



Handbook of Oncology Social Work: Psychosocial Care for People with Cancer

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The development of this inaugural *Handbook of Oncology Social Work: Psychosocial Care for People With Cancer* provides a repository of the scope of oncology social workers' clinical practice, education, research, policy and program leadership in the psychosocial care of people with cancer and their families. It focuses on the unique synergy of social work perspectives, values, knowledge, and skills with the psychosocial needs of cancer patients, their families, and the health care systems in which they are treated. It addresses both the science and art of psychosocial care and identifies the increasing specialization of oncology social work related to its unique knowledge base, skills, role, and the progressive complexity of psychosocial challenges for patients with cancer.

This Handbook equips the reader with all that we know today in oncology social work about patient and family centered care, distress screening, genetics, survivorship, care coordination, sociocultural and economic diversity, legal and ethical matters, clinical work with adults living with cancer, cancer across the lifespan, their caregivers and families, pediatrics, loss and grief, professional career development, leadership, and innovation. Our hope is that in reading this Handbook you will identify new areas where each of you can leave your mark as innovators and change agents in our evolving field of practice.

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Editorial Review

Review

"For decades, the Institute of Medicine has released one report after another lamenting the gap between the recognition that cancer affects the whole person, and our ability to address the human needs of the growing population of cancer survivors and their loved ones. With the inaugural publication of the *Handbook of Oncology Social Work*, help is at hand. This long-awaited volume, written by pioneers in the field of oncology social work, provides a wealth of evidence-based information on how to deliver cancer care for the whole person in a rapidly evolving health care delivery system. Kudos to the editors of and many contributors to this outstanding volume, a must read for anyone practicing in oncology."

--Julia H. Rowland, PhD, Director, Office of Cancer Survivorship, National Cancer Institute, NIH/DHHS

"We welcome with great anticipation this comprehensive new *Handbook of Oncology Social Work*. The *Handbook* addresses those issues frequently associated with the social needs of patients including psychological and bereavement issues. Uniquely, it also includes in-depth chapters on current topics such as identifying distress earlier, approaches to diversity issues so frequent in our patient populations, and concepts brought about by longer survivorship. Never before has excellence in care for patients with cancer required as strong a multidisciplinary team as now: this new resource will contribute not only to social workers, but also to all involved with patients and families in the cancer setting. The breadth of experience of the editors and authors is clear throughout the book and enhances its value for all health care professionals in oncology."

--Richard J. Gralla, MD, FACP, Professor of Medicine, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Jacobi Medical Center

"While there have been significant medical advances and increasing numbers of cancer survivors, the human adaptive challenges to this disease have in fact become more complex and long term. Social workers are at the forefront of developing, implementing, and evaluating a broad range of psychosocial services for this population. The *Handbook of Oncology Social Work* offers educators as well as new and seasoned professionals a wealth of evidence based information, practice wisdom, and the lived experiences of patients and families to undergird their teaching and provision of care. It is an indispensable text and resource for all educators and practitioners in health care."

--Jeanette C. Takamura, MSW, PhD, Dean and Professor, Columbia University School of Social Work

The *Handbook of Oncology Social Work* is an exceptional, state-of-the-art book that clearly addresses the key issues confronting oncology social workers today. The book emphasizes social work's strong values for sharing decision-making, helping the most vulnerable and distressed, and reducing health disparity. It is an essential resource for social workers and other professionals who want to provide high quality, evidenced-based care to people with cancer and their family members."

--Laurel Northouse PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor Emerita, University of Michigan

"The inaugural *Handbook of Oncology Social Work* is truly a social work masterpiece. The editors have gathered the experts in the field to compile the most recent evidence-based data in terms of screening, assessment, and interventions that can provide the greatest benefit to cancer patients and their families."

--James Zabora, ScD, MSW, Director, Research & Professional Development, Life with Cancer©, Inova Health System; Assistant Professor of Oncology, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD; President-Elect, APOS

The *Handbook of Oncology Social Work* is a comprehensive manual addressing the multiple roles and evolving practice of this specialty. By providing psychosocial support beginning at diagnosis and palliative care through the end of life, navigating financial issues and ongoing changes in the health care system, and helping simplify the complexity of the new era of genomic profiling and targeted therapies, the oncology social worker plays a critical role in enabling patients to optimize quality of life while dealing with the emotional, social, physical and financial burdens of cancer. This handbook is an invaluable resource for the entire cancer community."

--Julie R. Gralow, MD, Professor and Director, Breast Medical Oncology, Jill Bennett Endowed Professorship in Breast Cancer, University of Washington School of Medicine; Seattle Cancer Care Alliance; Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

"It is extremely rare for there to be a textbook that is simultaneously so comprehensive, well researched and clinically practical. [This handbook] is clearly the new gold standard for oncology social work. But to say that this textbook is limited to social workers or cancer alone grossly misses the point. The clinical, educational and research implications of this monumental accomplishment are relevant for other health care professionals and chronic illnesses. The editors and authors represent the encyclopedic wisdom and diversity of thinking of many of the foundational leaders in the field and across disciplines. Significantly, there are also provocative contributions by many evolving leaders in psychosocial oncology which deeply enriches this 'must own' treasure trove of compassionate expertise.

--Matthew J. Loscalzo, LCSW, Liliane Elkins Professor in Supportive Care Programs; Administrative Director, Sheri & Les Biller Patient and Family Resource Center

"Persons with cancers are confronted with a deluge of information and decisions about their illnesses and the impact on their lives. Oncology social workers play a crucial role in helping patients and caregivers navigate this sea of choices. The *Handbook of Oncology Social Work* encompasses the breadth and depth of expertise and compassion that oncology social workers bring to individuals and families living with cancers."

--Mark G. Kris, MD, Attending Physician, Thoracic Oncology Service; The William and Joy Ruane Chair in Thoracic Oncology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Professor of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College

"The *Handbook of Oncology Social Work* comes at a perfect time. Since beginning my career 23 years ago, I have seen the challenges of serving oncology patients and their families become exceedingly complex, with rising incidents of cancer, many more individuals living with cancer, and increasing numbers of survivors, many of whom, however, experience a reduced quality of life linked to treatment side effects. The breadth and depth of the learnings covered in the Handbook is a brilliant blending of the history, knowledge, wisdom, and experiences of the nation's oncology social workers integrated with the stories and voices of

patients and families. The Handbook is the manual that every oncology health care team should read."

--Moreen Shannon-Dudley, MBA, MSW, LICSW, Director, Supportive Care, Radiation Therapy and Specialty Clinics, Seattle Cancer Care Alliance

"The scope of practice covered in this handbook is essential for any oncology social worker, whether they are new to the field or an experienced practitioner. The handbook will be required reading for all social work interns and fellows. The sheer number of topics and authors reflects the great advances we have made in providing psychosocial care for people living with cancer and their families over the last three decades. It is written in language that is easily transferrable to practice, which will be helpful to social work practitioners and others across the continuum of care in oncology. The authorship of this book is astounding!

Congratulations to the many contributors and editors of this wonderful handbook."

--Christina Austin-Valere, PhD, LCSW, Clinical Oncology Social Worker, Bienes Comprehensive Cancer Center, Holy Cross Hospital, Fort Lauderdale, FL

"Oncology social workers have played a central role in developing the science and art of psychosocial care for people affected by cancer. The size and scope of this inaugural edition of the *Handbook of Oncology Social Work* is a testament to the numerous important contributions oncology social work has made to the field of psychosocial oncology in the areas of clinical care, education, research, program development, and health policy. Although the focus is on oncology social work, I am certain that professionals in all other fields of oncology that involve patient and family care will find it to be an invaluable resource."

--Paul Jacobsen, PhD, Associate Center Director, Division of Population Science, Moffitt Cancer Center

"This inaugural *Handbook of Oncology Social Work* codifies in exemplary fashion the wisdom, clinical practice, and art of the oncology social work profession. This outstanding publication highlights the variety of challenges experienced by people living with and undergoing treatment of cancer, cancer survivors, their caregivers, and the bereaved. It provides an overview of multiple topics and excellent clinical practice guidelines for all oncology disciplines. I congratulate the editors and authors for their vision in creating this exceptional book which is an invaluable resource in psychosocial oncology and for all health care professionals."

--Edith P. Mitchell, MD, FACP, Clinical Professor of Medicine and Medical Oncology, Program Leader, Gastrointestinal Oncology, Department of Medical Oncology, Director, Center to Eliminate Cancer Disparities, Associate Director, Diversity Affairs, Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson

"In this rapidly changing health care environment, the comprehensive *Handbook of Oncology Social Work* is a valuable resource for social workers and members of the health care team who are working to meet the complex needs of people with cancer and their loved ones. Recognition of psychosocial needs and their impact on outcome has led to mandates requiring assessment of social, emotional, and financial concerns and protocols for addressing these needs. Social workers are on the front lines in implementing these new quality measures and in developing programs to assist a growing population. The Handbook defines and describes the range of interventions used by social workers to meet 21st-century needs and will become the cornerstone of oncology social work practice."

--Diane Blum, LMSW, Former Executive Director, CancerCare; Former Editor-in-Chief, Cancer.Net; American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)

"This comprehensive handbook written for oncology social workers is an important resource for anyone who works with people with cancer. It is practical, informative and organized in a manner that makes it easy to use. The nonmedical needs of a person with cancer are vast and always changing, this handbook strives to address them all. As an attorney in this field, this handbook will further my understanding of the psychosocial and practical needs of my clients."

--Randy Retkin, Esq, Director LegalHealth, New York Legal Assistance Group

"The *Handbook of Oncology Social Work* is truly historic. It is the first book that provides both a comprehensive and deep sense of the myriad roles and values of social work in addressing the complex issues associated with the number two cause of death in the United States. Whether seasoned or new to the field, social workers will find this volume a constant companion to increase their knowledge, skill, and influence on the health care system. Its framework is essential social work-addressing the biopsychosocial and environmental factors affecting cancer patients, their families, and the settings in which they receive services and benefits. Beyond social workers, its interdisciplinary focus should speak to physicians, nurses, and other health care providers, as well as family and professional advocates across the continuum of care."

--Terry Mizrahi, MSW, DSW, Professor, Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College; Co-Chair, Community Organizing, Planning & Development

About the Author

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Lynn Behar, PhD, LICSW, OSW-C, Founder, Carol LaMare Initiative, University of Washington School of Social Work.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Carl White:

Often the book *Handbook of Oncology Social Work: Psychosocial Care for People with Cancer* has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of advantage. The book was written by the very famous author. This articles author makes some research previous to write this book. This book very easy to read you can find the point easily after reading this book.

William Leininger:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller

coaster you already been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love Handbook of Oncology Social Work: Psychosocial Care for People with Cancer, you may enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still need to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't buy it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

Frances Temple:

Handbook of Oncology Social Work: Psychosocial Care for People with Cancer can be one of your basic books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The author giving his/her effort to set every word into pleasure arrangement in writing Handbook of Oncology Social Work: Psychosocial Care for People with Cancer although doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource information that maybe you can be one of it. This great information could drawn you into brand new stage of crucial pondering.

Julie Berkey:

Your reading 6th sense will not betray anyone, why because this Handbook of Oncology Social Work: Psychosocial Care for People with Cancer e-book written by well-known writer who knows well how to make book that could be understand by anyone who all read the book. Written within good manner for you, leaking every ideas and creating skill only for eliminate your own hunger then you still hesitation Handbook of Oncology Social Work: Psychosocial Care for People with Cancer as good book not just by the cover but also with the content. This is one book that can break don't judge book by its deal with, so do you still needing an additional sixth sense to pick this particular!? Oh come on your studying sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to another sixth sense.

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