

# INDIRECT CARE HANDBOOK FOR ADVANCED NURSING ROLES

BEYOND THE BEDSIDE

PATTI RAGER ZUZELO

affiliation here



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*This book is dedicated to the few who know  
my heart, nurture my spirit, challenge my  
faith, and get into my head . . . and, despite  
knowing me in such intimate ways, continue  
to love me.*

**Matthew Zuzelo, my husband and incomparable advocate. Thank you.**

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*Authentically present during regular morning  
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making me laugh, and keeping eye rolls to a  
manageable number.  
You are spectacular sons and quite the duo.*

**Dee Rager Young, my mother.**

*It was not until I reached adulthood that I  
developed an appreciation for just how hard  
my mom worked to juggle employment,  
home life challenges, and children. I admire  
her grit, intellect, humor, and determination  
and am grateful for her belief in my abilities.*

**Walter Robert (Bob) Eisenbach**

*Pop Pop did not have the educational  
opportunities that I have enjoyed and when  
he did have his chance—family obligations  
prevailed. He was truly one of a kind and I  
miss him—still.*

**Dr. Zane Robinson Wolf**

*Thank you, my dear mentor.*

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# Preface

This book builds on the approach used in *The Clinical Nurse Specialist Handbook* (2007, 2010); a book designed to offer a resource that was highly readable, usable, and helpful to students, educators, and practitioners. Over the decade or so of these two editions, I occasionally heard from nurse educators who were using the book for graduate students enrolled in non-CNS programs. Faculty members would share with me that the book provided students with practical information about responsibilities that were often inherent in advanced roles but were rarely explored in depth during clinical residencies or during didactic learning experiences. Educators and students emphasized the value of the coaching style of the book and its relevance to practice.

These conversations occurred simultaneous to the early years of interprofessional education (IPE) with its emphasis on teamwork, collegiality, and shared problem solving. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) was the overlay to IPE and, during some of this time, the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Consensus Model was also in its final development and implementation stages. These conversations made it evident to me that nurses continue to struggle with understanding and appreciating the unique and shared expertise of *intra*-professional colleagues. We persist in struggling with role confusion between nurse practitioners, CNSs, clinical nurse leaders, staff development experts, and other important roles that require advanced education and practice expertise. Although nurses are doing a good job of learning how to effectively work with other disciplines via interprofessional collaboration, there is still a need to appreciate the shared responsibilities and expertise that nurses have with other nurses, including those with master or practice doctorate degrees.

Many conversations with new or established colleagues led to a recognized need for a book that offers guidance around shared goals and work responsibilities that cross formal role boundaries. A resource was needed to encourage advanced nurses of all types to recognize the value and power in collaboration *within* nursing—recognizing that there is plenty of work that needs to be done and interprofessional plus intraprofessional may be the route to success. Educators and advanced nurses shared with me that they enjoyed the original handbook because they used it across programs; the topics were relevant to a wide range of advanced nursing roles. The ACA has encouraged health care professionals to view work differently and while tensions continue to persist between different types of providers, at the sharp point of care, health care professionals are increasingly working together to improve outcomes measurement and care delivery processes, reduce harm risk, minimize threats of workplace violence, and develop the professionalism of self and peers, all while reducing consumption and encouraging sustainability!

The intended purpose of this book is to provide nursing graduate and doctoral study students and their faculties with the resources needed to address simple and



wicked challenges in health care regardless of specific academic tracks or selected roles. Whether an advanced practice registered nurse, clinical nurse leader, manager, informatics department administrator, or staff educator is writing a self-evaluation, providing a peer review, or appraising a subordinate, the information needed and skills required are shared. When nurses have an interest in reducing the environmental impact of the health care agency by designing sustainability projects or establishing resource utilization guidelines, a collective group of advanced nurses coming to the table with unique and shared perspectives is likely the most effective way to maximize the impact of the ecofriendly plan. Of course, adding interprofessional colleagues to the mix is important as well.

We practice in a tumultuous period of time. There are threats and opportunities, recognized weaknesses and strengths across all systems of care. This handbook is crafted to maximize the esprit de corps that is needed to ensure a safe workplace and to improve all sorts of important outcomes. This book is novel in its approach and in its content. I hope that it provides opportunities for new learning around topics that trigger interesting projects and possibilities.

Please feel free to reach out and share your ideas, experiences, and critiques.

Thank you, colleagues.

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