
This book presents data and the opinions of parents to explain the need for respite care programs. A variety of respite care models are briefly described and information is provided on the population they serve, specific services offered, costs of service, and their administrative procedures. The authors provide a very useful description of existing programs, including their locations and addresses.

Respite Care may serve as a guide for those interested in developing and selecting a respite care program model. A chapter on legal and fiscal perspectives is also presented. Information regarding the recruitment, selection, training, and matching of respite care workers to families is provided, along with specific forms for the supervision and evaluation of worker effectiveness.

This book would be a useful reference to health service managers, including occupational therapists, who could establish respite care programs in their community.

Amarillis Diaz, MS, OTR

The Health Care Supervisor’s Legal Guide, Karen Hawley Henry. Aspen Systems Corporation, PO Box 6018, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, 386 pp (1984), $34.50.

This book was written for health care supervisors who would like to improve their ability to make administrative decisions based on an understanding of underlying legal concerns. It briefly presents the supervisor’s role within today’s legal matrix. The major portion of the text concentrates on extensive coverage of the various aspects of law affecting supervisors, including collective bargaining, discrimination, and regulation of employer-employee relations.

The book offers a suggested methodology for supervision which takes into account legal ramifications, as well as a checklist for decision making which may be useful to anyone who faces difficult administrative choices. Finally, six case studies are presented for further illustration of the material. This book is recommended for departmental libraries.

Barbara Berrang Middleton, OTR

Functional Assessment in Rehabilitation, Carl V. Granger, MD, and Glen E. Gresham, MD, Editors. Williams & Wilkins Co., 428 E. Preston St., Baltimore, MD 21202, 407 pp (1984), $42.

This book reviews the history and state of the art of functional assessment and its status in rehabilitation. Although there are no contributors from the field of occupational therapy, this 407-page book presents an in-depth and comprehensive analysis of functional assessment in rehabilitation. There is limited information available on this subject making it an essential reference requirement for occupational therapy departments and school libraries.

Of particular interest to occupational therapists who wish to design an efficient assessment procedure is the acknowledgment of the importance of daily living activities in health care planning. The authors recognize the close association of functional status with professed goals of rehabilitation. Specific chapters are devoted to critical reviews of functional status instruments and discuss the importance of using standardized and accepted instruments over one’s own instruments for the benefit of comparability of data between programs and building a patient data base.

In addition, the book also includes a variety of topics dealing with quality care review, cost analysis and assessment in specific areas of rehabilitation such as nursing, geriatrics, mental retardation, primary care and arthritis. These chapters, particularly the chapter on functional assessment in rehabilitation nursing, illustrate a tremendous overlap of roles with occupational therapy.

Alice Bowker, OTR


This book was written primarily for teachers of severely handicapped school-age children. It