Nursing Care of Children and Young People with Chronic Illness

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Foreword by
Simon Weston, OBE
Nursing Care of Children and Young People with Chronic Illness
This book is dedicated to all children and young people with chronic illness and their families
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When approached to write this foreword, I felt I needed to examine my qualifications for addressing the need for a book relating to the nursing requirements of children and young people with chronic illness. I realised that as the son of a nurse, the father of a child with asthma and eczema and the survivor of 48% burns (80% body scarring) whilst only 20 years old, I am more than qualified to speak from a layperson’s perspective.

In today’s ever moving and multicultural society, this book is long overdue. The task set for the authors has been to create an all encompassing book that will deal not only with the issues of chronic disease in children and young people, but also with a whole catalogue of situations that the modern nurse will have to deal with when faced with their care.

Having examined the premise for this book, it is clear that it will alleviate the need to wade through heavily jargoned and complicated texts, spread over numerous manuals, thus using up student nurses’ valuable study time. This book provides a quality tool that will raise the awareness and effectiveness of not just student nurses but all health professionals working with children and young people with chronic illness.

The material collated spans the knowledge and experiences of several renowned and articulate professionals whose combined talents form an interlaced understanding of the total need of children and young people with chronic illness. It gives a holistic view of illness, emotions, cultures and religions, all of which may impact on the ability of the child and family to cope with a chronic condition.

I firmly believe that this book, with its compilation of informative and insightful data, will help ensure the empowerment of children and young people with chronic illness and their families through increased awareness and understanding by those involved in their care.
Contributors

Siân is a lecturer within the Children and Young People’s Directorate at the School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies, Cardiff University. Her main interests are in adolescent chronic illness, in particular cystic fibrosis, and in transitional care. Siân has worked extensively with young people in both the acute care and community setting.

Mandy Brimble RN, Dip. HE (Child), B.Sc. (Hons) Community Health Studies (Public Health Nursing/Health Visiting), PGCE
Mandy is a lecturer in the Children and Young People’s Directorate, School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies, Cardiff University. She has worked as a children’s nurse in general medicine, day surgery and at a special children’s centre. She has an interest in a wide range of medical and surgical conditions as well as a specific interest in all aspects of child protection. Her training and work as a health visitor has fostered a keen interest in public health and health promotion, particularly childhood accident prevention. Mandy has recently commenced an MSc in Education, with an aim towards gaining a deeper insight into strategic teaching, learning and educational management issues.

Maggie Furness SRN, RSCN, RNT, RCNT, WNB(6), ONC, MA (Ethics)
Maggie is a lecturer within the Children and Young People’s Directorate at the School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies, Cardiff University. She has worked in a wide range of clinical settings including orthopaedics, theatres and general paediatric areas. She has a wide range of interests, including ethical issues in children’s nursing and the history of nursing.
Suzanne Hazell RSCN, RGN, BA, MN, PGCE
Having qualified as a general nurse in 1967, Suzanne has many years’ experience of children’s nursing, mainly in the field of neonatal nursing in several UK hospitals. Subsequently, she undertook the RSCN and neonatal nursing courses and a Master’s in nursing. It was while nursing neonates that she developed an interest in genetics and the aetiology of conditions affecting children and young people. For the last 11 years, Suzanne has been lecturing in children and young people’s nursing and has continued to develop this interest.

Beverly Hodges M.Sc. in Clinical Practice (Child), PGCE, B.Sc. (Hons), Dip. Asthma, Dip. Allergy and Immunology, I/PE, RSCN, RGN
Beverly is a lecturer in the Children and Young People’s Directorate at the School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies, Cardiff University. She has worked in a variety of settings caring for children and young people. Her specialist interest areas are respiratory health, allergic disease, pain management and management of change. Beverly was a member of the external working group for the children and young people specialist services project, for the All-Wales Standards for Paediatric Respiratory Services, with the Welsh Assembly Government. She has represented the Royal College of Nursing in responding to appraisals for the National Institute of Health and Clinical Excellence.

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Lesley is a research fellow/practitioner at the Nursing, Health and Social Care Research Centre, School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies, Cardiff University. She is an experienced qualitative researcher, whose research interests include childhood chronic illness (diabetes in particular), theories of loss, grief, adaptation and change, and the involvement of service users in health and social care research. She has an extensive clinical and academic publication portfolio, particularly in the field of paediatric diabetes. In addition to her academic work, she has a 50% clinical remit as a paediatric diabetes specialist nurse with Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust.

Peter Mcnee RGN, RSCN, ENB (415), BA (Hons), PGCE, M.Sc.
Peter is a lecturer in the Children and Young People’s Directorate, School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies, Cardiff University. His clinical background is predominantly within paediatric critical care. His main interests include the acquisition of clinical skills, bereavement care, child protection and children’s participation in care decisions.