Why Can't Sharon Kowalski Come Home?

This book is a personal account, by a head injury patient's lover, of how the legal system and the family and significant others drastically affect one patient's rehabilitation and future. One of the positive aspects of this book is its effort to demonstrate the importance of patients’ rights. Although occupational therapy is mentioned only a few times, this book is useful for occupational therapists in its reaffirmation of the significance of accurate observational skills and documentation for lawsuits such as these.

Heather Barr Adamczyk, OTR/L

How to Find Information About AIDS

This book is organized into six main chapters: Organizational Resources, Health Departments, Hotlines, Computerized Sources of Information, Print Sources of Information, and Audiovisual Producers. It also includes a general index and a geographic index. This book is a reference guide; it does not contain information about AIDS but rather tells the reader where to find information. I recommend this book for inclusion in a personal and departmental library.

Sandra P. Salinas, OTR/L

American Hospital Association, 840 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60611, 243 pp., $60 (members), $150 (nonmembers).

This book contains data from a voluntary survey conducted in 1987 throughout the United States and associated regions. (This survey is conducted annually by the Hospital Data Center of the American Hospital Association.) The statistical information provided represents trends in services offered, utilization, hospital personnel, and finances and covers the years 1946 through 1987. The data are categorized by type of facility (short-term, long-term, community, nursing, or osteopathic), geographic area, size of hospital, length of patient stay, major services offered, and type of control (city, state, or federal).

Amelia DeSalvo, MA, OTR/L

Cost, Quality, and Access in Health Care: New Roles for Health Planning in a Competitive Environment

This book is a valuable resource for anyone interested in knowing how the American health care system functions as a whole and about the near-term challenges it faces. Among the many issues the book addresses are cost controls, quality-of-care measurement, monitoring of high-priced technologies, preventive services, adverse effects of competition, roles of the private sector, coordination of efforts, and the overall impact of health planning in all of these areas.

Barbara E. Joe, MA

Scholars and Personal Computers: Microcomputing in the Humanities and Social Sciences

This volume is the place to start for anyone about to select, purchase, and learn to use a personal computer. The book is nontechnical and is sprinkled throughout with delightful short selections and quotations from the humanities literature. The book goes through in the development of computer concepts and a review of hardware (e.g., computers, printers, monitors) and software applications (e.g., word processing programs, databases). The book's strength lies in its emphasis on concepts rather than on the latest technical details and breakthroughs.

Paul Petersen, PhD, OTR/L

The Development of Standardized Clinical Evaluations in Mental Health

This book, which was originally published as Occupational Therapy in Mental Health, Volume 8, Number 1, contains a collection of research-based articles encompassing several evaluations that can be used by occupational therapists practicing in mental health. The process one goes through in the development of standardized evaluations is presented. The book looks critically at a variety of occupational therapy evaluation tools and their applicability with various psychiatric populations.

Virginia C. Stoffel, MS, OTR

The Political Economy of Developmental Disabilities

This paperback traces the political, economic, and social forces that fashion the way community services for persons with disabilities are funded, organized, provided, and accessed. It reviews the influence of legislation on programs for persons with developmental disabilities and discusses the challenges of future policy making. This book is a resource for occupational therapists, families, and other professionals involved in the administration of programs for this population.

Patricia Moulton, MA, OTR/L

Organic Psychiatry: The Psychological Consequences of Cerebral Disorders (2nd ed.)

This British text summarizes the cognitive, behavioral, and emotional consequences of cerebral disorders. Chapters include research data and case descriptions describing...