
Preface

Specialty psychology practice requires specialized knowledge, skills/abilities, and attitudes/values. The specialty of rehabilitation psychology has developed over the past 70 years, beginning during the 1940s, as health professionals worked to understand and treat complex injuries and disabilities arising from World War II (Scherer et al. 2010). Psychology theorists and practitioners worked to assist persons with physical and cognitive impairments, conducted research on individual and interpersonal reactions to persons experiencing disability, and studied the social psychology of disability-related stereotyping and prejudice (e.g., Barker et al. 1946; Barker and Wright 1952; Dembo et al. 1956).

Based on this early work, the field of rehabilitation psychology developed a disability-specific body of theory and research regarding issues of individual and social adjustment (Shontz and Wright 1980; Gold et al. 1982; Dunn and Elliott 2005; Cox et al. 2013). As specialized assessment and intervention techniques and increasingly sophisticated interdisciplinary consultation models were developed, psychologists working in these settings have had to master increasingly complex rehabilitation-specific knowledge, skills/abilities, and attitudes/values.

Practical Psychology in Medical Rehabilitation is in response to the need for comprehensive practical information that is useful to psychologists working in medical rehabilitation settings. Because psychological principles affect all rehabilitation providers and their practice, this book can be a valuable and easily accessible resource for all disciplines in the field as well. The authors in *Practical Psychology in Medical Rehabilitation* are experts in each content area and provide trustworthy and high-quality information to guide patient care and practice management.

This book brings together contributions in over 60 topics from over 90 experts to provide a concise, accessible, and comprehensive summary of the current state of the art in rehabilitation psychology. Information on specialized populations, problems, and procedures, as well as information about team collaboration, practice management, research, and other topics important to the specialty, is easily accessible. This book is meant to be the primary “go to” information source for all providers working in medical rehabilitation. The information can be especially valuable to specialties in psychology such as behavioral medicine, health psychology, and clinical psychology, as well as to non-psychologists.

In order to make the information rapidly accessible to busy practitioners, the chapters all follow a common outline format of five sections:

I	Topic	–	<i>What is this?</i>
II	Importance	–	<i>Why is this included?</i>
III	Practical Applications	–	<i>How to?</i>
IV	Tips	–	<i>If I were you, I would...</i>
V	References	–	Where to go for <i>additional resources</i>

Within each chapter section, the information is provided in an outline and bullet format to allow rapid retrieval.

We hope that this book supports psychologists in providing services that help to maximize the psychological welfare, independence and choice, functional abilities, and social participation of persons with disability and chronic health conditions.

Boston, MA, USA

Boston, MA, USA

Baltimore, MD, USA

Baltimore, MD, USA

Maggi A. Budd

Sigmund Hough

Stephen Wegener

William Stiers

References

- Barker, R., Wright, B., & Gonick, M. (Eds.). (1946). Adjustment to physical handicap and illness: A survey of the social psychology of physique and disability. New York, NY: Social Science Research Council.
- Barker, R., & Wright, B. (1952). The social psychology of adjustment to physical disability. In: J. Garrett (Ed.), *Psychological aspects of physical disability* (pp. 18–32). Oxford, England: U.S. Government Printing Office (Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Rehabilitation Services Series No. 210).
- Cox, D., Cox, R., Caplan, B. (2013). *Specialty Competencies in Rehabilitation Psychology*. New York, New York: Oxford University Press.
- Dembo, T., Leviton, G., & Wright, B. (1956). Adjustment to misfortune—a problem of socialpsychological rehabilitation. *Artificial Limbs*, 3(2):4–62.
- Dunn, D., & Elliott, T. (2005). Revisiting a Constructive Classic: Wright's Physical Disability: A Psychosocial Approach. *Rehabilitation Psychology*, 50(2):183–189.
- Gold, J., Meltzer, R., & Sherr, R. (1982). Professional transition: Psychology internships in rehabilitation settings. *Professional Psychology*, 13(3):397–403.
- Scherer, M., Blair, K., Bost, R., Hanson, S., Hough, S., Kurylo, M., Langer, K., Stiers, W., Wegener, S., Young, G. & Banks, M. (2010). Rehabilitation psychology. In I.B. Weiner & W. E. Craighead (Eds.), *The Corsini Encyclopedia of Psychology*, 4th edition (pp. 1444–1447). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
- Shontz, F. & Wright, B. (1980). The distinctiveness of rehabilitation psychology. *Professional Psychology*, 11:919–924.

Practical Psychology in Medical Rehabilitation

Budd, M.A.; Hough, S.; Wegener, S.T.; Stiers, W. (Eds.)

2017, XXI, 529 p. 14 illus., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-34032-6