On January 4th 2013, the Department of Health, the NHS Commissioning Board and the Queens Nursing Institute published ‘Care in local communities – A new vision and model for district nursing.’ The document sets out the foundations of DN services and goes on to outline the developments and innovations that ensure services can meet current and future needs. It also includes a development programme for community and district nursing. The model outlines the DN-led team contribution to providing care and support in the community, including people’s homes.

The document is based on the foundations of district nursing:

1. The 6Cs: enduring values underpinning the service and delivery
2. Trust: which starts with therapeutic relationships between patients and carers
3. Partnerships across GP and other services: collaborative working across agencies to support care
4. Supporting transition of care: working with partners to provide seamless support including discharge planning, transition to residential or hospice care
5. Supporting patient choice: working with patients and carers to encourage active participation in care and decision making
6. Managing risk: reducing social isolation through supportive care coordination, supporting the needs of carers and safeguarding vulnerable patients

The Vision for District Nursing also suggests care delivery innovations to meet current and future needs. Such innovations include:

- maximising efficiency through productive community services
- integrated working with health and social care to maximise resources
- delivering complex care, for example administering chemotherapy at home, reducing avoidable hospital admissions
- using new tele-health and mobile technology to support complex care in the home

Reference


The Guide to the Handling of People, a Systems Approach

Editor: Jacqui Smith
Publisher: Backcare
ISBN: 978-0-9530582-1
Cost: £49.99

This guide, now its 6th edition, has an impressive list of contributors and supporters. The National Back Association has a long history of working with health and social care providers, supplying evidence-based information on practice.

This substantial guide provides a wealth of information and guidance for practitioners. The legal section is an excellent starting chapter and highlights case studies in the text. The practical chapters are comprehensive and would be a useful addition to all colleagues who are involved in the handling of people. A large section of the book is devoted to core person handling and core hoisting skills. The guidance provided is underpinned by evidence and each section is followed by a thorough reference list.

Practical techniques are explored in-depth, useful checklists and illustrations also support the guidance.

The authors clearly state that their guide is not prescriptive but aims to support practitioners with risk assessments and ultimately their decision making around the handling of clients. Copies held centrally with strategic leads of departments would be an effective way of providing staff access to the guidance.

The final chapters on the handling of bariatric clients and the prevention and management of falls are excellent. Despite being expensive, the guide is excellent and can be highly recommended.

Nicola Darby, RN, RM, DN, RHV. Health visitor, Calderdale and Huddersfield Foundation Trust

Introduction to Community Nursing Practice

Authors: Arnott J; Atherley S; Kelly J and Pye S.
Publisher: Open University Press
ISBN: 978-0-335-24471-3
Cost: £22.99

This text book is aimed at the student nurse or the novice registered nurse to help them understand the basic concepts related to nursing in the community. Key issues such as vulnerability, addressing inequalities, managing risk, and the assessment and management of care of individuals, families and carers are all examined and supported with up to date evidence. Perhaps policy from the four countries of the UK could have been included to widen the book’s appeal.

The strength of this book is the fictional town of Chettlesbridge and the case studies within it which are integrated throughout the book to encourage the reader to apply theories discussed. This is of particular use for those with limited community nursing experience. The inclusion of a map would have been useful for those who are more visual learners.

Overall I would recommend this book to its target audience as a valuable, practical resource but would suggest that further texts will be required to explore some of the issues in further depth.

Heather Bain. Course Leader Master’s portfolio, Robert Gordon University

Leadership, Management and Team Working in Nursing

Authors: Shirley Bach and Peter Ellis
Publisher: Sage Publications Limited
Cost: £18.99

Leadership, management and team Working are all vital components of nursing. This book is aimed at student nurses and newly qualified nurses and is designed to build their confidence and knowledge and understanding in these areas.

The book is broken down into manageable chapters that cover a range of issues. Chapter 3 is particularly useful as it focuses on working with individuals in teams and looks at roles and responsibilities and delegation, areas that nurses often have difficulties in undertaking. As a new manager to an inpatient unit I found the chapters improving care, change management and entrepreneurial skills and developing confidence as a manager and a leader of particular benefit. Adair’s ten principles of good time management is a tool that I shall use to help me in my new role.

Overall, I found the format of the book easy to use and I found the chapters covered a wide range of issues associated with leadership, management and team working. Although aimed at student nurses and newly qualified nurses this book would benefit all nurses and nurses new to management.

Helen Reeves, Clinical Nurse Manager, St Giles Walsall Hospice

Book Reviews

Need to Know

The document is based on the foundations of district nursing:

1. The 6Cs: enduring values underpinning the service and delivery