

Practices in Children's Nursing. Guidelines for Hospital and Community, 2nd ed

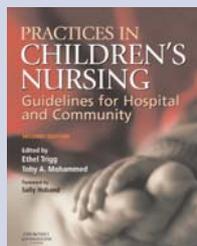
By Ethel Trigg,
Toby Mohammed

Published by
Churchill Livingstone

2006

£25.99

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This is a well-written, up-to-date general paediatric text book and a very useful reference. It is a concise and clinically focused text that outlines important points while presenting the fundamentals of many aspects of nursing care within the framework of nursing. Hallmark features include a clear and accessible writing style with a focus on practical application and an appropriate level of detail.

Practices in Children's Nursing provides nurses with information that has immediate relevance to practice in paediatrics and brings together the expertise of paediatric nurses and other paediatric professionals. It provides essential information to deliver safe and accurate care as well as invaluable advice on dealing appropriately with children and their families.

The book is divided into logical sections providing a clinical manual of common paediatric practices, skills and guidelines making it easy to read and refer to as necessary. The new edition of this book has retained the same basic format of the previous edition but with significant rewrites in certain parts as necessary.

The chapter on 'Bereavement Care' offers a broad range of information necessary to care for children and their families in the event of a child's death and is

comprehensive as well as highly relevant. However it could have benefited from information on some other different religious beliefs and customs such as: Buddhism, Orthodox Christianity and Chinese Customs (as other religious rituals are discussed).

A section on taking a child home following a death, taking a body abroad for burial, death of a child with an infectious disease and when a child has died as a result or suspected of confirmed child abuse, would also be beneficial.

Practices in Children's Nursing is an essential purchase for nurses caring for children both in hospitals and in the community. It is a book which will be referred to frequently in any setting that receives children for nursing care. Every children's nurse should have access to a copy.

**Orla Callender
Advanced Nurse Practitioner
Candidate Our Lady's Children's
Hospital, Crumlin, Northern Ireland**

Kangaroo Babies.

A different way of mothering

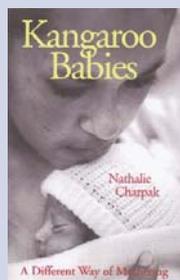
By Nathalie
Charpak

Published by
Souvenir Press,
London

2006

£14.99

0 285 63772 X



"Kangaroo Babies" gets to the heart of humane neonatal care with compelling arguments for kangaroo mother (and father) care "for all newborn babies from the moment they come into the world". The many photographs give you a sense of how vital this approach is. Examples from

countries, rich and poor, describe how the method, developed in Columbia to reduce mortality and the number of abandoned babies, has since served thousands of babies around the world.

The basic principles of skin-to-skin contact, breast milk and early discharge are life saving where medical care is poorly resourced, and help to humanise the technical disposition of modern neonatology. However the author argues against the notion that kangaroo mother care is 'low tech' citing the complexity of the skin in contrast to the relatively crude engineering of the incubator. Guidelines for practice emphasise training to prepare mother and baby and to ensure correct positioning, and time to get the full benefits. A balanced account of research reassures us that the kangaroo method is reliable and safe with physiological and psychological benefits as well as reduced mortality in vulnerable communities.

This lively, highly readable little book is for everyone who works with maternity and neonatal services. It is suitable for parents, but if you give it to them you need to be prepared to act on its recommendations. Charpak writes in the same charismatic style that she speaks. Sometimes you wonder if you can trust the emotions this book arouses in you but it is really a heartening, honest, practical, non-nonsense guide to a method of care that will appeal to most people for sensible reasons. Lest you wonder what to do next the book ends with "fifteen essential rules to promote the development, application and spread of kangaroo mother care in your institution".

**Inga Warren
Consultant Occupational Therapist
and Director of the UK NIDCAP
Training Centre, Winnicott Baby
Unit, St Mary's NHS Trust**