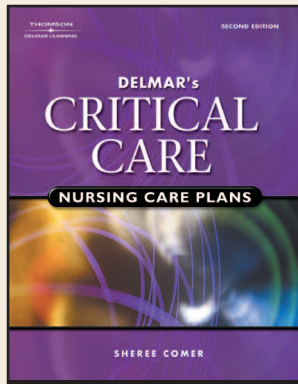


Delmar's Critical Care Nursing Care Plans



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 394 pp, 8 1/2" x 11",
 Softcover

By Sheree Raye Comer, RN, MS

Structured according to NANDA's taxonomy of nursing diagnosis, the overall aim of the text is to assist the practicing critical care nurse to design a individualized plan of care. The chapters are organized according to body systems and provide information regarding standard medical care, appropriate nursing diagnoses with outcome criteria, interventions and rationale for the interventions.

According to the author, the purpose of this book is to facilitate the care planning process for nurses working with critically ill patients. Standardized care plans are provided, but the author emphasizes that the care plans are intended to serve as a framework for the generation of an individualized plan of care that reflects current medical and nursing management modalities. This is a valuable reference book for all critical care units and for nurses practicing in critical care areas. The arrangement of the book makes it easy to use. Because many critically ill patients have multiple problems, the cross referencing between chapters is very helpful. This book nicely meets the author's stated objectives.

According to the author, the book is geared for the nurse working in critical care areas. This is an appropriate level with sufficient depth for most practicing nurses. This is the second edition for this author, and she appears well qualified to write on this subject matter. Furthermore, she has selected 3 reviewers who are well-qualified to comment on the content of the text.

The author uses a comprehensive organ systems approach to organize the units. The units are subdivided into chapters, where common disease states and some treatment modalities are thoroughly addressed. In the final section extensive care plans for patients with multiple problems that do not fit comfortably under the organ system arrangement are provided. In this unit multiple system organ dysfunction syndrome, systemic inflammatory response, transplants and poisoning are addressed. It is notable that in the section the author includes care plans for the patient with epidural analgesia and neuromuscular blockade. These are common treatment modalities for patients in the ICU, but not often addressed separately in other texts. The author has included 4 nice appendices that provide the NANDA list of nursing diagnoses, nursing outcomes and intervention classifications, as well as common abbreviations. A CD-ROM is included to facilitate access and learning. One of the best features of the text is the outline format used to convey not only important interventions, but the rationale for the interventions. It facilitates the ease of use. Included at the end of each chapter are clear flow charts to depict specific pathophysiologic processes of diseases addressed in the care plans. These are superb aids to help develop an in-depth understanding of specific disease/syndrome progression and to provide the nurse with information that may impact further treatment plans.

I think this is an excellent text that should be in every intensive care unit. The standardized care plans are thorough, easy to use, and can be used as the underpinnings for the generation of specific, individualized care planning.

- Doody's Review

REVIEWED BY:

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