

Re-Visioning Family Therapy: Race, Culture, and Gender in Clinical Practice (2nd edn)

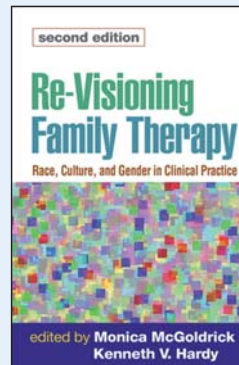
Edited by Monica McGoldrick and Kenneth V Hardy
 Guilford Press 2008
 Price £33.00. Pp 483
 ISBN 9781593854270

In this exciting age when a black president sits in the White House, and an openly gay woman is prime minister of Iceland, the impact of race and sexual orientation, as well as culture, class, religion and gender, are more openly discussed than ever before.

This second edition is a greatly expanded and updated version of McGoldrick's 2002 book. Issues discussed include theoretical perspectives on multicultural work,

cultural legacies for both service users and service providers, therapists' personal narratives of the impact of race, migration and gender on them and their work, and implications for therapy, clinical practice and training.

The material for this book is a mix of traditional, evidence-based research and personal narratives through which – the authors comment – we can learn about those aspects of our experience that do not fit into our existing theoretical and clinical models. The personal accounts are particularly powerful, moving and memorable, and serve as a useful counterpoint to the more theoretical chapters.



Reading this book it is impossible to ignore the personal lenses through which one reads it and how these affect and are affected by the material. As a white, female professional the chapters on white privilege and the impact of oppression were particularly powerful and provoking.

This is a valuable book for practitioners who are interested in developing their thinking both about the lenses that 'others' might use and also about the lenses that colour, mist and aid our own views of the world.

Sarah Helps, Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust, London

Oxford Handbook of Clinical Haematology (3rd edn)

Drew Provan, Charles RJ Singer, Trevor Baglin, Interjeet Dokal
 Oxford University Press 2009
 Price £29.95. Pp 820
 ISBN 978 0 19 922739 6

The third edition of the *Oxford Handbook of Clinical Haematology*, like its predecessors and other books in the series, provides an invaluable reference for the clinician. It gives concise and highly relevant information in a format that is easy to access, and the difficult balance between quantity of information and utility is achieved.

For junior doctors the book is invaluable as a reference tool. The 21 chapters describe a wide variety of haematological topics, containing the essential information needed for a clear understanding of the subjects. Following the format of other Oxford Handbooks there is also a clearly documented section on haematological emergencies such as the treatment of neutropenic sepsis or acute sickle cell crises.

Excellent summaries of recent advances in haematology are included, together with useful references at footnotes for the reader. Furthermore the book incorporates the 2008 World Health Organization diagnostic criteria of haematological disorders. There is also a summary of the chemotherapy drugs used for various protocols.

As the emphasis is on clinical haematology, relatively limited information is provided on the laboratory aspects of haema-

tology (e.g. laboratory procedures or quality control). There are also few coloured pictures to describe various blood films and marrows. Other than this, there is little to fault. The book is very reasonably priced for the amount of information within and provides an excellent resource for all clinicians with an interest in haematology.
Saran Nicholas, Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport

Ultrasound Guidance for Nerve Blocks: Principles and Practical Implementation

Peter Marhofer
 Oxford University Press 2008
 Price £24.95. Pp 146
 ISBN 978 0 19 954756 2

Professor Peter Marhofer's book is the perfect text for this exciting new anaesthetic technique. Ultrasound-guided regional anaesthesia enables safe identification of neuronal structures, identification of adjacent anatomical structures and observation of the ideal spread of the local anaesthetic. Successful visual spread of local anaesthetic results in a safe nerve block. There is evidence that using ultrasound results in faster onset and longer duration of blocks and allows lower volumes of local anaesthetics to be used. All of this increases patient safety and satisfaction.

This timely text distils 15 years' practice of ultrasound-guided regional anaesthesia. The book has been written in a very clear and concise manner, with a layout condu-

cive to both the novice and the expert. It is also conveniently sized and weighted to fit into the pocket of your scrubs.

The first half of the book is essential reading for every anaesthetist. For the beginner basic understanding of the principles of ultrasonography is essential. Understanding how to get the best picture and how to interpret the sonoanatomy stimulate the left side of the reader's brain. The second half describes and illustrates simply the practical techniques of performing specific ultrasound-guided nerve blocks, stimulating the right side of the reader's brain.

The book is ideal both as a study aid for exams and a quick reference guide for ultrasound-guided regional anaesthesia. This particular anaesthetist used it as a manual to make his ultrasound-guided regional anaesthesia practice more interesting, enjoyable and effective.

This book has given me several priceless tips on particular blocks that have been difficult in the past which I now regard as easy. The dark art of regional anaesthesia has now been illuminated by the brilliance of this man's teaching. His vision 15 years ago of ultrasound being used to guide regional anaesthesia in the future has now been translated into reality in the present. It is both my personal and professional opinion that his book is the gold standard text for this gold standard technique. Every anaesthetist should buy this book today.

Damon Kamming, University College Hospital London, London