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Edited by Tim Swanwick and Judy McKimm



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AB Clinical Leadership

Second Edition

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Preface

Welcome to the second edition of *ABC of Clinical Leadership*. Since the first edition, theories and concepts, research and the practice of clinical leadership have shifted considerably. Reflecting this, our book has been extensively revised with a wealth of new material, including two completely new chapters. Everything has been brought up to date and in the course of preparing this edition, several new authors have joined the team.

ABC of Clinical Leadership is designed for clinicians new to leadership and management as well as for experienced leaders. It will be relevant to doctors, dentists, nurses and other healthcare professionals at various levels, as well as to health service managers and support staff. The book is particularly appropriate for guiding doctors in training and their supervisors and trainers.

ABC of Clinical Leadership has been written in the context of an increasing awareness that effective leadership is vitally important to patient care and health outcomes. Patient care is delivered by clinicians working in systems, not by individual practitioners working in isolation. To deliver healthcare effectively requires not only an understanding of those systems but also an appreciation of how to influence and improve them for the benefit of patients. This in turn requires the active participation of clinicians in leading change and improvement at all levels, from the clinical team to the department, the whole organisation and out into the wider community.

This book aims to inform and encourage those engaged in improving clinical care, and we have been fortunate in attracting a team of authors with huge expertise and knowledge about leadership in the clinical environment. We thank them all for their contributions. What we have aimed to do is provide an introduction to some key leadership and organisational concepts as they relate to clinical practice, linking these to real-life examples and contemporary health systems. Each chapter is free-standing, although reading the whole book will provide a good grounding in clinical and healthcare leadership theory and practice. Along the way, we have provided pointers to additional resources for those who want to find out more or explore additional aspects of leadership.

The book begins with an introduction to clinical leadership, through contextualising this in key policy drivers and leadership, management and followership theory. We move on to consider key aspects of leadership: leading teams, change, projects, organisations and complex environments. Then we look at the specific contexts of leading clinical services and education. The later chapters consider the broad contexts of collaboration and partnership working, how gender, culture and ethical issues influence leadership, and finally how leadership development may best be carried out. We hope that you enjoy the book, and that it stimulates you to reflect on and develop your own leadership practice and that of others.

> Tim Swanwick Judy McKimm