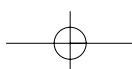
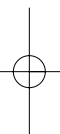
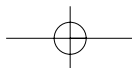
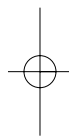
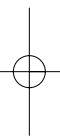
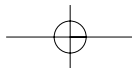
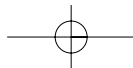


# **The Royal Marsden Hospital Manual of Clinical Nursing Procedures**







# The Royal Marsden Hospital Manual of Clinical Nursing Procedures

Sixth Edition

Edited by

**Lisa Dougherty**

*RN, RM, Onc Cert, MSc*

Nurse Consultant Intravenous Therapy

The Royal Marsden Hospital

and

**Sara E. Lister**

*RN, PGDAE, BSc (Hons), MSc*

Assistant Chief Nurse/Head of School

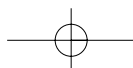
The Royal Marsden Hospital School of Cancer Nursing & Rehabilitation

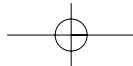
The Royal Marsden Hospital



 **Blackwell  
Publishing**

The Royal Marsden   
NHS Foundation Trust





© 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004 by The Royal Marsden Hospital

Blackwell Publishing Ltd

Editorial offices:

Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 9600 Garsington Road, Oxford OX4 2DQ, UK

Tel: +44 (0)1865 776868

Blackwell Publishing Inc., 350 Main Street, Malden, MA 02148-5020, USA

Tel: +1 781 388 8250

Blackwell Publishing Asia Pty Ltd, 550 Swanston Street, Carlton, Victoria 3053, Australia

Tel: +61 (0)3 8359 1011

The right of the Author to be identified as the Author of this Work has been asserted in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, except as permitted by the UK Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, without the prior permission of the publisher.

First edition published by Harper and Row Ltd 1984

Second edition published 1998

Reprinted by HarperCollins 1990

Third edition published by Blackwell Scientific Publications 1992

Fourth edition published by Blackwell Science 1996

Fifth edition published by Blackwell Science 2000

Sixth edition published by Blackwell Publishing Ltd 2004

Reprinted 2005 (twice)

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data is available

ISBN-10: 1-4051-0161-X

ISBN-13: 978-14051-0161-5

A catalogue record for this title is available from the British Library

Set in 9.5/11pt Minion by Gray Publishing, Tunbridge Wells

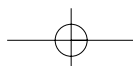
Printed and bound in Italy by G. Canale & C. SpA

The publisher's policy is to use permanent paper from mills that operate a sustainable forestry policy, and which has been manufactured from pulp processed using acid-free and elementary chlorine-free practices. Furthermore, the publisher ensures that the text paper and cover board used have met acceptable environmental accreditation standards.

Products and services that are referred to in this book may be either trademarks and/or registered trademarks of their respective owners. The publisher and authors make no claim to these trademarks.

For further information on Blackwell Publishing, visit our website:  
[www.blackwellnursing.com](http://www.blackwellnursing.com)

Every effort has been made in the writing of this book to present accurate and up-to-date information from the best and most reliable sources. However, the results of caring for individuals depends upon a variety of factors not under the control of the authors or the publishers of this book. Therefore, neither the authors nor the publishers assume responsibility for, nor make any warranty with respect to, the outcomes achieved from the procedures described herein.



# Contents

<i>Quick reference to the guidelines</i>	xiii	<i>Procedure guidelines: Source isolation</i>	70
<i>Contributors to sixth edition</i>	xvii	Protective isolation	74
<i>Foreword to sixth edition</i>	xxi	Reference material	76
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xxiii	<i>Procedure guidelines: Nursing the</i>	
<i>Introduction</i>	xxv	neutropenic patient	78
<b>1 Context of care</b>	<b>1</b>	Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)	80
Introduction	1	Reference material	80
Evidence-based practice: doing the right thing	2	Human immunodeficiency virus 2 (HIV 2)	85
Consent	5	Reference material	85
Conclusion	13	<i>Procedure guidelines: Acquired immune deficiency</i>	
References and further reading	14	syndrome in a general ward	86
<b>2 Communication and assessment</b>	<b>16</b>	Antimicrobial-resistant organisms	91
Introduction	16	Reference material	91
Communication	16	Aspergillosis	96
Principles of assessment	25	Reference material	96
Conclusion	36	<i>Clostridium difficile</i>	98
References and further reading	36	Reference material	98
<b>3 Abdominal paracentesis</b>	<b>43</b>	Cryptosporidiosis	99
Reference material	43	Reference material	99
<i>Procedure guidelines: Abdominal paracentesis</i>	46	Hepatitis	101
<i>Procedure guidelines: Removal of an</i>		Hepatitis A	101
intraperitoneal drain (short term)	47	Reference material	101
Problem solving	48	<i>Procedure guidelines: Hepatitis A</i>	102
References and further reading	48	Hepatitis B	103
<b>4 Aseptic technique</b>	<b>50</b>	Reference material	103
Reference material	51	<i>Procedure guidelines: Hepatitis B</i>	106
<i>Procedure guidelines: Aseptic technique</i>	57	Non-A non-B hepatitis	109
<i>Procedure guidelines: Hand washing</i>	58	Reference material	109
References and further reading	61	<i>Procedure guidelines: Non-A non-B hepatitis</i>	110
<b>5 Barrier nursing: nursing the infectious</b>	<b>64</b>	Hepatitis C	110
or immunosuppressed patient	<b>64</b>	Reference material	110
Barrier nursing	64	Hepatitis D	111
Reference material	64	Reference material	111
Source isolation	66	Hepatitis E	111
Reference material	67	Reference material	111
		Hepatitis B genotype F	112
		Reference material	112
		Hepatitis G	112
		Reference material	112
		The herpes viruses	112
		Cytomegalovirus	112

Reference material	112	References and further reading	224
Epstein–Barr virus	114		
Reference material	114	<b>10 Drug administration: cytotoxic drugs</b>	<b>228</b>
Herpes simplex virus	115	Reference material	228
Reference material	115	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Protection of the environment	230
Varicella zoster virus	116	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Protection of staff during accidental exposure to cytotoxic drugs	233
Reference material	116	Routes of administration	234
Legionnaire's disease	118	Intravenous administration	234
Reference material	118	Reference material	235
Listeriosis	119	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Intravenous administration of cytotoxic drugs	236
Reference material	119	Extravasation of vesicant drugs	238
Pneumocystosis	120	Reference material	238
Reference material	120	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Management of extravasation when using a peripheral cannula	242
Tuberculosis	121	Oral administration	244
Reference material	122	Reference material	245
Transmissible spongiform encephalopathies	125	Intramuscular and subcutaneous injection	245
Reference material	125	Reference material	245
References and further reading	127	Topical application	245
		Reference material	246
<b>6 Breast aspiration and seroma drainage</b>	<b>150</b>	Intrathecal administration	246
Breast aspiration	150	Reference material	246
Reference material	150	Intrapleural instillation	247
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Breast aspiration	153	Reference material	248
Seroma drainage	155	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Administration of intrapleural drugs	248
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Seroma drainage	156	Problem solving	249
References and further reading	157	Intravesical instillation	249
		Reference material	249
<b>7 Cardiopulmonary resuscitation</b>	<b>158</b>	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Intravesical instillation of cytotoxic drugs	250
Reference material	158	Problem solving	251
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Cardiopulmonary resuscitation	165	Intraperitoneal administration	252
References and further reading	169	Reference material	252
		<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Intraperitoneal instillation of cytotoxic drugs	253
<b>8 Discharge planning</b>	<b>170</b>	Problem solving	254
Reference material	170	Intra-arterial administration	254
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Discharge planning	179	Reference material	254
References and further reading	182	Problem solving	256
		References and further reading	256
<b>9 Drug administration: general principles</b>	<b>184</b>		
Reference material	184	<b>11 Drug administration: delivery (infusion devices)</b>	<b>259</b>
Injections and infusions	193	Reference material	260
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Self-administration of drugs	201	Infusion devices	265
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Oral drug administration	203	Gravity infusion devices	265
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Administration of injections	205	Infusion pumps	266
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Administration of rectal and vaginal preparations	210	Summary	269
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Topical applications of drugs	211	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Subcutaneous administration of drugs using a syringe driver (e.g. Sims (Graseby) Medical MS26)	270
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Administration of drugs in other forms	211	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Preparation of the syringe for 24-hour drug administration using	
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Administration of intravenous drugs by continuous infusion	213		
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Administration of drugs by intermittent infusion	215		
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Administration of drugs by direct injection, bolus or push	218		
Problem solving	220		

the Sims (Graseby) Medical MS26		Problem solving	327
syringe driver	270	Useful addresses	328
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Priming the infusion set	271	References and further reading	328
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Inserting the winged			
infusion set or cannula	271		
Problem solving	272		
References and further reading	274		
<b>12 Elimination: bladder lavage and irrigation</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>16 Elimination: urinary catheterization</b>	<b>330</b>
Reference material	275	Reference material	331
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Bladder lavage	278	<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Urinary catheterization	335
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Administering a catheter		<i>Procedure guidelines for patients</i> : Intermittent	
maintenance solution	280	self-catheterization	339
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Continuous bladder		<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Collection of a catheter	
irrigation	281	specimen of urine	341
Bladder irrigation recording chart	282	<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Emptying a catheter bag	342
Problem solving	283	<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Removing a catheter	343
References and further reading	283	Problem solving	343
		References and further reading	346
<b>13 Elimination: bowel care</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>17 External compression and support in the</b>	<b>348</b>
Reference material	285	<b>management of lymphoedema</b>	<b>348</b>
Enemas	292	Reference material	349
Reference material	292	Assessment of the patient with lymphoedema	349
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Administration of enemas	293	Measurement of limb volume	350
Phasing	294	Reference material	350
Suppositories	295	<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Calculation of limb	
Reference material	295	volume	351
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Administration of		Phases of treatment	352
suppositories	295	Maintenance phase of treatment	352
Digital rectal examination	296	Intensive phase of treatment	353
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Digital rectal examination	297	<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : The application of elastic	
Manual evacuation	298	compression garments	355
Rectal lavage	298	<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Standard multilayer	
Reference material	299	compression bandaging	356
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Administration of		References and further reading	360
rectal lavage	300		
Problem solving	301	<b>18 Gene therapy for the management of cancer</b>	<b>362</b>
References and further reading	302	Reference material	362
		<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Care of patients receiving	
		gene therapy	367
		Further advice	371
		References and further reading	371
<b>14 Elimination: continent urinary</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>19 Haematological procedures: specialist,</b>	<b>372</b>
<b>diversions</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>diagnostic and therapeutic</b>	<b>373</b>
Reference material		Reference material	373
Teaching intermittent self-catheterization		<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Bone marrow aspiration	
of a continent urinary diversion stoma	310	and trephine biopsy	376
Reference material	310	Problem solving	377
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Self-catheterization		<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Bone marrow harvest	378
of a continent urinary diversion stoma	311	References and further reading	379
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Flushing of urinary			
drainage tubes	312	<b>20 Intrapleural drainage</b>	<b>380</b>
Problem solving	313	Reference material	380
Useful addresses	314	<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Chest drain insertion	384
References and further reading	314	<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Removal of a chest drain	388
		Problem solving	389
		References and further reading	390
<b>15 Elimination: stoma care</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>21 Last offices</b>	<b>391</b>
Reference material	316	Reference material	391
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Stoma care	324	<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Last offices	392
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Collection of a specimen		Problem solving	394
of urine from an ileal conduit or urostomy	325		
<i>Procedure guidelines</i> : Removal of stoma bridge			
or rod	326		

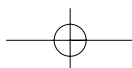
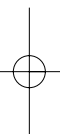
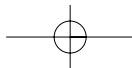
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Requirements for people of different religious faiths	396	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Reagent sticks	473
References and further reading	399	Blood glucose	473
<b>22 Lumbar puncture</b>	<b>402</b>	Reference material	474
Reference material	403	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Blood glucose monitoring	477
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Lumbar puncture	405	Central venous pressure	478
Problem solving	407	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Reading central venous pressure	480
References and further reading	408	Problem solving	481
<b>23 Moving and handling of patients</b>	<b>409</b>	References and further reading	481
Reference material	409	<b>26 Observations: neurological</b>	<b>485</b>
Summary	417	Reference material	485
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Moving and handling of patients	418	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Neurological observations and assessment	492
References and further reading	418	References and further reading	495
<b>24 Nutritional support</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>27 Pain management and assessment</b>	<b>496</b>
Reference material	421	Reference material	496
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Nasogastric intubation with tubes using an introducer	430	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Patient assessment and preparation before surgery: optimizing pain control	509
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Nasogastric intubation with tubes without using an introducer, e.g. a Ryle's tube	432	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Using a chronic pain chart	509
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of a percutaneous endoscopically placed gastrostomy (PEG) tube	434	References and further reading	510
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of a radiologically inserted gastrostomy (RIG) tube	435	<b>28 Pain management: Entonox administration</b>	<b>513</b>
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of a jejunostomy feeding tube	435	Reference material	514
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Administration of drugs via enteral feeding tubes	436	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Entonox administration	516
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Unblocking an enteral feeding tube	437	Problem solving	517
Problem solving	438	References and further reading	518
References and further reading	440	<b>29 Pain management: epidural analgesia</b>	<b>519</b>
<b>25 Observations</b>	<b>442</b>	Reference material	520
Pulse	442	Epidural analgesia for patients with intractable cancer pain	524
Reference material	443	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Insertion of an epidural catheter	525
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Pulse	446	<i>Problem solving:</i> Management of side-effects associated with epidural infusions of local anaesthetic agents and opioids	526
12 Lead electrocardiogram (ECG)	446	<i>Problem solving:</i> Complications of epidural use and management	528
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> 12 Lead ECG	446	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Topping up epidural analgesia	528
Blood pressure	448	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Removal of an epidural catheter	529
Reference material	448	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Preinsertion management of an epidural for chronic pain	530
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Manual blood pressure	454	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Changing the dressing over the epidural exit site	530
Respiration	455	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Postinsertion monitoring of respiratory and cardiac function in chronic pain management	531
Reference material	455	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Setting up the epidural infusion (utilizing a syringe pump or driver)	532
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Pulse oximetry	461	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Setting up the epidural infusion (utilizing an ambulatory pump)	532
Peak flow	462		
Reference material	462		
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Peak flow reading using manual peak flow meter	463		
Temperature	464		
Reference material	465		
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Temperature	469		
Urinalysis	470		
Reference material	470		
Characteristics of urine	471		



<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Discharge planning	533	Problem solving	605
Problem solving	534	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of patients with radioactive seeds (e.g. iodine-125)	605
References and further reading	535	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of patients with breast sources	606
<b>30 Perioperative care</b>	<b>536</b>	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Interstitial perineal template (Hammersmith hedgehog)	606
Preoperative care	536	Useful websites	608
Reference material	536	References and further reading	608
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Preoperative care	538	<b>35 Radioactive source therapy and diagnostic procedures: unsealed sources</b>	<b>610</b>
Intraoperative care	540	Reference material	611
Reference material	540	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of the patient before administration of iodine-131	620
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Intraoperative care	542	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of the patient receiving iodine-131 thyroid treatment	620
Postanaesthetic recovery	544	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of the patient receiving iodine-131 mIBG treatment	620
Reference material	544	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of the patient after administration of unsealed source therapy	621
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Postanaesthetic recovery	545	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of the patient receiving unsealed sources for diagnostic investigations	623
Problem solving	547	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Emergency procedures	624
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Postoperative recovery	549	References and further reading	626
References and further reading	551	<b>36 Renal replacement therapy: peritoneal dialysis and continuous venovenous haemodiafiltration</b>	<b>629</b>
<b>31 Personal hygiene: eye care</b>	<b>553</b>	Reference material	629
Reference material	553	Peritoneal dialysis (PD)	630
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Eye swabbing	562	Reference material	630
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Eye swabbing for comatose patients	563	Continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT)	632
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of artificial eyes	564	Reference material	632
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of contact lenses	565	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Peritoneal dialysis	633
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Instillation of eye drops	566	Problem solving	635
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Instillation of eye ointment	567	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Preparation of equipment for CVVHDF utilizing a CVVHDF device	637
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Eye irrigation	568	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Commencement of CVVHDF	638
References and further reading	569	References and further reading	639
<b>32 Personal hygiene: mouth care</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>37 Respiratory therapy</b>	<b>641</b>
Reference material	570	Reference material	641
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Mouth care	575	Continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP)	647
Problem solving	577	Reference material	647
References and further reading	577	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Pre-continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP)	650
<b>33 Personal hygiene: skin care</b>	<b>580</b>	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Setting up continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP)	651
Reference material	580	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Humidification	652
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Bed bathing a patient	584	<i>Problem solving:</i> Oxygen therapy by nasal cannulae or oxygen mask	652
References and further reading	585	<i>Problem solving:</i> CPAP	653
<b>34 Radioactive source therapy: sealed sources</b>	<b>587</b>	References and further reading	655
Sealed radioactive source therapy	587	<b>38 Scalp cooling</b>	<b>656</b>
Reference material	587	Reference material	657
Remote afterloading	593	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Scalp cooling	659
Reference material	594	Problem solving	660
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of patients with insertions of sealed radioactive sources	597	References and further reading	661
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of patients with intraoral sources	600		
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of patients with manually and afterloaded iridium and caesium gynaecological sources	601		
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Removal of gynaecological caesium and iridium wires	601		
Problem solving	603		
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of patients undergoing Selectron treatment	603		
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Removal of Selectron applicators	604		

<b>39 Specimen collection for microbiological analysis</b>	<b>663</b>	Implantable ports	742
Reference material	663	Reference material	742
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Specimen collection	668	Discharging patients home with a VAD in situ	743
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Analysis of drug levels in blood	674	Quality of life issues: living with a VAD	744
References and further reading	675	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Inserting a peripheral cannula	745
<b>40 Spinal cord compression management</b>	<b>677</b>	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Inserting a midline catheter	746
Reference material	677	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Insertion and removal of a peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC)	748
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of patients with spinal cord compression	680	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Changing the dressing on a central venous catheter insertion site	750
Problem solving	685	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Maintaining patency of a central venous access device	751
References and further reading	686	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Taking blood samples from a central venous access device	752
<b>41 Tracheostomy care and laryngectomy voice rehabilitation</b>	<b>688</b>	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Unblocking an occluded catheter	754
Tracheostomy care	688	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Insertion and removal of non-coring needles in implantable ports	756
Reference material	689	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Removal of a non-skin-tunnelled central venous catheter	758
Laryngectomy voice rehabilitation	695	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Surgical removal of a skin-tunnelled central venous catheter	758
Reference material	695	Problem solving	761
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Changing a tracheostomy dressing	698	Arterial cannulae	763
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Suctioning a patient with a tracheostomy	698	Reference material	763
Humidification	700	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Setting up the monitoring set and preparation for insertion of an arterial cannula	765
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Humidification	700	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Taking a blood sample from an arterial cannula	766
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Changing a tracheostomy tube	700	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Removal of an arterial cannula	768
Problem solving	702	Problem solving	768
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Changing a Blom–Singer type non-indwelling voice prosthesis	703	References and further reading	769
References and further reading	703	<b>45 Venepuncture</b>	<b>774</b>
<b>42 Transfusion of blood, blood products and blood substitutes</b>	<b>705</b>	Reference material	774
Reference material	705	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Venepuncture	779
Problem solving	716	Problem solving	782
References and further reading	717	References and further reading	784
<b>43 The unconscious patient</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>46 Violence: prevention and management</b>	<b>786</b>
Reference material	720	Reference material	787
<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Care of the unconscious patient	721	<i>Procedure guidelines:</i> Prevention and management of violence	792
References and further reading	723	References and further reading	794
<b>44 Vascular access devices: insertion and management</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>47 Wound management</b>	<b>796</b>
Reference material	724	Reference material	796
Peripheral cannulae	729	Leg ulceration	810
Reference material	729	Reference material	810
Midline catheters	733	Pressure ulcers or decubitus ulcers	812
Reference material	733	Reference material	812
Central venous access devices	734	Fungating wounds	818
Peripherally inserted central catheters	735	Reference material	818
Reference material	735		
Short-term percutaneous central venous catheters (non-tunnelled)	737		
Reference material	737		
Skin-tunnelled catheters	739		
Reference material	740		

Radiotherapy skin damage	822	<i>Procedure guidelines: Shortening of drain</i>	
Reference material	823	(Penrose, etc., open drainage systems)	831
Plastic surgery wounds	825	<i>Procedure guidelines: Prevention of pressure</i>	
Reference material	825	ulcers	831
Scarring	826	<i>Procedure guidelines: Sharp debridement</i>	832
Reference material	826	<i>Procedure guidelines: VAC ATS dressing</i>	833
<i>Procedure guidelines: Changing wound</i>		References and further reading	835
dressings	827		
<i>Procedure guidelines: Removal of sutures, clips</i>			
or staples	828	<i>Appendices</i>	
<i>Procedure guidelines: Drain dressing (Redivac –</i>		Appendix 1: Contributors to previous	
closed drainage systems)	829	editions	843
<i>Procedure guidelines: Change of vacuum</i>		Appendix 2: Patient information	
drainage system	829	booklets	845
<i>Procedure guidelines: Removal of drain</i>			
(Yeates vacuum drainage system)	830	<i>Index</i>	847

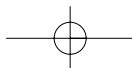
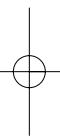
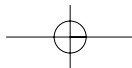


# Quick reference to the guidelines

Abdominal paracentesis	46	Central venous pressure: reading	480
AIDS in a general ward	86	Chest drain insertion	384
Arterial cannula		Chest drain removal	388
removal	768	Chronic pain chart: using	509
setting up the monitoring set and preparation for insertion	765	Compression bandaging: standard multilayer	356
taking a blood sample	766	Continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP)	
Aseptic technique	57	pre-CPAP	650
		setting up	651
		Continuous venovenous haemodiafiltration (CVVHDF)	
Bed bathing a patient	584	commencement	638
Bladder		Cytotoxic drugs	
continuous irrigation	281	intraperitoneal instillation	253
lavage	278	intravenous administration	236
Blom–Singer type non-indwelling voice prosthesis: changing	702	intravesical instillation	250
Blood glucose monitoring	477	management of extravasation	242
Blood pressure	454	protection of environment	230
Bone marrow		protection of staff	233
aspiration and trephine biopsy	376	Digital rectal examination	297
harvest	378	Discharge planning	179, 533
Breast aspiration	153	Drain	
		change of vacuum drainage system	829
Cannula, peripheral, insertion	745	dressing (Redivac – closed drainage systems)	829
Cardiopulmonary resuscitation	165	removal (Yeates vacuum drainage system)	830
Catheter		shortening (Penrose, etc., open drainage systems)	831
administering a maintenance solution	280	Drug administration	
insertion midline	746	continuous infusion	213
unblocking occluded	754	direct injection, bolus or push	218
Central venous access device		enteral feeding tubes	436
blood sampling	752	injections	205
maintaining patency of access device	751	intermittent infusion	215
Central venous catheterization		intrapleural drugs	248
changing a dressing on insertion site	750	oral	203
insertion and removal of non-coring needles in implantable ports	756	other forms	211
inserting a peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC)	748	rectal and vaginal	210
non-skin tunnelled central venous catheter	758	self-administration	201
		topical application	211

Drug levels in blood: analysis	674	Iodine-131	
ECCG, 12 Lead	446	care of patient before administration	620
Elastic compression garments: application	355	care of patient receiving mIBG treatment	620
Enemas: administration	293	care of patient receiving thyroid treatment	620
Enteral feeding tube, unblocking	437	emergency procedures	624
Entonox administration	516	Jejunostomy feeding tube care	435
Epidural analgesia		Last offices	392
complications	527	requirements for people of different religious faiths	396
insertion of an epidural catheter	525	Limb volume: calculation	351
postinsertion monitoring of respiratory		Lumbar puncture	405
and cardiac function in chronic pain			
management	531	Mouth care	575
preinsertion management, for chronic pain	530	Moving and handling of patients	418
removal of an epidural catheter	529	Nasogastric intubation with tubes	
side-effect management	526	using an introducer	430
topping up	528	without using an introducer, e.g. a Ryle's tube	432
Epidural exit site dressing change	530	Neurological observations and assessment	492
Epidural infusions		Nursing the neutropenic patient	78
discharge planning	533	Patient assessment and preparation before	
setting up (utilizing an ambulatory pump)	532	surgery: optimizing pain control	509
setting up (utilizing a syringe pump or driver)	532	Peak flow reading using manual peak flow meter	463
side-effects	526	Percutaneous endoscopically placed	
Eye care		gastrostomy (PEG) tube care	433
artificial eyes	563	Peritoneal dialysis	633
contact lenses	565	Postanaesthetic recovery	544
drops: instillation	566	Postoperative recovery	549
irrigation	568	Preoperative care	538
ointment: instillation	567	Preparation of	
swabbing for comatose patients	563	equipment for CVVHDF utilizing	
swabbing	562	a CVVHDF device	637
Gene therapy: care of patient	367	the syringe for 24-hour drug administration	
Hand washing	58	using the Sims Graseby Medical MS26	
Hepatitis		syringe driver	270
A	102	Pressure ulcers: prevention	831
B	106	Priming the infusion set	271
non-A non-B	110	Pulse oximetry	461
Humidification	652, 700	Pulse	446
Infusion devices		Radiologically inserted gastrostomy (RIG) tube care	435
subcutaneous administration of drugs		Reagent sticks	473
using a syringe driver	270	Rectal lavage: administration	300
preparation of the syringe for		Scalp cooling	659
24-hour drug administration	270	Sealed radioactive source therapy	
priming the infusion set	271	breast	606
inserting the winged infusion set or cannula	271	gynaecological	601
Interstitial perineal template		gynaecological caesium and iridium wires, removal	601
(Hammersmith hedgehog)	606	insertions	597
Intraoperative care	542	intraoral sources	600
Intraperitoneal drain: removal		radioactive seeds	605
(short term)	47	Selectron applicator removal	604

Selectron treatment: care of patient	603	Unsealed radioactive source therapy	
Self-catheterization	311	care of patient after administration	621
Seroma drainage	156	care of patient receiving therapy for	
Sharp debridement	832	diagnostic investigations	623
Source isolation	70	Urinary catheterization	335
Specimen collection	668	bag emptying	342
Spinal cord compression	680	collecting a specimen of urine	341
Stoma bridge or rod: removal	326	intermittent self-catheterization	339
Stoma care	324	removal	343
Suppositories: administration	295	Urinary drainage tubes: flushing of	312
Sutures, clips or staples: removal	828	Urine	
		collection of a specimen of urine from	
		an ileal conduit or urostomy	325
Temperature	469		
Tracheostomy			
dressing change	698	Vacuum assisted closure (VAC)	
suctioning	698	dressing change	833
tube change	700	Venepuncture	779
		Violence: prevention and management	792
Unconscious patient: care	721	Wound dressing change	827





# Contributors to sixth edition

## Edited by

Lisa Dougherty, RN, RM, *Onc Cert*, MSc  
Nurse Consultant Intravenous Therapy,  
The Royal Marsden Hospital

Anne Chandler, RN, *Onc Cert*, BSc (Hons) *Nursing Studies*,  
MSc *Pain Management*  
Clinical Nurse Specialist in Pain Management  
(CHAPTERS 27, 28, 29)

Sara Lister, RN, PGDAE, BSc (Hons), MSc  
Assistant Chief Nurse/Head of School, The Royal Marsden  
Hospital School of Cancer Nursing & Rehabilitation,  
The Royal Marsden Hospital

Belinda Crawford, RN, BSc (Hons), *Postgraduate  
Neurosciences Course (NZ)*  
Matron – Neurointensive Care,  
Atkinson Morley Hospital (CHAPTERS 26, 40)

## Contributors

Karen Allen, RN, ENB 998, BSc (Hons) *Cancer Nursing*  
Senior Staff Nurse – Smithers Ward (CHAPTER 33)

Shelley Dolan, RN, BA (Hons) *English*,  
MSc *Cancer Care*, ENB 100, *Onc Cert*  
Nurse Consultant Cancer – Critical Care  
(CHAPTERS 25, 36)

Emma Allum, RN, BN (Hons)  
Senior Staff Nurse –  
Wiltshaw Ward (CHAPTER 34)

Lisa Dougherty, RN, RM, *Onc Cert*, MSc  
Nurse Consultant Intravenous Therapy  
(CHAPTERS 10, 11, 38, 44)

Sarah Aylott, RN, BSc (Hons) *Cancer Nursing*  
Formerly Practice Development Facilitator  
(CHAPTER 24)

Ann Duncan, RN, *Onc Cert*,  
ENB 931, 901, 998  
Ward Sister – Smithers Ward (CHAPTER 33)

Amanda Baxter, RN, RMN, *Onc Cert*, BSc (Hons)  
Clinical Nurse Specialist – Pelvic Care  
(CHAPTERS 12, 13, 14, 15, 16)

Stephen Evans, BSc, MSc, MIPEM, MSRP  
Radiation Protection Adviser,  
Physics Department (CHAPTERS 34, 35)

Rachel Bennett, RN, ENB 998, 934, A11,  
BSc (Hons) *Cancer Nursing*  
Formerly Ward Sister – Wilson Ward (CHAPTER 25)

Emma Foulds, RN, ENB 264, 998, PGC (Management),  
PATHE, MA  
Lecturer Practitioner, The Royal Marsden Hospital School  
of Cancer Nursing & Rehabilitation  
(CHAPTER 30)

David Brighton, RN, BSc (Hons) *Cancer Nursing*  
Professional Development  
Facilitator (IT) (CHAPTER 25)

Tracey Gibson, RN, ENB 100, 998, 237,  
*Diploma in Nursing*  
Senior Staff Nurse – Critical Care Unit (CHAPTER 7)

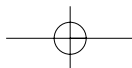
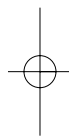
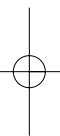
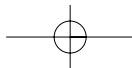
Susannah Button, RN, *Cert Couns*, *Onc Cert*, BSc (Hons)  
*Cancer Nursing*  
Formerly Ward Sister – Ellis Ward (CHAPTER 6)

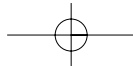
Neve Carter, RN *Onc Cert*,  
BSc (Hons) *Nursing Studies*  
Senior Staff Nurse – Horder Ward and  
Practice Development Facilitator (CHAPTER 21)

Aileen Grant, RN, *Onc Cert*  
Staff Nurse – Children's Unit (CHAPTER 35)

- Jagdish Grewal, RN, ENB A13, 188, City & Guilds 7307,  
BA (Hons) Health Studies, PG Dip Nurse Education  
Senior Sister Theatres (CHAPTER 30)
- Douglas Guerrero, RN, DN, ENB 930, 998, *Onc Cert*,  
*Counselling Cert*, BSc (Hons), MSc Clinical Neurosciences  
Clinical Nurse Specialist – Neuro-oncology  
(CHAPTERS 26, 40)
- Shujina Haq, BSc (Hons), MBBS, DRCOG, DCH, MRCGP  
Specialist Registrar – Occupational  
Health (CHAPTER 10)
- Sarah Hart, RN, FETC Oncology, HIV Infection Control  
Cert, MSc, BSc (Hons) Biological Science (Immunology),  
MSc Research and Development  
Clinical Nurse Specialist – Infection Control/Radiation  
Protection (CHAPTERS 4, 5, 18, 34, 35)
- Patricia Hunt, RN, Palliative Care Cert, MSc Advanced  
Clinical Practice (Cancer Nursing)  
Clinical Nurse Specialist, Palliative Care/  
Lecturer Practitioner, The Royal Marsden Hospital School  
of Cancer Nursing & Rehabilitation (CHAPTER 43)
- Lorraine Hyde, RN, *Onc Cert*, ENB 998, 934, *Diploma in*  
*Professional Nursing Studies*, BSc (Hons) Nursing  
Senior Sister – Day Care Services (CHAPTER 10)
- Betti Kirkman, RM, RN, BSc  
Formerly Clinical Nurse Specialist – Breast  
Diagnostic Unit (CHAPTER 6)
- Glynis Knowles, RCN, SCM, *Onc Cert*  
Senior Staff, Breast Care – OPD Sutton  
(CHAPTER 31)
- Diane Laverty, RN, *Onc Cert*, BSc  
Clinical Nurse Specialist – Palliative Care  
(CHAPTERS 11, 27, 47)
- Maria Law, RN, *Onc Cert*  
Ward Sister – Kennaway Ward  
(CHAPTER 3)
- Susan J. Lee, RN, MBA, MSc  
Formerly Occupational Health Manager  
(CHAPTER 23)
- Sally Legge, RN, *Onc Cert*, MSc  
Clinical Nurse Specialist – GI Cancer  
(CHAPTER 3)
- Sara Lister, RN, PGDAE, BSc (Hons), MSc  
Assistant Chief Nurse/Head of School  
The Royal Marsden Hospital School of Cancer  
Nursing & Rehabilitation (CHAPTERS 1, 9)
- Philippa A. Lloyd, RN, ENB 237, 998, BSc Nursing,  
BSc Cancer Nursing  
Senior Staff Nurse – Wiltshaw Ward (CHAPTER 15)
- Jane Machin, BA (Hons), DipCCS, Reg MCSLT, DALF  
Specialist Speech and Language Therapist  
(CHAPTER 41)
- Hazel Mack, RN, ENB 931, BSc (Hons)  
Psychology, Post-grad Dip Onc, MSc Cancer Care  
Formerly Acting Ward Sister – Horder Ward  
(CHAPTER 21)
- Elizabeth MacKenzie, RN, ENB 100,  
ENB 237, 998 *Teaching and Assessing*, BSc (Hons)  
*Human Physiology*  
Sister – Critical Care Unit (CHAPTERS 20, 37)
- Jean Maguire, RN, ENB 998, *Diploma Palliative Care*  
*Nursing*, BSc Hons Respiratory Nursing  
Ward Sister/Specialist Sister for Lung  
Cancer (CHAPTERS 20, 33)
- Chris McNamara, RN, ENB 237, 937, N23, 998,  
BSc (Hons) Cancer Nursing, MSc  
Teaching Charge Nurse, The Royal Marsden  
Hospital School of Cancer Nursing  
& Rehabilitation (CHAPTER 25)
- Lisa Mercer, RD BSc MNutriDiet  
Senior Dietitian (CHAPTER 24)
- Wayne Naylor, RN, ENB 237, *Dip Nurs*,  
BSc (Hons) Cancer Nursing  
Clinical Nurse Specialist, Wellington Cancer Centre,  
Wellington, New Zealand  
Formerly Wound Management Research Nurse,  
The Royal Marsden Hospital (CHAPTER 47)
- Liz O'Brien, RN, SEN, FETC, DPSN,  
BSc (Hons) Nursing, BSc (Hons) Specialist  
*Practice District Nursing*  
Clinical Team Leader, District Nursing,  
Croydon Primary Care Trust (CHAPTER 8)
- Emma Osenton, RN, BSc (Hons) Cancer Nursing  
Ward Sister – Wiltshaw Ward (CHAPTER 16)
- Evelyn Otunbade, RN, BSc (Hons)  
*Occupational Health and Safety*  
Backcare Adviser (CHAPTER 23)
- Buddy Joe Paris, RN, BSc (Hons)  
Staff Nurse – Critical Care Unit (CHAPTER 41)
- Gillian Parker, RN, ENB 237, 980, 100, 998,  
*Onc Health Studies Diploma*, BSc  
Senior Staff Nurse – Burdett Coutts Ward (CHAPTER 16)

- Rachelle Pearce, RN, ENB 980, 998,  
BSc Cancer Nursing  
Formerly Sister – Medical Day Unit (CHAPTER 14)
- Emma Pennery, RN, ENB A11, 931,  
Counselling Cert, MSc  
Formerly Senior Clinical Nurse Specialist/Honorary  
Clinical Research Fellow (CHAPTER 6)
- Joanne Preece, BSc (Hons), MIOSH, RSP, MBA  
Formerly Head of Risk Management (CHAPTER 18)
- Ffion M. Read, RN, Onc Cert  
Senior Staff Nurse – Medical Day Unit (CHAPTER 44)
- Elizabeth Rees, RN, Onc Cert, BSc (Hons) Cancer Nursing  
Formerly Research Nurse Palliative Care (CHAPTER 1)
- Francis Regan, RN, BSc (Hons) Cancer Nursing  
Formerly Senior Staff Nurse – Burdett Coutts  
Ward (CHAPTER 13)
- Jean Maurice Robert, RN Dip HE  
Staff Nurse – Critical Care Unit (CHAPTER 29)
- Corinne Rowbotham, RN  
Senior Staff Nurse – IV Services (CHAPTER 44)
- Patricia Ryan, RN, BN (Bachelor of Nursing), Onc Cert  
Senior Sister – Haemato-oncology Unit (CHAPTER 42)
- Mave Salter RN, NDN (Cert), Onc Cert, Cert Ed., Dip  
Couns, BSc (Hons) Nursing, MSc Research and Evaluation  
Clinical Nurse Specialist – Community Liaison  
(CHAPTER 8)
- Neelam Sarpal, RN, ENB 237, 998, 934, N23,  
BSc Cancer Nursing  
Teaching Sister, The Royal Marsden Hospital School of  
Cancer Nursing & Rehabilitation (CHAPTERS 9, 11)
- Steve Scholtes, RN, ENB 998, 980, BSc Cancer Nursing  
Charge Nurse – Burdett Coutts  
Ward (CHAPTERS 12, 14)
- Kate Scott, RN, RMN, Onc Cert, Counselling Cert,  
ENB 870, 998, BSc (Hons) Nursing Studies  
Clinical Nurse Specialist – Psychological Care  
(CHAPTER 46)
- Clare Shaw, RD, BSc (Hons), Dip in Dietetics, PhD  
Consultant Dietitian (CHAPTER 24)
- Caroline Soady, RN, BSc (Hons) Cancer Nursing  
Clinical Nurse Specialist – Head & Neck  
(CHAPTERS 24, 31, 32, 41, 47)
- Moira Stephens, RN, Onc Cert, ENB 934, C&G 7306,  
DPSN, BSc (Hons) Health Studies, MSc Advancing  
Professional Health Care Practice  
Clinical Nurse Specialist – Haemato-oncology  
(CHAPTERS 19, 22)
- Anna-Marie Stevens, RN, RM, BSc (Hons), Onc Cert  
Clinical Nurse Specialist – Palliative Care  
(CHAPTER 43)
- Rebecca Verity, RN, BSc (Hons) Nursing Studies, MSc  
Advanced Practice (Cancer Nursing)  
Formerly Senior Staff Nurse – Bud Flanagan Ward  
(CHAPTER 39)
- Chris Viner, RN, Onc Cert, FETC, MSc in  
Advanced Clinical Practice  
Clinical Nurse Specialist – Ambulatory Chemotherapy  
(CHAPTER 44)
- Jen Watson RN, ENB 100  
Sister – Critical Care Unit (CHAPTER 44)
- Caro Watts, RGN, Dip Onc, Cert Mgt (OU), BSc (Hons),  
MSc  
Senior Sister – Private Patients (CHAPTER 13)
- Clare Webb, BN (Hons), RGN, District Nursing Cert,  
Postgraduate Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling  
(Integrative)  
Specialist Sister in Psychological Care (CHAPTER 2)
- Barbara Witt, RN  
Nurse Phlebotomist (CHAPTER 45)
- Miriam Wood, RN, Onc Cert, BSc (Hons)  
Senior Practice Development Facilitator (CHAPTER 2)
- Mary Woods, RN, Onc Cert, BSc (Hons), MSc Advanced  
Practice Nursing  
Clinical Nurse Specialist/  
Head of Lymphoedema Services (CHAPTER 17)





# Foreword to sixth edition

*The Royal Marsden Hospital Manual of Clinical Nursing Procedures* has become a legend. When I look back at the first edition, an internally produced procedure manual just for use at The Royal Marsden, it is quite amazing to think that 'the manual' has become such an important source for nurses everywhere. The fifth edition, in particular, has enjoyed enormous success. This may be because of the nursing profession's growing interest in evidence-based practice and clinical governance, but regardless of the rationale we are confident this work makes a significant contribution to improving the quality of patient care.

There have been a number of major conceptual changes in the development of this new edition. First, we undertook a major evaluation and market research exercise before embarking on the development of the sixth edition. This involved practitioners from the UK and abroad, many of whom had views about the content and structure of the manual. As a result, numerous changes have been made and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped us by contributing comments and suggestions.

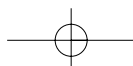
Secondly, we believe that this book should not only be a way of The Royal Marsden sharing good practice, but that its publication should also present developmental opportunities for our staff. You will notice that in this edition we have, for the first time, partnered experienced nurse-authors with new authors, mostly staff nurses, to write chapters. This not only provides staff nurses with structured and developmental writing experience, but also means that the content is grounded in the realities of current day-to-day nursing practice from the perspective of staff nurses.

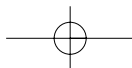
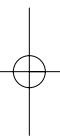
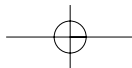
Thirdly, we have had a number of requests from nurse leaders and educators to present the information contained within the sixth edition in different ways, such as on a CD-ROM, in a ring-binder format and on prompt cards for use in skills laboratories. The editors have worked tirelessly to ensure that these different resources will now be available.

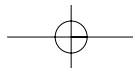
The benefits of ensuring that nursing care is, where possible, evidence based and consistent are well documented and I believe that *The Royal Marsden Hospital Manual of Clinical Nursing Procedures* helps us to do this. However, of equal importance is ensuring that the nursing care we provide is individual, therapeutic, culturally sensitive and that it is centred on that special relationship between the nurse, the patient and their loved ones and the partnership that develops between them. It would be almost impossible to write a procedure on creating an environment in which this sort of nursing practice could flourish. Creating a professional practice model, such as this, and an environment in which nurses can think critically, is the responsibility of all nurses.

The sixth edition is the product of an enormous amount of effort by nurses and other staff throughout The Royal Marsden Hospital, especially the editors Lisa Dougherty and Sara Lister. As always, it is with many thanks and great pride, that I am able to support their work.

Dr Dickon Weir-Hughes,  
Chief Nurse/Deputy Chief Executive  
The Royal Marsden Hospital (London & Surrey)







# Acknowledgements

In 1984 the first edition of *The Royal Marsden Hospital Manual* was published, thanks to the vision and support of Robert Tiffany, the then Director of Patient Services and Philip Pritchard, the first editor. Over the next 20 years, the *Manual* has developed going from strength to strength. This process was aided by the innovation and enthusiasm of former editors such as: Jennifer Hunt, Jill David, Valerie Anne Walker, Chris Bailey and Jane Mallett.

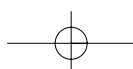
This edition introduces many new authors, some of whom are contributing for the first time. There have been changes in the structure of some of the chapters as well as a new layout to increase the readability of the text. Each chapter represents not only nursing in theory, but also nursing in practice. Staff at all levels were encouraged to contribute, and to review and reflect on how the procedures were used in their own areas with the aim to make the practical aspects truly user friendly.

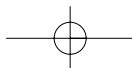
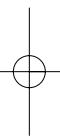
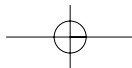
The chapters also rely on the authors' appraisal of the literature, national recommendations such as National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE), local guidelines, benchmarking and audit, as well as utilizing the authors' wealth of expertise and experience.

We extend our thanks to all those who wrote, reviewed and contributed to the text and the procedures. We would also like to thank all those who took the time to write to us and highlight sections that may have been unclear or incorrect – we have responded to all suggestions and made changes as appropriate.

Finally our thanks go to Griselda Campbell at Blackwell Publishing for advice and continual support in all aspects of the publishing process.

Lisa Dougherty  
Sara Lister  
*Editors*







# Introduction

There is an expectation from patients that the nursing care they receive will be based on the best available evidence. Clinical procedures are a fundamental aspect of nursing care so it is essential that they are evidence based. This sixth edition of *The Royal Marsden Hospital Manual of Clinical Nursing Procedures* includes the clinical procedures, and the latest evidence underpinning the fundamental nursing care of any sick adult, whatever their diagnosis.

The findings from a survey of readers, particularly student nurses, informed the writing of this edition. There were a number of requests for additional chapters relating to a broad variety of aspects of nursing practice. We considered all of these and have included those that relate to the clinical expertise or practice of nurses within The Royal Marsden NHS Trust, an international cancer hospital.

A different approach has been taken to the preparation of the sixth edition of this manual: led by clinical experts, nurses in clinical practice have been involved in reviewing the latest evidence and testing the revised procedures in practice. This has provided professional development opportunities for junior staff and practical experience of identifying and then implementing evidence in practice. We hope that it has also acknowledged and recognized that important aspect of generating evidence in nursing: using the evidence that comes from practice (Kitson *et al.* 1998).

All chapters have been reviewed and some expanded to encompass new material including the legislative changes that have impacted on nursing roles. Context of care (Chapter 1) explores the concept of clinical governance in respect of clinical nursing practice, and includes an expanded section about the consent to examination and treatment in light of the NHS Reform and Health Care Professions Act (2002). A new chapter, Communication and assessment (Chapter 2), looks in depth at the process of patient assessment, emphasizing its importance in relation to carrying out clinical nursing procedures. Aseptic technique (Chapter 4) now includes a procedure for hand washing. Breast care (Chapter 6) now incorporates a section about seroma drainage. Drug administration (Chapter 9) includes an expanded section on nurse prescribing. Central venous pressure measurement has been moved to

Observations (Chapter 25); a section on peak flow measurement has also been added to this chapter.

In this edition the chapters have been reorganized, grouping together those addressing similar aspects of care: Drug administration; Elimination; Observations; Pain management and Personal hygiene, with the intention that information can be found more easily.

This edition continues the work that began 20 years ago, providing a practical resource for nursing practice. The format follows that of the preceding editions with only a few changes.

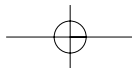
Every chapter begins with **definition**: this concisely defines the aspect of care addressed by the chapter.

This is followed by a **reference material section** consisting of a review of the literature and other relevant material. If available, the related research findings have been presented. If there is no research evidence available the procedures have been based on experience and systematic reviews.

The **procedure guidelines** begin with a list of the equipment needed, followed by a detailed step-by-step account of the procedure and the rationale for the proposed action. All relevant procedures begin with the action 'Explain and discuss the procedure with the patient', the rationale for this being 'to ensure the patient understands the procedure and gives his/her valid consent'. Gaining consent is an integral part of the person-focused approach to care, a core principle of nursing practice at The Royal Marsden Hospital. This is discussed further in Chapter 1.

Some chapters also include a **problem-solving section**. This lists the problems that may occur with a procedure, their possible causes and suggestions for their resolution and prevention.

The **references and further reading** at the end of the chapter indicate the sources from which information has been drawn to write the reference material and develop the procedures. It is also available to assist the reader if they want to study the subject in more depth. The further reading lists have been substantially revised for this edition; only publications from the past 10 years have been included, unless they are seminal texts or the only material available.



This book is intended as a reference and resource, not a replacement for practice-based education. None of the procedures in this book should be undertaken without prior instruction and subsequent supervision from an appropriately qualified and experienced professional.

We hope that *The Royal Marsden Hospital Manual of Clinical Nursing Procedures* will continue to be a resource and be a contribution to 'continually improving the overall standard of clinical care, whilst reducing variations in outcomes ... as well as ensuring that clinical decisions are based on the most up to date evidence of what is known to be effective' (NHSE 1999, p. 3).

## References

- Kitson, A., Harvey, G. & McCormack, B. (1998) Enabling the implementation of evidence based practice: a conceptual framework. *Qual Health Care*, 7(3), 149–158.
- NHS (2002) *NHS Reform and Health Care Professions Act*. HMSO, London.
- NHSE (1999) *Clinical Governance Quality in the New NHS*. Department of Health, London.

Lisa Dougherty  
Sara Lister  
*Editors*

