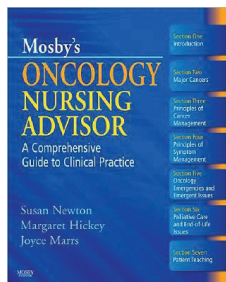


BOOKS

**Mosby's Oncology Nursing Advisor: A Comprehensive Guide to Clinical Practice.** Susan Newton, Margaret Hickey, and Joyce Marrs (Eds.). St. Louis, MO: Mosby Elsevier, 2008, 560 pages, hardcover, \$61.95.



*Mosby's Oncology Nursing Advisor: A Comprehensive Guide to Clinical Practice* is an update of *Oncology Nursing Assessment and Clinical Care* (1999), edited by

Miaskowski and Buchsel. In the forward, Miaskowski and Buchsel explain that they asked Newton, Hickey, and Morris to develop a new book that would retain the original intent of the 1999 publication while incorporating innovative changes to meet “the needs of the oncology nurse today.” In particular, “oncology nurses now require a learning vehicle that is portable, concise, and incorporates oncology information in a concise manner.” The result is a comprehensive compilation of recent oncology nursing knowledge in an innovative format, with over 40 contributing authors reflecting the expertise of oncology nurses in various roles throughout the United States.

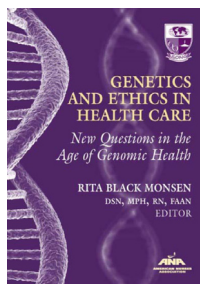
The book is well organized as a reference guide with seven sections: Introduction, Major Cancers, Principles of Cancer Management, Principles of Symptom Management, Oncologic Emergencies, Palliative Care and End-of-Life Issues, and Patient Teaching. Given ongoing, rapid developments in oncology research and practice, the concern that some information may become outdated after publication is unavoidable for a comprehensive text. However, *Oncology Nursing Advisor* is an excellent reference guide for the novice or experienced nurse, particularly when used in conjunction with other recent print and electronic media sources.

*Oncology Nursing Advisor* touches on all the basics needed to build a solid foundation in cancer, staging, symptom management, oncologic emergencies, and patient teaching tools. This text will make a valuable addition to the oncology nurse’s

bookshelf, providing a ready resource to optimize knowledge and assist in patient and staff education.

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**Genetics and Ethics in Health Care: New Questions in the Age of Genomic Health.** Rita Black Monsen. Silver Spring, MD: American Nurses Association and the International Society of Nurses in Genetics, 2009, 462 pages, paperback, \$39.95.



The pace of genomics research has been staggering following the completion of the Human Genome Project. Fuelled by developments in information technology, the burgeoning genomic enterprise will have far-reaching social consequences that challenge our understanding of ourselves; what it means to be human; and the etiology, manifestation, progression, and management of diseases. The genomic era also will engender profound changes in traditional healthcare delivery, with associated ethical, social, and legal implications. Many implications of the genomic revolution are being experienced, and others are imminent. A crucial question is whether the nursing profession will be led by developments in genomic research or actively guide how genomic knowledge is translated to inform clinical care of diverse patient populations.

*Genetics and Ethics in Health Care: New Questions in the Age of Genomic Health*, edited by Rita Black Monsen and co-published by the American Nurses Association and the International Society of Nurses in Genetics, represents a bold attempt by the nursing profession to outline the promises and implications of contemporary genomic research. The text is a clarion call for nurses to embrace the enormous changes that genomics research will impact on the clinical care and health management of patients. Of parallel import is the demand for nurses to acknowledge the deeply complex and diverse moral and ethical concerns that can influence the decisions of individual

patients, their families, and communities in the context of genomic healthcare delivery.

The text is divided into four parts; each part is subdivided into chapters addressing overarching themes that inform a major subtext of the entire work. Issues discussed in part 1, Genetics, Genomics, and Ethics: Basic Considerations, include informed consent, genetic inheritance and discrimination, and educational preparedness of healthcare professionals to use genomic technologies in caring for individual patients and their families. Significant documents and organizations governing nursing ethics and nursing practice, genomic ethical principles in the context of nursing and healthcare practice, and the evolution of genomic policies in the United States also are highlighted.

Part 2, Religious and Cultural Perspectives of Communities and Societies, brings to the forefront diverse religious, cultural, and ethnic perspectives at the nexus of decision-making processes in individual and familial healthcare usage. Perspectives from African American, Hispanic, and Native American communities and religious viewpoints from Hindu, Jewish, Christian, and Islamic traditions are included.

Part 3, Applications of Genetics and Genomics in Health Care, presents a menu of genetic diagnostic technologies and highlights their application in diseases such as cancer, Huntington disease, and cystic fibrosis. Part 4, Case Studies in Genetics and Ethics, includes a variety of case studies of sickle cell and Alzheimer disease, hereditary cancers, and prenatality. The case studies illustrate lived contexts in which genetics services are used by individual patients and families who care for members affected by genetic conditions.

In the 21st century, genomics research is poised to make major inroads, particularly in the use of genetics to understand disease mechanisms, promote individual and public health, and prevent disease and disability. The enormous changes that genomics research will bring require specific preparation. Undoubtedly, nurses can play important roles in providing appropriate guidance to patients, families, and healthcare agencies regarding the use of genomic technologies and services. Ethical issues