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Prenatal And Postnatal Care

Prenatal And Postnatal Care: A Woman-Centered Approach

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Prenatal and Postnatal Care: A Woman-Centered Approach is a comprehensive resource for the care of the pregnant woman before and after birth. Ideal as a graduate text for newly-qualified adult nurses, family and women’s health practitioners, and midwives, the book can also be used as an in-depth reference for antenatal and postpartum care for those already in practice. Beginning by outlining the physiological foundations of prenatal and postnatal care, and then presenting these at an advanced practice level, the book moves on to discuss preconception and prenatal care, the management of common health problems during pregnancy, and postnatal care. Each chapter includes quick-reference definitions of relevant terminology and statistics on current trends in prenatal and postnatal care, together with cultural considerations to offer comprehensive management of individual patient needs. Written by experts in the field, Prenatal and Postnatal Care: A Woman-Centered Approach deftly combines the physiological foundation of prenatal and postnatal care with practical application for a comprehensive, holistic approach applicable to a variety of clinical settings.

As a Board Certified FNP provider at a free pregnancy clinic providing care to uninsured and underserved women, as well as a Board Certified Advanced Holistic Nurse, I’m always interested in perspectives and approaches that offer a more woman-centered, holistic style of care. This book appealed to me because of the proclaimed woman-centered approach. I recently received this book,
as well as Supporting a Physiologic Approach to Pregnancy and Birth: A Practical Guide by Avery and both books are good. Both discuss the importance, with supporting evidence, of returning to a more natural, "normalizing" approach to birth vs. "management" of the pregnancy and birth process. However, this text goes into much more detail regarding basic concepts and care in OB, and thus would be the better choice for someone new to the field or who is looking for a more comprehensive review. I must say though that both this book and the Avery book present only basic holistic concepts that are most appropriate for providers with minimal to no experience with holistic and integrative care. But as we know, the majority of birthing providers in the USA practice with the mainstream medical model (lay and nurse midwives excepted), so that makes both texts appropriate for the majority of providers. The Avery book I mention above is a great choice for experience OB providers who don’t need the general OB review as it focuses primarily on the rationale, woman-focused methods to incorporate and how to integrate them to create a more holistic, woman centered practice.

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