



Vantage point

New response in crisis

THE IMPORTANCE of healthcare systems that can respond quickly in times of crisis or disaster has been highlighted by the emerging situation in Europe, where millions of immigrants and refugees are in urgent need of support.

We are witnessing the largest forced migration since the second world war, as a result of political conflict and economic and humanitarian crises in the Middle East.

The issues these immigrants and refugees face include deprivation of basics, such as clean water, food, clothing and shelter; poor living conditions and hygiene; exposure to bacteria; mental health problems; and lack of access to care.

This migration has all the characteristics of war, famine and disaster. There is no time to strengthen current health systems; new forms of care need to be established immediately.

Founding small, flexible, well-organised mobile healthcare units, comprising nurses and other healthcare professionals who can respond quickly, can help address some issues. They would offer a cost-effective and ethical way to provide free primary care where the need exists. The critical factors are preparedness and fast implementation of preventive interventions.

This is a time of unprecedented global mobility, and healthcare systems need to adapt to ensure that European policies are driving the development of culturally appropriate primary care for migrants.

Evidence-based guidelines and training on cultural competence for healthcare providers are vital, as is the use of the internet to disseminate information and share policy and best practice.

Public health systems must change to better serve refugees and immigrants, and nurses are integral to ensuring the care they receive is fast, compassionate and dignified.

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Medicines Management for Nurses at a Glance

Simon Young and Ben Pitcher

Wiley Blackwell
£26.99 | 120pp

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THIS BOOK is a general introduction to topics related to medicines management, rather than an in-depth discussion. However, it provides a good starting point for expanding knowledge of medicines management.

The topics are organised into three chapters, making the information accessible and easy to navigate. These chapters provide a clear and concise review of basic pharmacology, therapeutics and special situations in medicines management.

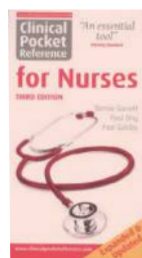
Part one defines key terms and covers areas such as the development of medicines, numeracy and general pharmacological principles, which are relevant to all specialties. The text is easy to read and supported by clear, colourful diagrams.

Part two offers a brief discussion of a broad range of conditions and their treatments, while in part three the authors discuss medicines management in special situations, drug interactions, adverse drug reactions and pharmacovigilance – all important topics in the safe use of medicines.

The book also has a companion website with interactive multiple choice questions to support learning.

Given its nursing focus, this publication is likely to appeal to clinicians working in a range of specialties, as well as nursing students. It is also relevant for the non-registered workforce, such as associate practitioners and healthcare assistants.

It is a useful introductory text on the subject, and one that libraries should stock. *Gerri Kaufman is senior lecturer in adult nursing at the University of York*



Clinical Pocket Reference for Nurses Third edition

Bernie Garrett et al
Clinical Pocket Reference Ltd
£11.99 | 84pp
ISBN: 9781908725042

THE CLINICAL Pocket Reference for Nurses is an excellent resource for students and qualified practitioners.

This third edition contains updated content on cardiac monitoring and neurological assessment, and includes references to the latest Resuscitation Council UK guidelines.

The text covers a wide range of essential information, including the requirements for patient assessment, the latest risk assessment tools, the Bristol stool chart, management of shock and sepsis, interpreting electrocardiograms and a guide to wound classification and healing.

The book is easy to use and nurses should be able to find the information they need quickly. The small, spiral-bound format makes it ideal to keep in a pocket or diary when at work.

An educational tool that supports learning in practice and can also be used as a quick revision aid, this book is a useful resource that nurses might buy for themselves, but it could also be used as a quick reference guide to be shared among colleagues on a ward.

Although the book does have a nursing focus, its contents would also be relevant and useful to other healthcare professionals, such as physiotherapists and paramedics.

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What's your view?

If you want to express your opinions on any of the issues in Nursing Management, email the editor at sophie.blakemore@rcni.com