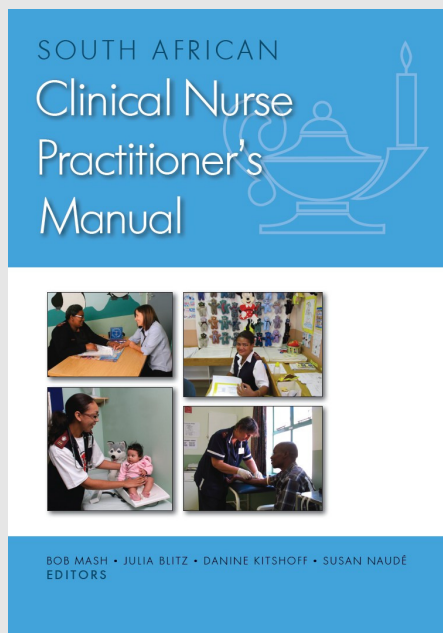


PRESS RELEASE



Title:	South African Clinical Nurse Practitioner's Manual
Authors:	B. Mash, J. Blitz, D. Kitshoff & S. Naudé (editors)
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Primary health care in South Africa is mainly delivered by clinical nurse practitioners with the support of family physicians. *South African clinical nurse practitioner's manual*, an adaptation of *South African family practice manual*, focuses on practical skills that clinical nurse practitioners should obtain during their training and will use in their professional practice.

In this first edition of *South African clinical nurse practitioner's manual*, the central aim of the editors and contributors has been to provide a concise, yet up-to-date and comprehensive text for clinical nurse practitioners. Experience since democracy has shown that significant investment is needed to empower health care providers with clinical care competencies and with the skills to learn, adapt, be team players, recognise their own limitations and implement policies. The *South African clinical nurse practitioner's manual* covers an ambitious agenda of the skills needed for primary health care delivery in South Africa. It points to a vision of primary health care where people can bring a wide range of health problems to primary health care providers, thus moving beyond the limited 'recipes' touted for resource constraint settings of dealing only with a few 'priority diseases'. The book goes beyond clinical knowledge and skills needed, and stresses the ongoing relationships between patients and nurse clinicians, within which patients participate in decision-making about their health and health care. A striking feature of the book is its focus on the South African context, while drawing on international research and current global knowledge.

South African clinical nurse practitioner's manual deals with aspects of clinical examination and common procedures, as well as key proficiencies in areas of communication, occupational health, research, teaching and health care administration. It provides the theory and the practical steps of routine skills as well as emergency care over a full spectrum of primary care – from the newborn to the elderly. It also looks at topical issues in the South African context, including community-orientated primary care.

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