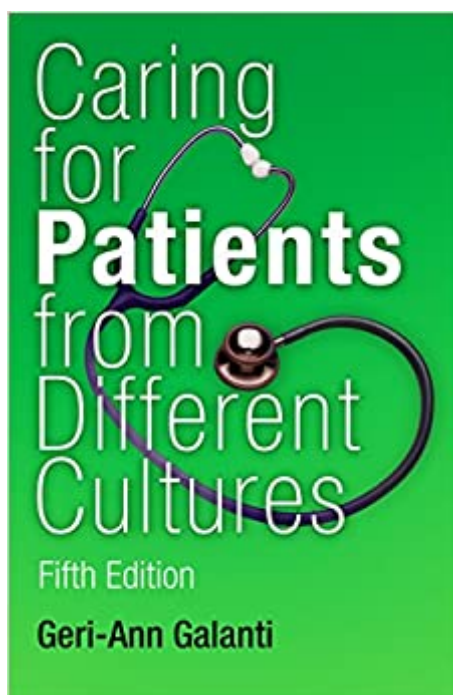


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# Caring For Patients From Different Cultures



## Synopsis

Healthcare providers in the American medical system may find that patients from different cultures bring unfamiliar expectations, anxieties, and needs into the examination room. To provide optimal care for all patients, it is important to see differences from the patient's perspective and to work with patients from a range of demographics. *Caring for Patients from Different Cultures* has been a vital resource for nurses and physicians for more than twenty years, offering hundreds of case studies that illustrate crosscultural conflicts or misunderstandings as well as examples of culturally competent health care. Now in its fifth edition, *Caring for Patients from Different Cultures* covers a wide range of topics, including birth, end of life, communication, traditional medicine, mental health, pain, religion, and multicultural staff challenges. This edition includes more than sixty new cases with an expanded appendix, introduces a new chapter on improving adherence, and updates the concluding chapter with examples of changes various hospitals have made to accommodate cultural differences. Grounded in concepts from the fields of cultural diversity and medical anthropology, *Caring for Patients from Different Cultures* provides healthcare workers with a frame of reference for understanding cultural differences and sound alternatives for providing the best possible care to multicultural communities.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Praise for earlier editions: "A must-read book for any healthcare professional. . . . It should be in every hospital library." *Caregiver Journal* "Large urban hospitals are chaotic places, and cultural

misunderstandings do not enhance the care given in them. Galanti not only reports these cases but offers insightful ways of handling the problems they illustrate."â "American Anthropologist"An excellent book to hand to medical colleagues who understand little of cultural sensitivity (and claim they have little time to learn), and it would be an important addition to any hospital library or reading room."â "Disabilities Studies Quarterly

Geri-Ann Galanti is a medical anthropologist and Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles, where she teaches in the Doctoring program. She was formerly on the faculty of the School of Nursing at California State University, Dominguez Hills, and the Department of Anthropology at California State University, Los Angeles.

This book was filled with so many interesting anecdotes it almost read like a novel. I'm heading for a career in medical social work, and this book fulfilled my craving for knowledge on the topics of both sociology and medicine. It's written in an extremely simple style (not very prosaic), but it's not dry. I'm giving it to my future mother-in-law to use as part of her curriculum as a nursing instructor. It's probably the most valuable for nurses, as they are the main players, alongside patients and their families, in the anecdotes, but it will also be helpful to doctors and social workers. Galanti raises awareness about culturally oriented topics and events that could be unforeseen by hospital workers, who may find themselves angry or bewildered in situations where neither side understands the other due to cultural differences neither of them recognizes. One of my favorite anecdotes told of a patient who, to the consternation of his roommate, was leaving footprints on the toilet seat and water all over the bathroom. This seemed very strange to the nurses, until they found out that the patient came from a country where squat toilets and washing (rather than toilet paper) were the norm and he had no experience with American-style bathroom practices. Galanti also gives advice on dealing with these culture clashes, focusing on accommodating the patients and their families, since hospital stays/procedures can be difficult and stressful. She illustrates right and wrong ways of dealing with these situations by talking about how the professional acted and whether it was effective or potentially damaging, and going over what they could have done differently. Overall, I'd highly recommend it as a textbook or an entertaining read for anyone in a medical profession, or for anyone entering social work or sociology, or even a layperson who's interested in any of the above.

I was required to purchase this book for a cross cultural medicine course. The professor had not

read the book before we started the course and I hope that if he had this book would not have been used. I felt that it was written in a way that insulted my intelligence. The examples were super cheesy and she wrote them as if she had truly had each of these experiences. However, she was about as convincing as your mom telling you that the tooth fairy is real when you're 16. I was thoroughly offended by some of the author's writings, particularly in regards to African Americans. Although this is a book that is supposed to enlighten readers about other cultures, all it really accomplished was reinforcing false stereotypes. I truly can't believe someone published this.

This book is great! It provides a lot of detail and examples. It has more information than I need as a CNA and Allied Health instructor. But, I was able to pull some sample scenarios to use in class!

Got the product on time. It's a very entertaining book with all the stories in it. It's racist AF but funny. She generalizes but doesn't stereotype. If you read this then you will understand the difference.

This was required for a college course but it was actually an interesting read. I really enjoyed the case studies. This is a book I would have read on my own time.

Outstanding book! I use this book as a summer reading for my seniors who are in my nursing program.

Well written. Gives very useful scenarios as examples.

Interesting and a good read.

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