

# Prioritising Child Health

## Practice and principles

Edited by Sue Roulstone



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# Prioritising Child Health

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Prioritisation exists throughout healthcare. Difficult and controversial decisions are frequently made at national, local and service level, as well as on an individual basis. However, attention has generally been focused away from the practitioners and service managers who make day-to-day prioritising decisions in order to manage their workloads and deliver front-line services.

Focusing on child health contexts, *Prioritising Child Health* opens up the debate on prioritisation by individuals and explores the issues surrounding their decisions. Key aims of the book are:

- to illustrate prioritisation in practice at different stages in the process of client management
- to review the process of prioritisation from the viewpoint of a range of disciplines
- to develop a new understanding of the process of prioritisation
- to identify principles of good practice for the child health practitioner.

Grounded in the reality of everyday life, *Prioritising Child Health* encourages readers to make their own judgements about how to prioritise. It will appeal to professionals working in child health, including speech and language therapists, occupational therapists and physiotherapists, as well as nurses, doctors and health visitors.

**Sue Roulstone** is Professor of Speech and Language at the University of the West of England, Bristol and Co-Director of the Speech and Language Therapy Research Unit, Frenchay Hospital, North Bristol Trust.



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To 'Katherine', 'James' and 'Thomas', their parents and families

To the many other families that I have met in practice who  
have to fight for resources for the children

And to the practitioners who are struggling against the odds  
to provide services.

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# Contents

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<i>List of tables and figures</i>	ix
<i>Notes on contributors</i>	xi
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xiii
 <b>PART I</b>	
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>I</b>
 1 Why write about prioritisation? SUE ROULSTONE	 3
 <b>PART II</b>	
<b>Prioritisation in action</b>	<b>II</b>
 2 Katherine	 13
3 James	18
4 Thomas	22
5 A day in the life of a children’s palliative care specialist nurse TARA KERR-ELLIOTT AND NICOLA EATON	25
6 Prioritising paediatric physiotherapy services for children with profound multiple learning difficulties ELIZABETH J. CROOT	30
7 Triage in speech and language therapy CAROLINE PICKSTONE	35



- 8 The least first framework 41  
ROSEMARIE HAYHOW

**PART III**  
**Perspectives from theory 49**

- 9 Thinking: where to start 51  
MICHAEL LOUGHLIN
- 10 Professional judgement and decision making 63  
MARGARET MIERS
- 11 The view from the ‘dismal science’ 77  
PAUL ROWLANDS
- 12 Prioritisation: an educationist’s perspective 88  
GEOFF LINDSAY

**PART IV**  
**Reflections on prioritisation 101**

- 13 Some answers questioned 103  
BRIAN PETHERAM AND SUE ROULSTONE
- 14 Conclusions 114  
SUE ROULSTONE

- Index* 117

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# Tables and figures

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Table 1.1	Prioritisation decisions, from macro to micro	5
Table 5.1	A day from practice	26
Figure 7.1	The triage process	36
Figure 8.1	The least first framework	44
Figure 10.1	Decision tree	66
Figure 10.2	The cognitive continuum framework	71



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