

B O O K S


**The Clinical Guide to Oncology Nutrition.** Paula Davis McCallum, Christine Gail Polisena, Editors. Chicago: American Dietetic Association, 2000, 193 pages, \$56.

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**Oncology Nutrition Patient Education Materials.** Mary Sue Walker, Karen Masino. Chicago: American Dietetic Association, 1998, 25 pages and 18 handouts, \$28.

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These two companion pieces from the Oncology Nutrition Dietetic Practice Group of the American Dietetic Association are intended to serve as resources for dietetic professionals, as well as nurses, medical students and residents, and other healthcare providers.

 The *Clinical Guide to Oncology Nutrition* includes 17 chapters and three appendices written by clinical dietitians. Each section is well referenced and can stand alone as a valuable resource for oncology nurses.

The importance of early evaluation and dietary support are stressed. Practice guidelines for the full trajectory of oncologic disease are presented in an accessible and thoroughly documented format. Chapters on pediatric oncology, HIV, alternative therapies, and palliative care are included.

A detailed assessment format; the Patient-Generated Subjective Global Assessment, including a reproducible master copy; and medical nutrition therapy protocols are provided. The appendices on symptom management and drug therapies used in oncology will be more

useful to non-nurses. The resources appendix will be useful to all healthcare providers, as well as patients and families.

 *Oncology Nutrition Patient Education Materials* addresses 18 symptoms and topics. A nutrition section offers information and counseling tips and the reproducible patient-education sheets provide basic tips and recipes. These sheets are at the fifth-grade reading level and can be customized easily. Cultural food charts and professional and patient resource lists are included in the appendices. *Oncology Nutrition Patient Education Materials* is designed for use in a variety of settings: in- and outpatient, primary, home health, and extended care.

Because patients often receive treatment in a variety of settings where clinical dietitians may not always be available, the *Clinical Guide to Oncology Nutrition* and *Oncology Nutrition Patient Education Materials* are valuable resources for the many disciplines that interact with patients with cancer and their families. The preface suggests that a positive use for some of the "tobacco settlement" monies available to state and local governments would be to ensure the service of dietetics professionals for more patients with cancer.

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**The Next Generation of AIDS Patients: Service Needs and Vulnerabilities.** George J. Huba, Editor. Binghamton, NY: Haworth Press, Inc., 2001, 130 pages, \$59.95 hard cover, \$34.95 soft cover.

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In our current 21st century healthcare system, evaluating the cost effectiveness of programs is necessary to maximize resources and benefits. The *Next Generation of AIDS Patients* describes the current AIDS demographics and details innovative programs designed to reach patients with HIV or AIDS.

This text is a compilation of studies that examined programs focusing on those living with HIV or AIDS. The programs located underserved populations, identified their unmet needs and perceived barriers, and studied client satisfaction. The Ryan White Care Act, which funds programs for those with HIV or AIDS, also funded the programs profiled.

The programs that were studied varied and were based in community or university hospitals. Data from 17 programs were aggregated, statistically analyzed, reviewed, and then pooled for further evaluation. The data consisted of demographic information, health-seeking behaviors, satisfaction with services, and other health behaviors. All studies utilized the Chi-Squared Automatic Interaction Detector (CHAID). CHAID is a method of analyzing complex data for relationships between dependent and independent variables. Having a familiarity of statistics, especially CHAID, is helpful in evaluating each of the studies.

This publication would be helpful for anyone working with HIV or AIDS populations and seeking to develop programs to reach underserved people in the community. The data attempt to broaden understanding of how to evaluate program effectiveness. The studies do not extensively broaden the characteristics of HIV and AIDS populations, but interesting observations are made, such as differing levels of satisfaction of programs depending on the method of delivery (e.g., community versus university setting) and whether the programs are based on managed-care models. The major drawback to the studies was the difficulty with obtaining data from subjects. Because of the nature of the programs, replication of results would be difficult. However,

Ease of Reference and Usability	Content Level	Book Size
Quick, on-the-spot resource	Basic	Pocket size
Moderate time requirement	Intermediate	Intermediate
In-depth study	Advanced and complex, prerequisite reading required	Desk reference