

*Nursing Practice Related to Spinal Cord Injury and Disorders: A Core Curriculum*, Audrey Nelson, Cynthia P. Zejdlik & Linda Love, eds, pp. 532, 2001. Price \$75.00. Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association, Jackson Heights, NY.

The framework comprises six sections containing different chapters. These are divided into learning objectives, demographics, aetiology and precipitating factors, anatomy, physiology and initial assessment (nursing history, physical examination, and diagnostic studies). The specific nursing process is presented including nursing diagnosis, defining characteristics, expected outcomes and intervention followed by reassessment and health topics. Special issues related to paediatric care are also included. A case study as practical application concludes each chapter.

Background information for spinal cord injury (SCI) nursing practice is given with presentations in philosophy, goals and process of SCI nursing practice, diversity in nursing practice roles and settings, cultural issues and collaboration in team. The following sessions cover the

anatomy and physiology of the spine and spinal cord, and give an overview of the consequences of SCI. Functional alterations in the physical and personal domains are followed by the trajectory of nursing care throughout the care continuum. The last session addresses topics that shape professional practice of nurses in this specialty field.

This book is a comprehensive guide to the practice of spinal cord injury nursing. This care continuum serves as an authoritative resource for nurses in this field.

Some topics are certainly of interest to specialists in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

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