

SECOND PLACE: Varney's Midwifery. By Julia Phillippi and Ira Kantrowitz-Gordon. 7th edition. Burlington, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.



Although I am not a midwife, I often see patients with women's health-related issues and questions, and I also diagnose patients with pregnancy and give them initial instructions before they see a prenatal caregiver. This book is very helpful in that regard. I especially like the detailed and comprehensive chapter on common conditions in primary care. The new chapter on sexuality is an excellent addition to the book. Additionally, the guidelines for navigating conversations on health and sexual practices are an excellent resource—I appreciate the specifics on how best to have conversations that might be new or challenging to me.

THIRD PLACE: Williams' Essentials of Nutrition and Diet Therapy. By Joyce Gilbert and Eleanor D. Schlenker. 13th edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.



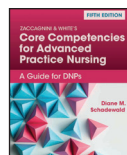
Guiding patients toward more healthful ways of eating can be challenging. This book is an easy-to-read guide to helping patients improve their nutritional health. It includes helpful charts, tables, and appendices. I especially like the content on food assistance programs and community nutrition, as I work with mostly uninsured patients who often don't have ready access to healthful foods. Cultural considerations are also addressed.

ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING

Chosen by Nadine M. Aktan, PhD, FNP-BC, professor and associate dean, Rutgers University School of Nursing

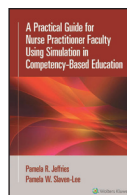
FIRST-PLACE WINNER: Zaccagnini and White's Core Competencies for Advanced Practice Nursing: A Guide for DNPs.

By Diane M. Schadewald. 5th edition. Burlington, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.



This timely book is aligned with what today's academic nurses seek as we develop, implement, evaluate, and revise competency-based curricula. The first 10 chapters (Part I) are built around the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) *Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education*. The authors cleverly apply the level II competencies of each *Essentials* domain to define and describe the advanced practice provider's role in the provision of care. For instance, Chapter 6, Interprofessional Partnerships, provides concrete, relevant examples of how to improve communication between interprofessional providers and how providers can model respect for diversity, equity, and inclusion, and outlines recommendations for resolving interprofessional conflict. Part II offers an overview of the DNP project, including project types, and provides several abstracts as exemplars. References are current and inclusive, and the authors emphasize national standards and trends by referring to National Academy of Medicine reports, the American Association of Nurse Practitioners standards of practice, and the Joint Commission's National Patient Safety Goals.

SECOND PLACE: A Practical Guide for Nurse Practitioner Faculty Using Simulation in Competency-Based Education. By Pamela R. Jeffries and Pamela W. Slaven-Lee. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer.



Simulation is a well-established tool to teach skills and measure competency. This book discusses simulation development, integration, and evaluation and links these topics directly to competency-based nursing education. I particularly appreciate the chapter on student-centered learning. Faculty, directors, and administrators will also appreciate the content on financing simulation, faculty and staff workload, and faculty development, as these are critical challenges nursing programs face in integrating simulation across levels and programs.

THIRD PLACE: Publishing the DNP Project: An Evidence-Based Approach. By Diane B. Monsivais, Franchesca E. Nunez, and Leslie K. Robbins. Solana Beach, CA, Cognella Academic Publishing.



This evidence-based book guides DNP-prepared nurses through the publication process, from basic principles of academic writing to coauthorship, journal selection and avoidance of predatory journals, and peer review. The format is concise and reader friendly, avoiding the look and feel of a textbook.

CHILD HEALTH

Chosen by Marni B. Kellogg, PhD, RN, CPN, CNE, corporate nurse scientist, Shriners Children's



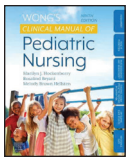
FIRST-PLACE WINNER: NICU Nursing Stories: A Day in the Life of a NICU Nurse. By Valerie Wright. Solana Beach, CA, Cognella Academic Publishing.



NICU Nursing Stories is a heartfelt collection of 70 real-life stories that provide a glimpse into the world of neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) nursing. Contributing NICU nurses describe the wide-ranging experiences and challenges they face caring for premature infants and their families. The author also shares her own story of loss.

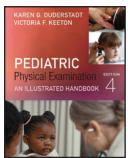
Readers will appreciate the honesty, compassion, and perseverance reflected in each story. The book includes thought-provoking reflection questions, case studies, and a reflective journaling section, making it especially useful in academic settings, but it's a compelling read for any nurse.

SECOND PLACE: Wong's Clinical Manual of Pediatric Nursing. By Marilyn J. Hockenberry, Rosalind Bryant, and Melody Brown Hellsten. 9th edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.



Wong's Clinical Manual of Pediatric Nursing is a concise, practical reference guide for pediatric nurses and nursing students. This authoritative and up-to-date manual provides easy-to-find reference data on health assessments, growth, development, health promotion, evidence-based interventions, and pediatric pain management, among other topics. It also includes updated vaccination schedules and pediatric guidelines. Reference tools such as "Atraumatic Care" boxes, safety alerts, and drug alerts highlight critical points in pediatric care. Students will benefit from the unfolding case studies and Next Generation NCLEX-style examination questions.

THIRD PLACE: Pediatric Physical Examination: An Illustrated Handbook. By Karen G. Duderstadt and Victoria F. Keeton. 4th edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.



Pediatric Physical Examination is an essential resource for NPs and primary care providers. This easy-to-carry spiral-bound guide is designed to assist practitioners in performing physical exams on children of all ages. Its layout ensures quick access to information, while photographs and illustrations enhance readability.

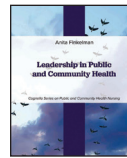
The handbook covers body systems from fetal development through all of the developmental stages of childhood, providing a comprehensive approach to pediatric assessment. As a pediatric nurse and a mom, I appreciate the handbook's use of a "quiet-to-active" approach, starting with observational techniques and progressing to hands-on components, optimizing the physical exam process for pediatric patients.

This book includes new features, including "Telehealth Tips" that address the use of virtual visits in clinical practice. It also provides updated coverage of topics like maltreatment, mental and behavioral health, and social determinants of health.

COMMUNITY/HOME HEALTH CARE

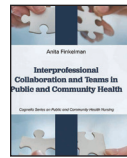
Chosen by Mary Curry Narayan, PhD, RN, HHCNS-BC, CTN-A, home health clinical nurse specialist

FIRST-PLACE WINNER: Leadership in Public and Community Health. By Anita Finkelman. Solana Beach, CA, Cognella Academic Publishing.



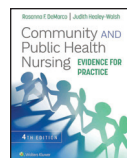
Since the publication of *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health* in 2010, leadership skills have gained greater significance in nursing practice. This concise book outlines the knowledge and skills novice and experienced nurses need to be effective leaders in the public, community, and home health settings, and discusses how they can use these skills to address issues such as population health; social determinants of health; and diversity, equity, and inclusion. It summarizes information and recommendations on leadership from highly regarded organizations like the World Health Organization, the National Academy of Medicine, and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Helpful appendices are included, and online student learning activities are also available.

SECOND PLACE: Interprofessional Collaboration and Teams in Public and Community Health. By Anita Finkelman. Solana Beach, CA, Cognella Academic Publishing.



In this text, Finkelman describes how nurses and interprofessional colleagues can work together with patients and in teams to provide effective care, specifically within community, public, and home health settings. Essential knowledge and skills are addressed, and authoritative guidance on communication, collaboration, and coordination in health care is summarized. I see this book as being complementary to the leadership book by Finkelman that I selected for first place, because leadership and collaborative teamwork are complementary approaches to effective community nursing.

THIRD PLACE: Community and Public Health Nursing: Evidence for Practice. By Rosanna F. DeMarco and Judith Healey-Walsh. 4th edition. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer.

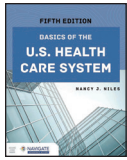


This textbook is chock-full of information and resources for community health nursing educators and students. Its 25 chapters provide a visionary and comprehensive account of the broad and diverse sector of community/public health nursing, including opportunities, best practices, issues, and challenges. Each chapter highlights objectives, key terms and concepts, case studies, critical thinking questions, and evidence-based practices. Five subspecialties within the sector are also highlighted: home health nursing, community mental health nursing, school nursing, occupational health nursing, and palliative/end-of-life nursing. Recommendations from the National Academy of Medicine report *The Future of Nursing 2020-2030: Charting a Path to Achieve Health Equity* are incorporated throughout the text, as are the Healthy People 2030 objectives.

CONSUMER HEALTH

Chosen by Theresa Brown, PhD, RN, author and contributor to the *New York Times* and CNN.com

FIRST-PLACE WINNER: Basics of the U.S. Health Care System. By Nancy J. Niles. 5th edition. Burlington, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.

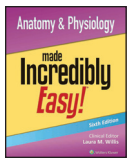


Basics of the U.S. Health Care System imparts a broad understanding of the general complexity of U.S. health care delivery and its uniquely complicated financing. Though written as a textbook, it is relevant to a general audience. Selected chapters discuss health care outcomes in the United States compared to other countries, types of mental health care available to patients in need, the government's role in paying for care, and the country's gun violence epidemic. The author brings a strong social justice lens to health care by discussing the social and economic disparities that often make care inequitable in the United States. The indexed list of the agencies and organizations involved in U.S. health care is a solid resource.

CREATIVE WORKS

Chosen by Hui-wen Sato, MPH, MSN, RN, CCRN, pediatric ICU nurse

FIRST-PLACE WINNER: Anatomy and Physiology Made Incredibly Easy! Edited by Laura M. Willis. 6th edition. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer.

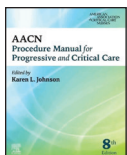


The authors manage to distill an otherwise overwhelming amount of information about anatomy and physiology into a reader-friendly, condensed yet comprehensive, and thoroughly enjoyable book. It serves as an indispensable resource for people of all backgrounds. Non-health care readers will be able to wrap their minds around what goes on in the body, which is invaluable knowledge in general as well as in situations when they or their loved ones become ill. Seasoned nurses and health care workers can turn to this book for a knowledge refresher. New nurses and students can use it to help reinforce their training. This book highlights the incredible wealth of knowledge that nurses master over time and presents the information in a very easily digestible way.

CRITICAL CARE-EMERGENCY NURSING

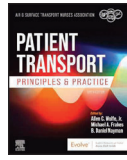
Chosen by Bridgid G. Joseph, DNP, RN, CCNS, chief executive officer, ThriveIN LLC, and director of Ambulatory Services programs, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

FIRST-PLACE WINNER: AACN Procedure Manual for Progressive and Critical Care. Edited by Karen L. Johnson. 8th edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.



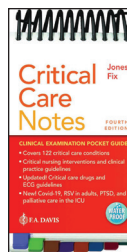
This comprehensive manual reviews common procedures performed in progressive and critical care settings. It provides clear, detailed, step-by-step directions as well as rationales, special considerations, and helpful illustrations. Embedded QR codes allow quick access to online references for more multifaceted real-time support. Patient preparation tips and patient and family education tips related to the procedures are also included.

SECOND PLACE: Patient Transport: Principles and Practice. Edited by Allen C. Wolfe, Jr., Michael A. Frakes, and B. Daniel Nayman. 6th edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.



This text is an excellent resource for trauma, emergency, and critical care nurses who support flight and ground transport of critically ill patients. Using real-life case study scenarios, the nuances of transporting the critically ill—including pathophysiology, assessment, planning, and outlier scenarios that can occur—are explained by aviation medical personnel. The text discusses the most innovative point-of-care testing and other technologies available to support assessments and patient safety. It also provides detailed coverage of interprofessional training, collaboration, and the use of team training to optimize patient outcomes, including quality improvement and quality assurance interventions.

THIRD PLACE: Critical Care Notes: Clinical Examination Pocket Guide. By Janice Jones and Brenda Fix. 4th edition. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.



This perfectly pocket-sized guide to emergency and critical care nursing is organized by body system and addresses clinical presentation, pathophysiology, diagnostic testing, nursing interventions, and management. It covers 122 commonly seen critical care conditions. The reusable assessment pages, which can be written on and wiped off, sustainably support patient care and help to standardize nursing assessments.

DIGITAL PRODUCTS

Chosen by Melody Bethards, EdD, MSN, RN, CNE, CHSE-A, nursing faculty and simulation coordinator, Des Moines Area Community College

FIRST-PLACE WINNER: AGACNP Certification Advanced Review Online Bundle. Edited by Dawn Carpenter and Alexander Menard. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



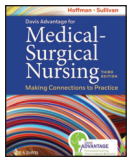
This study package for adult-gerontology acute care NP certification presents complex content in an easy-to-learn way. It stands out for its interactive features and ease of navigation. The personal study plan provides direction and helps learners manage their study time, and the study dashboard tracks their progress. Practice quizzes and exams offer essential feedback to help the learner review the content. Also included are flash cards and fun and engaging games.

SECOND PLACE: FNP Certification Ultimate Review Online Bundle. By Maria T. Codina Leik. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



This family NP certification review course provides numerous resources for exam preparation, including video lectures, practice questions and tests, games, and flash cards. Learners rate their confidence on the content in each lesson section before moving on to the next section; these ratings are displayed on tab that makes it easy to go back and review specific content areas as needed.

THIRD PLACE: Davis Advantage for Medical-Surgical Nursing: Making Connections to Practice. By Janice J. Hoffman and Nancy J. Sullivan. 3rd edition. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.



This digital product for undergraduate nursing students provides access to the eBook for *Medical-Surgical Nursing: Making Connections to Practice* as well as numerous Davis Advantage learning resources that complement the book, such as quizzes, videos, and interactive activities. Learners can monitor their knowledge gained on a personalized learning dashboard.

GERONTOLOGIC NURSING

Sharon Stahl Wexler, PhD, RN, FNGNA, professor and chairperson, Department of PhD in Nursing, Lienhard School of Nursing at the College of Health Professions, Pace University, the judge for this category, selected no winners this year.

HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION

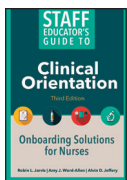
Chosen by M. Lindell Joseph, PhD, RN, FAAN, FAONL, editor-in-chief, *Nurse Leader*, and clinical professor and director of DNP and MSN Health Systems: Administration and Executive Leadership programs, University of Iowa College of Nursing

FIRST-PLACE WINNER: *Advanced Practice Providers: An Operational Guide for Workforce Integration.* By Maria Lofgren, Christine Gust, and Douglas Van Daele. Indianapolis, IN, Sigma Theta Tau International.



This visionary text provides health systems and academic institutions with a blueprint to reimagine leadership possibilities for advanced practice providers. The interdisciplinary author team offers best practices to assimilate advanced practice providers within organizations to maximize their contributions and success. The resources and tools provided will help shift current practices and position organizations for future success.

SECOND PLACE: *Staff Educator's Guide to Clinical Orientation: Onboarding Solutions for Nurses.* By Robin L. Jarvis, Amy J. Word-Allen, and Alvin D. Jeffery. 3rd edition. Indianapolis, IN, Sigma Theta Tau International.



This is a great toolkit for designing and analyzing onboarding and orientation programs. New models for orientation and onboarding are outlined for new hires, temporary workers, and students. Frameworks are provided to evaluate individuals' competencies as well as to evaluate orientation programs.

THIRD PLACE: *Building a Culture of Ownership in Healthcare: The Invisible Architecture of Core Values, Attitude, and Self-Empowerment.* By Joe Tye and Bob Dent. 3rd edition. Indianapolis, IN, Sigma Theta Tau International.



The concept of "invisible architecture" presented in this book provides new language for reflecting on organizational performance. The authors explain concepts aimed at minimizing complexity within organizations. The culture mapping wheel in Chapter 6 illustrates why and how to build a culture of ownership and serves as a great resource for executives.

HISTORY AND PUBLIC POLICY

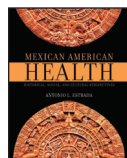
Chosen by Katheren Koehn, MA, RN, FAAN, executive director, Minnesota Organization of Registered Nurses

FIRST-PLACE WINNER: *Nursing Ethics, 1880s to the Present: An Archaeology of Lost Wisdom and Identity.* By Marsha Fowler. New York City, Routledge.



There are many good books written about nursing every year, but this is a great book that will remain relevant for years to come. Fowler notes that its first purpose is to make a "largely lost or forgotten mass of ethics material accessible to researchers for their own scholarly purposes"—those sources she struggled to find for her own research on nursing ethics. That being said, it would be a shame if the book is only read by scholars; it is a fascinating read that is written in a conversational, accessible style. While the chapters are interrelated, it is easy to pick up the book and read a section without having read what came before it and become so interested that you just keep reading.

SECOND PLACE: *Mexican American Health: Historical, Social, and Cultural Perspectives.* By Antonio L. Estrada. Solana Beach, CA, Cognella Academic Publishing.



This comprehensive guide explores the historical, geopolitical, and social contexts of Mexican American health; social and cultural determinants of health among this population; and health inequities and actions to take to address and eliminate them. Chapters begin with learning objectives and end with a chapter summary, questions, suggested readings, and references. Charts and graphs are plentiful and understandable, illustrating important aspects of each chapter.

THIRD PLACE: *Health Policy on the Front Line.* By Aislynn Moyer and Gretchen K. D. McCullough. Solana Beach, CA, Cognella Academic Publishing.



This book starts out by acknowledging that nurses and nursing students find health care policy "boring, intimidating, and irrelevant." To change that paradigm, the authors aimed to make policy personal. With chapters like "The Role of Policy in Front-Line Health Care," I believe they have achieved their goal. Their writing is logical and engaging; policy is explained using plain language. Clear and practical examples increase understanding.

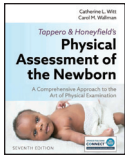
INFORMATICS

Leslie H. Nicoll, PhD, MBA, RN, FAAN, editor-in-chief, *CIN: Computers, Informatics, Nursing*; and owner, Maine Desk, LLC, the judge for this category, selected no winners this year.

MATERNAL-CHILD/NEONATAL NURSING

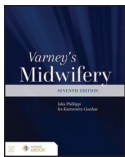
Chosen by Kathleen Rice Simpson, PhD, RNC, CNS-BC, FAAN, editor-in-chief, *MCN: the American Journal of Maternal/Child Nursing*, and perinatal clinical nurse specialist

FIRST-PLACE WINNER: Tappero and Honeyfield's Physical Assessment of the Newborn: A Comprehensive Approach to the Art of Physical Examination. Edited by Catherine L. Witt and Carol M. Wallman. 7th edition. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



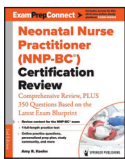
This book covers in detail the key aspects of a comprehensive physical assessment of the newborn. All clinicians who interact with newborns immediately at birth, during hospitalization, and in the outpatient setting will benefit from reading it. Each body system is fully covered with up-to-date information. Tables, figures, and photographs greatly enhance the content and allow readers to easily interpret the material and apply it to clinical practice.

SECOND PLACE: Varney's Midwifery. By Julia Phillippi and Ira Kantrowitz-Gordon. 7th edition. Burlington, MA, Jones and Bartlett Learning.



This classic textbook has been completely updated. In addition to the content on pregnancy, labor, birth, and the postpartum period, it covers sexual and reproductive health across the lifespan, maternal mental health, gender-affirming care, and menopause. Chapters on newborn care, including physical assessment, feeding and lactation, and neonatal care, compliment the comprehensive presentation of care of the woman. Many chapters have appendices with helpful information for learners and clinicians.

THIRD PLACE: Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (NNP-BC) Certification Review: Comprehensive Review, PLUS 350 Questions Based on the Latest Exam Blueprint. Edited by Amy R. Koehn. 2nd edition. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.

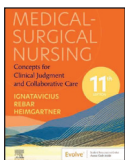


Even seasoned clinicians and well-studied scholars are likely to feel apprehensive as they consider pursuing neonatal NP certification. This text provides full coverage of the knowledge needed for success on the examination, helping to ensure that prospective examinees have a solid understanding of the required content. It also includes a full-length practice test in a similar format as the exam so readers will know what to expect.

MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSING

Chosen by Giang Martinez, DNP, MPA, AGCNS-BC, APRN, Major, United States Army Nurse Corps

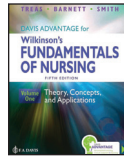
FIRST-PLACE WINNER: Medical-Surgical Nursing: Concepts for Clinical Judgment and Collaborative Care. Edited by Donna D. Ignatavicius, Cherie R. Rebar, and Nicole M. Heimgartner. 11th edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.



This text addresses critical gaps in nursing education and sets a new standard for inclusivity, making it an invaluable resource for shaping the future of nursing practice. It dedicates entire chapters to the specialized health care needs of transgender and nonbinary individuals, people with chronic and disabling health conditions, and veterans. Furthermore, it comprehensively addresses disaster preparedness for the medical-surgical nurse. The pandemic highlighted significant gaps in disaster response training,

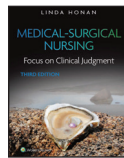
underscoring the urgent need for all nurses to be equipped with the knowledge and skills to respond confidently and competently in crisis situations.

SECOND PLACE: Davis Advantage for Wilkinson's Fundamentals of Nursing: Theory, Concepts, and Applications. By Leslie S. Treas, Karen L. Barnett, and Mable H. Smith. 5th edition. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.



This pioneering text goes beyond the basics of clinical skills and theoretical knowledge to bridge the gap between clinical practice and leadership, helping prepare future nurses to navigate the complexities of modern health care with integrity and make sound decisions in challenging situations. It addresses legal accountability as a core nursing function, offering practical advice on how to navigate complex legal situations, uphold nursing ethical standards, and protect patients' rights. In recognition of the growing trend of nurses being thrust into leadership roles without adequate preparation, it delves into key aspects of leading and managing health care teams, providing tools and frameworks for success in these positions. Notably, this text also guides the new nurse in the preceptor/mentor relationship, outlining specific mentor and mentee responsibilities.

THIRD PLACE: Medical-Surgical Nursing: Focus on Clinical Judgment. By Linda Honan. 3rd edition. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer.

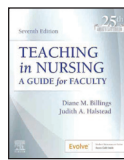


Medical-Surgical Nursing: Focus on Clinical Judgment is an exceptional resource distinguished by its comprehensive and inclusive approach to presenting complex clinical scenarios. Recognizing that nursing care must evolve to meet the needs of all patients, the text equips future nurses to provide compassionate and culturally sensitive care for diverse populations. Clinical judgment cases enhance students' critical thinking and clinical reasoning skills by helping them step into the role of the nurse, making learning more personable and interactive. Additionally, the nursing care guidelines included throughout are well written, utilizing a stepwise approach and a rationale with each intervention.

NURSING EDUCATION/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Chosen by Natasha Nurse-Clarke, PhD, RN, FAAN, associate professor, Department of Nursing, and RN-BS program director, Lehman College, City University of New York

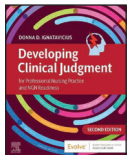
FIRST-PLACE WINNER: Teaching in Nursing: A Guide for Faculty. Edited by Diane M. Billings and Judith A. Halstead. 7th edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.



Teaching in Nursing brilliantly captures the evolving landscape of nursing education. It provides an all-encompassing guide to the principles and practices of teaching in nursing, covering everything from curriculum development to teaching in online environments. This edition is exceptionally relevant, incorporating current teaching strategies, technology integration, and evidence-based practices that will resonate deeply with today's nurse educators. What sets this book apart is its clear focus on practical

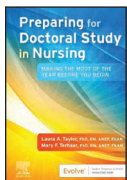
application, making it an invaluable tool for both novice and seasoned educators striving to enhance their teaching effectiveness. The authors blend theory with practice, providing real-world examples, case studies, and innovative teaching methods that are immediately applicable in classroom and clinical settings.

SECOND PLACE: Developing Clinical Judgment for Professional Nursing Practice and NGN Readiness. By Donna D. Ignatavicius. 2nd edition. St. Louis, Elsevier.



This text is a vital resource that directly addresses the critical need to develop clinical judgment skills among nursing students and professionals. It stands out for its focused approach to preparing students for the Next Generation NCLEX, which emphasizes clinical judgment—a key component of safe and effective nursing practice. Its structured, step-by-step guidance equips readers with the necessary tools to enhance their decision-making skills. A variety of practice questions, case studies, and scenarios engage students in active learning.

THIRD PLACE: Preparing for Doctoral Study in Nursing: Making the Most of the Year Before You Begin. Edited by Laura A. Taylor and Mary F. Terhaar. St. Louis, Elsevier.

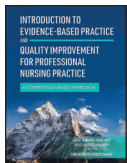


Preparing for Doctoral Study in Nursing fills a unique niche by guiding prospective doctoral students through the often-overlooked preparatory year before their program begins. The book is refreshingly pragmatic—providing actionable advice on everything from time management to networking—thus helping prospective students start their doctoral studies well prepared and confident. Its candid, practical approach addresses both the academic and personal challenges of pursuing a doctoral degree, offering valuable insights that are not readily available in other preparatory guides. By discussing the mental and emotional aspects of preparing for doctoral study, the book goes beyond academic preparation, helping readers develop resilience and a growth mindset. It also includes a rich array of resources, including recommended readings, checklists, and planning tools.

NURSING RESEARCH

Chosen by Alexa Colgrove Curtis, PhD, MPH, APRN, FAANP, associate dean for research and innovation and endowed professor, Orvis School of Nursing, University of Nevada, Reno

FIRST-PLACE WINNER: Introduction to Evidence-Based Practice and Quality Improvement for Professional Nursing Practice: A Competency Based Approach. Edited by Jayne Jennings Dunlap and Julee Briscoe Waldrop. Solana Beach, CA, Cognella Academic Publishing.

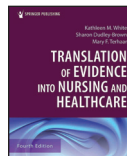


This first-edition contribution to the nursing research literature offers a fresh, engaging, and accessible approach to scientific inquiry that will engage and inspire the next generation of nursing scholars. Many of us may recall sitting in our undergraduate nursing research course wondering how the material would contribute to our

success as a nurse. This text, which is mapped to the AACN *Essentials*, addresses that question. It situates evidence-based

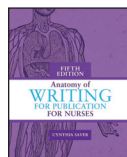
practice and research strategies squarely within the clinical practice of nursing; the learner is guided to appreciate scholarly and scientific inquiry as inextricable from the practice of nursing. In addition to clearly presented evidence-based practice and research fundamentals, the authors include lessons from nursing history, clinical reflections, and even “Wellness in Action” boxes promoting self-care.

SECOND PLACE: Translation of Evidence into Nursing and Healthcare. Edited by Kathleen M. White, Sharon Dudley-Brown, and Mary F. Terhaar. 4th edition. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



Translation of Evidence into Nursing and Healthcare is an indispensable resource for all health disciplines on the science of evidence translation, from conceptualization to project management and dissemination of results. It provides a variety of frameworks and models to support translation strategy across practice spheres, including clinical outcomes, safety and quality, leadership, and health policy. The text is greatly strengthened by the inclusion of a vast array of resources from influential organizations and sources that inform the science of translation, including an abundance of illustrations. Additionally, there are almost 200 pages of innovative translation exemplars.

THIRD PLACE: Anatomy of Writing for Publication for Nurses. By Cynthia Saver. 5th edition. Indianapolis, IN, Sigma Theta Tau International.



The art of scholarly dissemination is an essential yet often underdeveloped professional skill set. This may be particularly true in nursing, where professional communication is frequently distilled into brief clinical notes and electronic dropdown menus. For aspiring nurse authors who want to reinvigorate their professional writing skills or are seeking guidance on navigating the publication process, *Anatomy of Writing* provides a comprehensive guide to preparing and publishing manuscripts and other dissemination materials. The content is practical, clear, and engaging. New material in this edition addresses the use of artificial intelligence and the effective utilization of graphical abstracts. Relevant to both new and experienced authors, this text expertly demystifies the publication gauntlet.

PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE

Chosen by Sarah Rossmassler, DNP, MSN, AGPCNP-BC, ANP-BC, ACHPN, assistant professor, MGH Institute of Health Professions School of Nursing, and palliative care NP, Baystate Medical Center

FIRST-PLACE WINNER: The Handbook of LGBTQIA-Inclusive Hospice and Palliative Care. By Kimberly D. Acquaviva. New York City, Columbia University Press.



This groundbreaking book offers a timely, engaging, and practical approach to patient-centered care for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) individuals who are seriously ill or at the end of life, addressing a critical gap in hospice and palliative care litera-

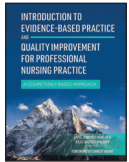
ture. Acquaviva combines clinical expertise with heart-wrenching personal experience to create a powerful contextual frame that resonates deeply and is accessible to a broad range of readers. She provides concrete, actionable strategies for LGBTQIA+-inclusive care across settings.

The book's message extends beyond LGBTQIA+-specific care, emphasizing that inclusive practices benefit all patients. Acquaviva encourages health care providers to enhance their communication skills, cultural humility, and sensitivity to diverse patient needs. By promoting LGBTQIA+-inclusive practices, she advocates for systemic improvements that create a more welcoming environment for everyone, potentially elevating the standard of care across the entire hospice and palliative care field.

PROFESSIONAL ISSUES

Chosen by Jackie Owens, PhD, RN, CNE, editor-in-chief, *OJIN: The Online Journal of Issues in Nursing*, and adjunct professor of nursing, Ashland University

FIRST-PLACE WINNER: Introduction to Evidence-Based Practice and Quality Improvement for Professional Nursing Practice: A Competency Based Approach. Edited by Jayne Jennings Dunlap and Julee Briscoe Waldrop. Solana Beach, CA, Cognella Academic Publishing.



This book will help nurse educators teach undergraduate students about evidence-based practice and quality improvement approaches. Nurses on practice committees who seek answers to clinical- and systems-level questions will also find value in the information within. The authors deliver easy-to-read, engaging content throughout the text. Students will welcome the plain-language explanations and the activities to enhance understanding of often difficult concepts. Educators will appreciate the text's sound theoretical foundation and its resources to support the shift to a competency-based model for curriculum design as called for by the AACN *Essentials*. The chapters on critically appraising quantitative and qualitative evidence are particularly helpful for student and novice nurses.

SECOND PLACE: Growing into Professional Nursing: An Approach to Confident Practice. By Luanne Linnard-Palmer. Solana Beach, CA, Cognella Academic Publishing.



This book provides a wealth of information that reflects current priorities in health care and nursing. It is appropriate for a wide audience, including nursing students and those entering practice or continuing their education. Much of the content is boxed or bulleted, making it easy to read in short doses. Topics important to contemporary nursing practice, such as social determinants of health and health care disparities, thinking frameworks, interdisciplinary collaboration, inclusion, and cultural considerations are skillfully interwoven with pearls and tips to build professional confidence. The information on educational pathways, licensure, and benefits of professional organizations and specialty certification will be useful to those looking to begin and sustain their career. The appendices provide realistic case exemplars.

THIRD PLACE: Nursing Ethics, 1880s to the Present: An Archaeology of Lost Wisdom and Identity. By Marsha Fowler. New York City, Routledge.

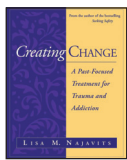


This account of the unique history of nursing ethics documents the longstanding contributions of the profession and serves as a foundation for continued leadership in the ethics arena. Covering an impressive span of almost 150 years, Fowler describes the global evolution of nursing ethics over this extended period. She skillfully synthesizes complicated foundational concepts with historical accounts that address ethical concerns such as whistleblowing and various well-known (and not-so-well-known) legal cases. Fowler's writing style is readable, an important strength for a book that tackles a subject of significant complexity. She never avoids the complexity, but rather embraces it by using language that speaks to everyone. Her personal reflections, and others', bring the subject matter to life.

PSYCHIATRIC AND MENTAL HEALTH NURSING

Chosen by Donna Sabella, PhD, MEd, MSN, PMHNP-BC, adjunct faculty, Elaine Marieb College of Nursing, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

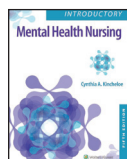
FIRST-PLACE WINNER: Creating Change: A Past-Focused Treatment for Trauma and Addiction. By Lisa M. Najavits. New York City, The Guilford Press.



This manual provides a wealth of evidence-based information on helping patients understand and recover from trauma and addiction and create the change they seek. It is well organized, with content that is straightforward, relevant, interesting, and easy to read and digest.

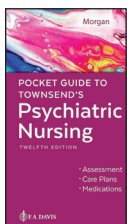
The first 4 chapters provide background information on the provider's role in effecting change, setting the stage for an in-depth look at 23 different treatment areas that can be explored and implemented with patients in any order. Each chapter on the treatment topics includes suggestions for session format and content, and, best of all, a variety of reproducible patient handouts.

SECOND PLACE: Introductory Mental Health Nursing. By Cynthia A. Kincheloe. 5th edition. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer.



LPNs and LVNs are increasingly providing care to patients as part of the health care team, especially in light of RN shortages at numerous facilities. As such, I was pleased to review this textbook on mental health nursing for LPN and LVN students—and what a gem it is. An excellent source of mental health information, this book is attractively formatted and engaging. It succinctly discusses mental health concepts and disorders, treatment approaches, and nursing roles. Additionally, it provides numerous study aids, such as case studies and worksheets, to help strengthen understanding and application.

THIRD PLACE: Pocket Guide to Townsend's Psychiatric Nursing. By Karyn I. Morgan. 12th edition. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company.



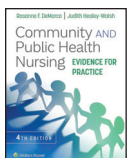
This concise pocket guide makes it easy to quickly access information in a busy setting. It includes content on assessment and care planning; psychiatric disorders; psychotropic medications; and special topics such as homelessness, forensic nursing, and psychiatric home nursing care. An index of *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition, text revision* diagnoses helps readers easily locate

information on a given disorder in the guide. The chapters on specific disorders include online resources as well as lists of movies related to the disorder, which can serve as a useful learning tool. Helpful appendices contain various assessment, evaluation, rating, and screening tools.

PUBLIC AND POPULATION HEALTH

Chosen by Barbara J. Polivka, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and associate dean of research, University of Kansas School of Nursing

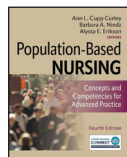
FIRST-PLACE WINNER: Community and Public Health Nursing: Evidence for Practice. By Rosanna F. DeMarco and Judith Healey-Walsh. 4th edition. Philadelphia, Wolters Kluwer.



The latest edition of *Community and Public Health Nursing* includes expanded coverage of health equity and its impact on health care access and health promotion. The authors stress the importance of policy in population and

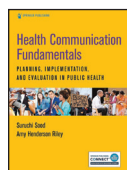
public health and provide helpful examples and case studies. Additionally, the health and environmental implications of climate change are well described.

SECOND PLACE: Population-Based Nursing: Concepts and Competencies for Advanced Practice. Edited by Ann L. Cupp Curley, Barbara A. Niedz, and Alyssa E. Erikson. 4th edition. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



In this text, population and public health are discussed separately and where they overlap. The authors discuss epidemiology as applied to both conducting aggregate assessment and determining outcomes, and emphasize the importance of working with the target population to determine interventions and evaluate implementation strategies and outcomes.

THIRD PLACE: Health Communication Fundamentals: Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation in Public Health. By Suruchi Sood and Amy Henderson Riley. New York City, Springer Publishing Company.



The health communication strategies discussed in this book are geared toward public health issues and practitioners. The authors present multiple communication theories and describe how they can be applied in public health. Their writing is clear, and helpful examples are included throughout. ▼

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