Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: A Patient Care Guide for Clinicians

Mirrors the organization of a large clinic with separate departments working collaboratively.

To present a truly multidisciplinary approach to ALS, this book mirrors the organization of a large clinic with separate departments working collaboratively. It begins with a review of current understandings of ALS including diagnostic criteria, genetic and sporadic subtypes, epidemiology, co-morbidities, and prognosis.

From there the book is divided into chapters that include neurological assessment, nursing care and coordination, speech and swallowing interventions, nutrition and nutrition therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, respiratory therapy, assistive technology, social work practice related to ALS, and web-based resources. Each chapter is led by experts from that discipline who review evidence- and experience-based care options. In addition, the entire North American ALS Research Group (ALSRG) has had a chance to weigh in as well, making this a unique and well-rounded resource. The book addresses everything from breaking the news of an ALS diagnosis to end-of-life care and bereavement.