Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a growing health problem and nearly all nurses are likely to care for individuals with ASD. Designed as a textbook and a reference, this volume prepares nurses to recognize the unique challenges of providing evidence-based health care that meets the special needs of ASD patients across the lifespan and in multiple practice settings. Chapters include setting-specific case studies followed by consistently formatted information about key clinical issues, clinical assessment, and best practice nursing plans of care.

The book is organized on a social model of disability with a focus on the environmental, cultural, and economic barriers encountered by people with ASD. It highlights the significant role played by nurses in the treatment of ASD patients and helps nurses integrate the specialized information about ASD into their clinical practice. Each section of the book reflects a different life stage and is organized to include learning objectives and developmental needs at the beginning of a section, with key points, a guide to clinical problem solving, and thought-provoking review questions at the end.