

Book Review

Title: *Aging With A Disability: What the Clinician Needs to Know*

Editors: Bryan Kemp & Laura Mosqueda

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Paper, ISBN: 0-8018-7817-9, 307 pp.

Cost: \$24.95 USD

Reviewer: Patricia Duffley-Renow

Increased life expectancy as a result of advances in medical treatment and technology has also extended the life span of individuals with disabilities. Clinicians, caregivers, and individuals with disabilities need to be aware of cognitive, physiological, and “Quality of Life” factors that may be affected as a result of the aging process.

Aging With A Disability: What the Clinician Needs to Know, takes a comprehensive look at aging in individuals who have a disability. The editors have extensive backgrounds in geriatrics and rehabilitation. They provide not only their perspectives but also those of aging and disability from individuals with disabilities.

Stated goals of the book include: “The desire to influence rehabilitation practice and to make practitioners aware that aging is a lifelong process not one that begins after a certain age. It is written primarily for clinicians but individuals who have disabilities and their caregivers will benefit from it as well” (p. 4). The book provides a comprehensive view of living with a disability and possible changes from aging. Changes may occur sooner in individuals with disabilities. Being aware of some dynamics of the aging process may enable a person with a disability, clinician, or caregiver to prepare for those changes.

The book is divided into five sections. Within each section are several chapters. Vignettes by individuals with disabilities are dispersed throughout the book to remind the reader that individuals with disabilities lives are affected by these changes.

Section One focuses on the perspective of an individual who lives with a disability and continues with the family’s perspective. Section Two introduces physiological changes and “Quality of Life” issues for families and caregivers. In Section Three, treatment options are discussed and functional changes are addressed that pertain to specific impairments, working as we age, and assistive technology. The section on assistive technology is limited to wheelchairs and daily living devices. This area needs to be expanded to include devices that can assist in the work environment and devices that can enhance quality of life, such as augmentative communication devices. Specific conditions are discussed in Section Four, but there is a lack of information on sensory impairments and neuromuscular disease. The book concludes with discussion of health care policy and opinions from providers and consumers of this service.

In closing, *Aging With a Disability: What the Clinician Needs to Know* is a primer on disability issues for clinicians. It should be included in Vocational Rehabilitation Programs as required reading. Information for the book was derived from research studies and discussions with individuals with disabilities over the past twenty years. Awareness of the aging process can

help individuals make informed choices about their vocational goals and prepare for the future. Family members and caregivers of an individual with a disability will find this book valuable as an ongoing reference.

Aging with a Disability: What the Clinician Needs to Know , edited by Bryan J. Kemp and Laura Mosque January 2010 Â· Physical & Occupational Therapy in Geriatrics. Jane A. Painter.Â Join ResearchGate to find the people and research you need to help your work. Join for free. ResearchGate iOS App. Aging with a Disability book. Read reviews from worldâ€™s largest community for readers. With advances in medical care, technology, and rehabilitation, peo...Â Goodreads helps you keep track of books you want to read. Start by marking â€œAging with a Disability: What the Clinician Needs to Knowâ€ as Want to Read: Want to Read savingâ€| Want to Read. Aging with a Disability provides clinicians with a complete guide to the care and treatment of persons aging with a disability. Divided into five parts, this book first addresses the perspective of the person with a disability and his or her family. Chapters in the second section address the physiological and functional changes people will face as they grow older, and how these changes may affect quality of life and caregiver requirements. In the third part, contributors discuss treatment considerations such as maintaining employment and managing pain and fatigue. The book's fourth sectio Aging with a disability: What the clinician needs to know. Baltimore, MD: The John Hopkins University Press. Google Scholar. Kinavey, C. (2006).Â Bringing the life needs model to life: Implementing a service delivery model for pediatric rehabilitation. Physical and Occupational Therapy in Pediatrics, 26(1â€“2), 43â€“70. Google Scholar. King, G. A., Cathers, T., Polgar, J. M., MacKinnon, E., & Havens, L. (2000).