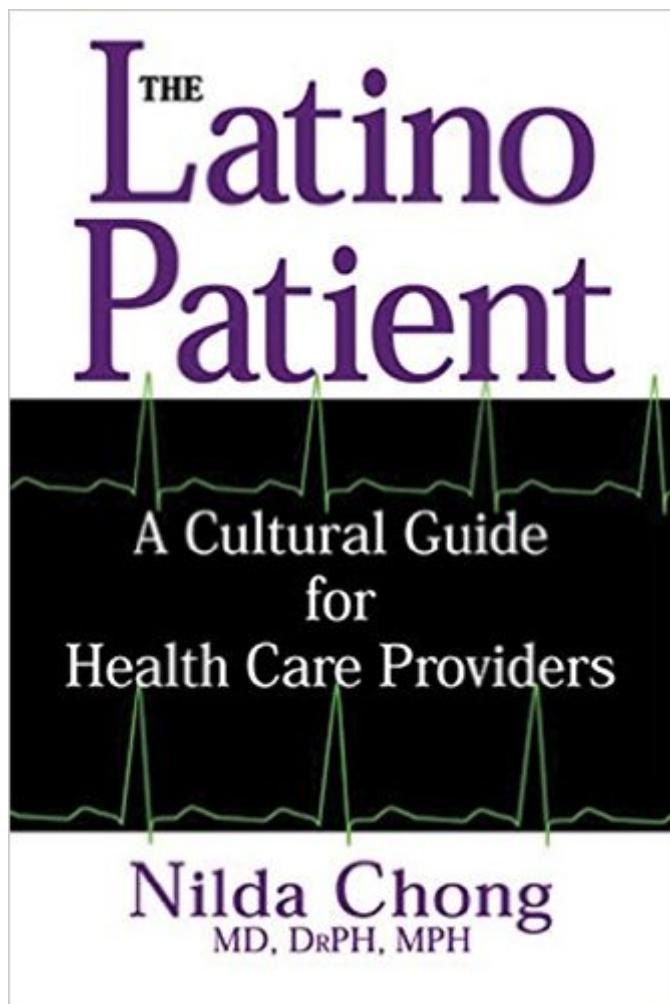


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The Latino Patient: A Cultural Guide For Health Care Providers



Synopsis

Latinos are dramatically changing the demographic profile of the United States. Developing a strong command of the Spanish language is not a realistic goal for most health care providers wishing to establish a rapport with their Latino patients. Yet growing numbers of health professionals are realizing the importance of understanding Latino culture in order to deliver the best possible care to this growing section of the population. *The Latino Patient: A Cultural Guide for Health Care Providers* provides an in-depth exploration of Latino diversity - relevant cultural values, beliefs, practices and effective communication strategies. The author has developed an original, practice-oriented model that leads the health practitioner from greeting the patient to negotiating treatment. The book is hands-on with many illustrative examples gleaned from the author's experience and is essential reading for any and all primary care physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, therapists, clinical psychologists and social workers interested in providing the best service to this important minority.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a much needed resource that is finally available. The strength of this book is the focus on health care practice, and the vignettes illustrating Latino cultural values in the clinical setting. The first part provides valuable insight into the familialistic Latino culture. The second part is a gem, translating this information into practical vignettes in realistic situations. It will be an invaluable tool in my practice.

The Latino Patient: A Cultural Guide for Health Care Providers by Nilda Chong was an excellent introduction to the principles of understanding and communicating with the Latino patient in the U.S. The author had a difficult task, but I feel that she succeeded especially well in acknowledging the diversity of the Latino population while still focusing primarily on the similarities that are of practical importance to the well-intentioned but inexperienced health care provider. While the book does contain a good amount of Latino-specific information, I estimate that 2/3 of its content would be equally applicable to quality care for any type of patient. This could be disappointing to the more experienced provider, but to a young person such as myself, I found the basic review of respectful patient care to actually be useful. The book is well organized, with five chapters of background information followed by five more chapters that chronologically outline the patient visit. Overall, the author does an excellent job of achieving her intentions of raising awareness and creating a guide for culturally competent care of the Latino patient.

Since a large number of patients in my hospital are Spanish speakers, this book is a very valuable tool for serving this population. It's not enough to just be able to communicate. Understanding the Latino culture is extremely important when addressing their health issues. This book has helped me to address sensitive health issues in a manner that I wouldn't have thought of prior. It definitely increases the trust value between patient and caregiver.

I use this book together with "Caring for patients from different cultures" and they are great as introductory / reference bibliography for my students.

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