THE SPECIALTY PRACTICE OF REHABILITATION NURSING
A Core Curriculum
Sixth Edition

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The Specialty Practice of Rehabilitation Nursing: A Core Curriculum (6th edition) builds on the excellent foundation of previous editions. It continues to include advanced practice content but also adds information related to middle-range nursing theory and the nursing process. Maintaining the emphasis on evidence-based practice and incorporating research findings whenever possible, the gathered expertise of 38 authors and 40 reviewers ensures that this edition of the Core Curriculum includes the best and most up-to-date nursing practices available.

The Core Curriculum provides a framework for study for certification and can be a valuable resource for
- staff nurses
- case managers
- administrators
- policy makers
- politicians
- neurology nurses
- life care planners
- psychiatrists
- educators
- other rehabilitation team members.

The Core Curriculum provides essential knowledge and information for the specialty practice of rehabilitation nursing in diverse settings, including acute rehabilitation, postacute care, community settings, case management, research, consulting, academia, and clinics.

It outlines the essential content of the rehabilitation nursing discipline and includes the pathophysiology of common rehabilitation diagnoses, an application of the nursing process, and a lifespan perspective.

CONTENTS

SECTION I
THE SPECIALTY PRACTICE OF REHABILITATION NURSING
- The history of rehabilitation and rehabilitation nursing
- The American healthcare system as the context for rehabilitation nursing practice
- Related ethical, moral, and legal issues
- The role of research and evidence-based practice in rehabilitation nursing
- The subspecialty of case management

SECTION II
FUNCTIONAL HEALTH PATTERNS AND THE REHABILITATION CLIENT
- Health maintenance
- Physical healthcare patterns
- Psychosocial healthcare patterns
- For each topic: assessment, diagnoses, planning, interventions, and evaluation

Detailed charts, tables, and illustrations illuminate the text.

SECTION III
NURSING MANAGEMENT OF CLIENTS WITH COMMON REHABILITATION DISORDERS
- Neuroanatomy
- Acute and chronic neurological diseases
- Cerebrovascular accidents
- Traumatic injuries of the head and spinal cord
- Musculoskeletal problems
- Cardiac and respiratory disease
- Pain
- Less common diagnoses (e.g., genetic disorders, cancer, and burns)

SECTION IV
THE ENVIRONMENT OF CARE
- Settings in which rehabilitation nurses work
- Healthcare financing and health policy
- Outcome measurement and performance improvement

“I hope that rehabilitation nurses—wherever they practice—will use the 6th edition of the Core Curriculum on a regular basis to enhance their practice.”