

Eighth Edition

Milstead's

Health Policy and Politics

A Nurse's Guide

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Preface

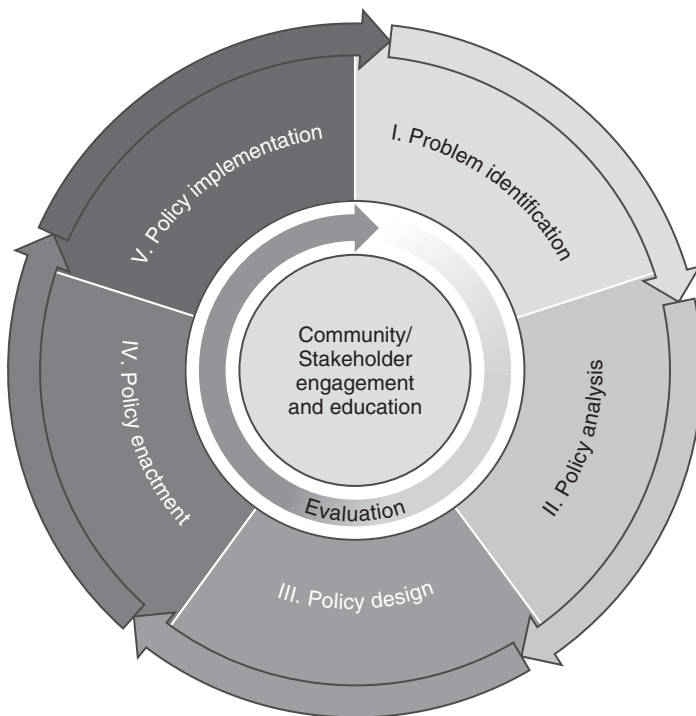
This is a contributed textbook for nurses and other healthcare professionals who are interested in expanding the depth of their knowledge about public policy, especially health policy, and becoming more sophisticated in the political arena. This book brings together research and theory from nursing, political science, and public health to anchor a foundation of science and truth-telling. Stories from real-life experience provide credibility and clarify the link between policy and practice. Content covers the whole policy process (not just legislation): problem identification and agenda setting, community/stakeholder engagement, policy analysis, strategy and policy development/design, policy adoption/enactment, and implementation and evaluation of policy and programs produced by policy. To be human is to have a story: Professional nurses have stories that may influence policymakers and influence health policy in the United States. We hope this book will provide an enduring framework to clarify some of the more significant issues underlying the politics, economics, and laws of health care both today and in the future. A highlight of this book is the incredibly useful Chapter 12, *An Insider's Guide to Engaging in Policy Activities*, written from the wisdom and lived experiences of nurses who have influenced health policy.

With this *Eighth Edition*, we celebrate 26 years of serving faculty, students, and even families (*yes—one student read her assignments aloud to her elderly father once a week when she visited him. He sent Dr. Short a gift at the end of the semester*) both in the United States and abroad. This edition introduces new authors with fresh perspectives—all of whom have significant experiential basis for their health policy expertise. Welcome Dr. Linda Harrington, Dr. Jessica Peck, Dr. Audra Rankin, and Dr. Carolyn Sipes. While the focus of the eighth edition is on U.S. domestic politics and policy, we acknowledge that nurses also deal with institutional policies (and politics). We do not delve into organizational behavior science.

New to this edition:

- An additional theme throughout this textbook, *To be human is to have a story: Nurses have powerful stories that can influence policy*, accompanies the policy process frame from previous editions.
- An outline of core competencies in health policy introduced or addressed in the eighth edition including a conceptual model.
- A new chapter, “Policy Process: Community/Stakeholder Engagement and Education,” completes the CDC’s Policy Process Model used throughout the book.
- Includes an easy pre-course assessment for students to break the ice a bit.
- Additional discussion of Medigap and the choices faced by Medicare beneficiaries during annual enrollment.

- New and timely case studies including a thorough discussion of two legal cases (with different outcomes) involving RNs, serious mistakes, and electronic health records.
- A discussion of the actors in pharmaceutical pricing as well as exploration of patent thickets and product-hopping strategies to limit competition.
- A table describing pertinent social media outlets and their relationship to nurses who want to influence health policy.
- A thorough exploration of regulation versus legislation focused on nursing practice.
- A discussion of possible impacts of artificial intelligence on nurses: compelling reasons for nurses to be included in local, state, and federal policy discussions.
- We have discontinued the chapter, “The Impact of Nurse Influence on Global Health Policy,” so that we may place emphasis on domestic policy in the United States.



Modified from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2024). Overview of CDC's Policy Process. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/policy/analysis/process/>

The chapters are presented in matching sequence with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's policy process model. Readers will note that the policy process in practice is not linear: the stages of policymaking do not just overlap, they are often inseparable. Sometimes, the process stops and backs up to earlier stages. Main actors drop out. New actors bring timely information or entanglements. Most readers will be novices in the arena of politics and policymaking; the content can

be challenging to understand. Many faculty may be teaching health policy for the first time. *Milstead's Health Policy and Politics: A Nurse's Guide, Eighth Edition* is a great starting point or a trove to help you polish your skills. If you discover an error in the textbook, have feedback, or need help with the content, email Dr. Short (editor) at profnancyshort@gmail.com.

Dr. Nancy M. Short, Editor
Dr. Jeri A. Milstead, Founding Editor



Core Competencies in Health Policy Introduced or Supported by *Milstead's Health Policy and Politics: A Guide for Nurses, Eighth Edition*

1. Knowledge of the Health Care Policy Environment

Understanding the policy environment and issues for developing and influencing public policy that are important to various stakeholders in the healthcare system including:

1. How health care is financed in the United States and the effects on access to health care.
2. Public health issues and trends.
3. Roles of federal and state government in health care and how policy affects healthcare systems.
4. Politics of health policy decision making.
5. Current legislative, regulatory, judicial, and fiscal environments affecting policy formulation and implementation.
6. Major healthcare interest groups and stakeholders.

2. Knowledge and Application of the Public Policy Process

Understanding the theoretical, environmental, political, and legal frameworks for public policymaking including:

1. Steps in the policy process.
2. Nature, structure, and methods of policy evaluation and analysis.
3. Role of research and evidence on health policy.
4. Differentiate policy and politics.
5. Apply select political science theories to current health policy issues.

3. Application of Evidence and Policy Research

Effective use of research and data-based evidence to support policy development, implementation, and evaluation including the ability to:

1. Integrate scientific evidence, consumer preferences, and expert opinion to identify and evaluate policy issues, options, and programs.
2. Understand the impact of policy on behavior of health systems, service providers, consumers, and government agencies.
3. Use legislative databases to identify current nursing issues within public policy debate.

4. Communication

The ability to write and speak in a clear, logical, persuasive, and grammatical manner in formal and informal situations and to prepare cogent professional policy-related papers and presentations including:

1. Practice written, oral communication, and presentation skills.
2. Experiment with writing op-eds, using Parliamentary procedure and testifying as a tool within the policy process.

5. Relationship Management and Professionalism

Competency in relationship management and professionalism should include the ability to:

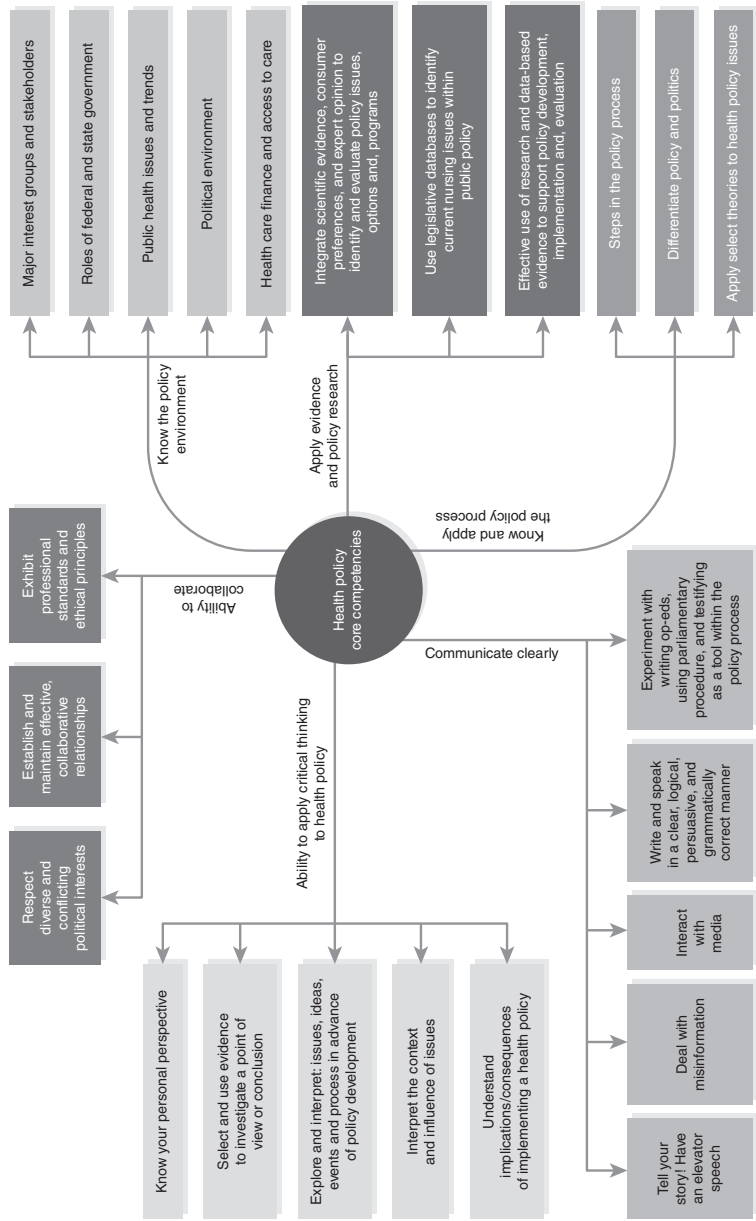
1. Build purposeful collaborative relationships.
2. Respect diverse and conflicting political interests.
3. Know and exhibit professional standards and ethical principles.

6. Critical Thinking Related to Health Policy

The ability to apply critical thinking in:

1. Problem statement and issue identification/explanation.
2. Interpreting the context and influence of issues.
3. Selecting and using evidence to investigate a point of view or conclusion.
4. Personal position or perspective.
5. Cause-and-effect relationships.
6. Political and operational implementation implications and consequences.

A Mind Map Framework of Health Policy



Health Policy Core Competences for professionals and researchers.

Data from The European Commission. Competence frameworks for policymakers and researchers. Supporting policy with scientific evidence. The European Union. Last updated April 21, 2023. Accessed May 29, 2025 at: https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/projects-activities/competence-frameworks-policymakers-researchers_en

Learning and Teaching Resources

Instructor Resources

Qualified instructors can receive the full suite of Instructor Resources, including the following:

- Slides in PowerPoint format
- Test Bank—including Chapter Quizzes, Midterm Exam, and Final Exam—including in LMS-compatible formats
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- Answer Key to Discussion Points and Case Studies
- Syllabus
- Competency Mapping



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Contributors

Amy L. Anderson, DNP, RN, CNE, FAAN, is a Clinical Associate Professor teaching in graduate nursing at the Baylor University Louise Herrington School of Nursing. With more than 20 years in academia, Dr. Anderson has expertise in multiple teaching modalities and course delivery methods. Prior to teaching at Baylor University, Dr. Anderson held distinguished positions in academia and health policy including Visiting Fellow in health policy at The Heritage Foundation, Associate Professor of Professional Practice and Program Coordinator for the Post-Master's DNP Program at Texas Christian University, Assistant Professor and Health Policy Theme Lead in the School of Medicine at Texas Christian University, Associate Professor in the DNP Program at Indiana Wesleyan University, Graduate Health Policy Fellow at The Heritage Foundation, Assistant Professor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and Assistant Professor at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing. Dr. Anderson currently teaches courses focused on health policy and leadership. She holds a DNP in Executive Leadership from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, is a Certified Nurse Educator, and a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing.

Dr. Anderson is a public advisor for the Paragon Health Institute, a health policy think tank working on national solutions to healthcare reform. Dr. Anderson was selected for the Global Nursing and Health Expert Panel at the American Academy of Nursing. She is a former International Council of Nursing *Global Nurse Leadership Institute Policy Program scholar* and a member of the PAHO region GNLI alumni table. As a founder of Global Nurse Consultants Alliance, she mentors and coaches global nurse leaders from organizations such as Médecins San Frontières. Dr. Anderson was appointed to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing *Faculty Policy Think Tank* helping develop recommendations for the AACN Board of Directors on how to advance health policy education in nursing. Dr. Anderson was appointed to the Texas Nurses Association Government Affairs Committee in 2018 and continues to serve in this role.

As a Visiting Fellow at The Heritage Foundation, Dr. Anderson researched and analyzed state and national policies affecting millions of Americans proposing solutions for complex problems in healthcare delivery and public health. Dr. Anderson served as expert counsel to the National Coronavirus Recovery Commission on COVID-19. Dr. Anderson was an inaugural member of the Global Think Tank Townhall convened by the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program of the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania where she worked with international policy colleagues on global solutions to the pandemic crisis. Her policy consulting work has resulted in wins on full practice authority for APRNs. Her most notable work was in West Virginia where she consulted for AARP on House Bill 4334, which passed in 2016 and served as a case study for messaging and strategy for success in other states.

Dr. Amy Anderson has presented locally, nationally, and internationally on health policy, nursing education, and leadership. Her white papers/backgrounders and op-eds have been featured at *The Heritage Foundation*, *Fox Business*, *The Daily Signal*, *Real Clear Health*, *The Washington Times*, *The National Interest*, *Washington Examiner*, *Newsday*, and the *Tribune* wire. She has been a guest medical expert on local and national radio and international news. Dr. Anderson has authored chapters in leading health policy texts for nurses including *Policy & Politics in Nursing and Healthcare* (8th ed.) and *Milstead's Health Policy and Politics: A Nurse's Guide* (7th ed.). She was the keynote speaker for the 2019 Texas Nurses Association Health Policy Summit and presented in Barcelona, Spain, at the ICN Congress. Dr. Anderson led policy workshops with the Center to Champion Nursing at AARP and the American Association of Nurse Practitioners where she facilitated the design of policy messaging and political strategies that have resulted in state legislative wins impacting nursing practice, full practice authority, and patient access across the United States.

Dr. Anderson has led study abroad and mission trips to Geneva, London, and China. She and her husband, Christopher, have four children and work with the college ministry at their local church.

Anne Derouin, DNP, APRN, CPNP, PMHS, ANEF, FAANP, joined the Duke University School of Nursing faculty in 2011. Since 2023, Dr. Derouin has served as the Vice Dean of Academic and Student Affairs; Professor in Family Medicine and Community Health since 2020, and is an affiliate with Family Medicine and Community Health; and the Duke Global Health Institute since 2018 at Duke University. She previously served as Assistant Dean of the MSN Program and Lead Faculty for the Pediatric Behavior Mental Health specialty program at DUSON. She has provided adolescent primary care services at Community and School-based Health Centers affiliated with Duke's Department of Community and Family Medicine for more than two decades.

Dr. Derouin serves on the state and national boards of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP), and is considered an adolescent clinical expert, serving on Society of Adolescent Health and Medicine (SAHM) and as the co-chair for the Adolescent Special Interest Group of NAPNAP, participating in pediatric, school-based health and advanced nursing practice advocacy efforts at state and federal levels. Dr. Derouin is widely published with a selected list available at <https://scholars.duke.edu/person/anne.derouin/publications>.

She has been selected for advocacy Fellowships from several professional organizations including the School-based Health Alliance (formally National Assembly of School-based Health Centers), Nurse in Washington Internship (NIWI), Shot@Life (World Health Organization's global vaccine efforts), and as a Faculty Policy Intensive Fellow for the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

She received her BSN in 1989 from the University of Michigan, earned her MSN in 2000 and DNP in 2010 both from DUSON, and was a member of the school's inaugural DNP cohort. She has also been a frequent guest lecturer on adolescent topics for the Community and Family Medicine and Pediatrics departments at Duke and is on the faculty of the MBS program at the School of Medicine. Dr. Derouin has served as President of the North Carolina School Community Health Alliance. She serves on the Executive Team of the Duke-Johnson & Johnson Nurse Leadership program and the Advisory Board for the Poe Center in Raleigh, NC.

Linda Harrington, PhD, DNP, RN, NI-BC, UXC, FHIMSS, FAMIA, is a distinguished expert in informatics with a specialization in interactive design and a subspecialty in artificial intelligence (AI). She skillfully integrates her active consulting practice in informatics and AI with her roles in teaching, research, and publishing. Board-certified in nursing informatics, she also holds certifications in healthcare technology and user experience, reflecting her commitment to innovation and excellence in the field.

In her executive leadership roles, Linda has made significant contributions to nursing informatics within large healthcare systems. She served as Vice President for Advancing Nursing Practice at Baylor Health Care System and as Vice President and Chief Nursing Informatics Officer at Catholic Health Initiatives, among other prominent AI and informatics consulting positions.

A prolific author, Linda dedicated over a decade to serving as the *Technology Today* editor for the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses' *Advanced Critical Care* journal. She is also the co-chair of the current edition of the American Nurses Association's *Nursing Informatics: Scope and Standards of Practice*. With a remarkable portfolio, Linda has authored over 100 articles that advance the fields of informatics and AI in nursing.

Linda earned her formal education in informatics at Duke University and continues to expand her expertise through advanced AI training programs at MIT Professional Education and Harvard Medical School Executive Education. Additionally, she has completed specialized AI coursework with the National Institute of Health Informatics in Canada and the National Institute of Nursing Research in Bethesda, MD.

Her achievements have garnered her numerous prestigious honors. She has been recognized as a Fellow of the American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA), where she also received the esteemed AMIA Leadership Award. Additionally, she is a Fellow of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS). The American Association of Critical-Care Nurses awarded her Lifetime Membership for her exceptional contributions to the organization, as well as their highest honor for visionary leadership, the Marguerite Rodgers Kinney Award for a Distinguished Career.

Toni Hebda, PhD, MSIS, RN-BC, earned a diploma in nursing from Washington Hospital School of Nursing. Later, she earned a baccalaureate degree in nursing from Duquesne University followed by a master's degree in nursing education, a PhD in Education, and later a master's degree in information science all from the University of Pittsburgh. She has taught nursing students at the diploma, associate, baccalaureate, and graduate levels over the years, including DNP students. Dr. Hebda has also worked as a staff nurse, served as a hospital-based staff development instructor, a chief nursing officer, and supported clinical information systems at a corporate level for a major healthcare system.

Dr. Hebda has presented nationally and internationally and co-authored the *Handbook of Informatics for Nurses & Healthcare Professionals*, now in its seventh edition. Dr. Hebda currently reviews manuscripts for several scholarly journals including the *Online Journal of Nursing Informatics*.

Jennifer Lewis, PhD, MSN/MBA, RN, is the Director of Education for the North Carolina Board of Nursing. In this role, she provides consultation and education to licensees, nurse employers, and members of the public regarding issues related to nursing practice and precensure nursing education programs. She serves on

the Board's research committee and has represented the North Carolina Board of Nursing nationally by serving on the NCLEX Item Review Subcommittee, Awards Committee, and as Vice Chair of the Nurse Licensure Compact Research Committee with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. She has also served on the Model Documents Committee of the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards, the Executive Committee for the North Carolina Foundation for Nursing, and is currently Co-Chair of the Marketing Committee for the NC Great 100. She is a subject matter expert on conducting internal event investigations and she has served as a break-out speaker at national conferences on *Just Culture*, nursing error, and nursing regulation.

Dr. Lewis holds a BSN from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and earned her dual graduate degree (MSN/ MBA) as well as PhD in Nursing from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Dr. Lewis has also received certification through the International Center for Regulatory Scholarship through the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Workplace Accountability for *Just Culture*, through The Just Culture Center, and she has received certification in basic and advanced/specialized training in investigative techniques through the Council on Licensure, Enforcement, and Regulation (CLEAR). Dr. Lewis's professional activities include membership in the North Carolina Nurses Association, the North Carolina Organization of Nurse Leaders, and the American Organization of Nurse Leaders. She has received a number of honors including recipient of The Great 100 in 2022, recipient of the 2015 Eunice M. Smith Scholarship from the North Carolina Nurses Association, recipient of the 2017 Dean's Recognition Award from the University of North Carolina School of Nursing, and recipient of the Overall Excellence in Nursing Research Award presented by the North Carolina Organization of Nurse Leaders. Her research interests include nursing error and implications on practice as well as policy initiatives impacting nursing practice and regulation.

Dr. Lewis is married to Jessie and together they have two beautiful children, Joshua and Jessica.

Rick Mayes, PhD, is a professor of health policy in the University of Richmond's department of health studies. He is also a professor in the University of Virginia's School of Nursing. He earned his PhD at the University of Virginia as well as a National Institute of Mental Health postdoctoral traineeship at the U.C. Berkeley School of Public Health. He worked on Medicaid policy in the White House for President George H. W. Bush and thereafter, on health insurance and Medicare policy at the AARP during the "Clinton" healthcare reform effort. He is a graduate of the University of Richmond, and he has taught international public policy and global health on Semester at Sea.

His writings have appeared in *The New York Times*; *Health Affairs*; the *Journal of Health Politics, Policy & Law*; the *Journal of the History of Medicine & Allied Sciences*; the *Journal of Policy History*; the *Journal of Health Law*; the *Journal of Health Care Law & Policy*; the *Harvard Review of Psychiatry*; the *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*; *Health Economics, Policy and Law*; the *History of Psychiatry*; *Child and Adolescent Psychopharmacology News*; *Health Law Review*; *Applied Health Economics & Health Policy*; the *Journal of Medicine, Health Care & Philosophy*; *Pharmacoepidemiology & Drug Safety*; the *Journal of Primary Care & Community Health*; *World Medical & Health Policy I*, *World Medical & Health Policy II*; and the *Journal of Health Services Research & Policy*.

He has given health policy talks and research presentations to, among others, the Richmond Academy of Medicine, the Virginia Association of Free & Charitable Clinics, the Virginia Dermatology Society, the Albemarle Medical Society, the Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates, the Virginia Association of Hematologists & Oncologists, the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Santé Publique (in France), the Yale University School of Medicine, Congress on Women's Health, VCU's Medical College of Virginia, the National Association of Personal Financial Planners, and UVA's School of Medicine & Miller Center.

He is also the author of *Universal Coverage: The Elusive Quest for National Health Insurance* (University of Michigan Press); co-author of *Medicare Prospective Payment and the Shaping of U.S. Health Care* (Johns Hopkins University Press) with Robert Berenson, M.D., Senior Health Policy Fellow at the Urban Institute; and co-author of *Medicating Children: ADHD and Pediatric Mental Health* (Harvard University Press) with Catherine Bagwell and Jennifer Erkulwater.

His most enjoyable and rewarding professional experiences have involved taking groups of University of Richmond students to Peru, the Dominican Republic, Appalachia, and Acadia National Park in Maine on healthcare research and community service trips. He has been voted by students to give the university's "Last Lecture."

Jeri A. Milstead, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, is recognized internationally as an expert in public policy and the politics of health care. She is the founding editor and senior author of *Milstead's Health Policy and Politics A Nurse's Guide* that has been sold in 22 countries and *Handbook of Nursing Leadership: Creative Skills for a Culture of Safety*. She has invited policy chapters in four other current nursing textbooks, has published in national and international journals, and was editor-in-chief of *The International Nurse* from 1995 to 2006 when the publication was retired. She has worked with U.S. senators and Congresspersons and state legislators and policymakers for over 50 years, writing bills and amendments, testifying at hearings, actively participating in interested party meetings, and lobbying for nursing and health issues. She served 4 years on the South Carolina Board of Nursing, 9 years on the Mt. Carmel College of Nursing Board of Directors, and 3 years on the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority Board of Directors (responsible for economic development in 23 counties in NW Ohio). She has conducted consultation or research in the Netherlands, Jordan, China, Nicaragua, and Cuba. In 2020, she worked with exemplar nurses in Albania, Croatia, Italy, Panama, Portugal, and Rwanda whose involvement in policy in their countries made a difference.

Dr. Milstead holds a PhD in Political Science with majors in public policy and comparative politics from the University of Georgia, an MS and BSN, cum laude, from The Ohio State University, and a diploma from Mt. Carmel School of Nursing where she is a Distinguished Alumna. She served for 10 years as dean and professor emerita at the University of Toledo College of Nursing, where she spearheaded the first Clinical Nurse Leader program in Ohio and the first DNP program in Ohio (an innovative collaborative program with Wright State University). She served for 3 years as Director of Graduate Programs at Duquesne University (Pittsburgh, PA) where she taught the first (policy) course in the first totally online PhD in Nursing program in the world. She served 10 years as faculty at Clemson University (SC). She has been a member of Sigma (formerly Sigma Theta Tau International) since 1974 and was a charter member of the first European chapter at the University

of Utrecht, the Netherlands. A member of the American Nurses Association/State Constituent since 1976, she was one of the founders of ANA-Ohio, the only ANA Constituent in Ohio. Dr. Milstead was inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 2003 where she is active in the Expert Panel on Global Nursing and Health. She has been nationally certified as a Nurse Executive-Advanced by the American Nurses Credentialing Commission for over 30 years.

Awards include the Archie M. Griffin Award for Professional Achievement from the Ohio State University Alumni Association in 2024, A Lifetime Legacy Award from the American Academy of Nursing in 2023, and she was inducted into the American Nurses Association Hall of Fame in 2020. She has an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Mt. Carmel College of Nursing and an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from MedCentral College (now Ashland University). She was the recipient of the Mildred E. Newton Distinguished Educator award (OSU College of Nursing Alumni Association), The Cornelius Leadership Congress (ONAs “most prestigious award”), recognized as a Local Nursing Legend by the OSU Medical Heritage Center, and inducted into the Ohio Senior Citizen’s Hall of Fame and the Washington Court House (OH) School System Academic Hall of Fame. She was named a Transformer of Nursing and Health Care by the OSU CON, a Pioneer in distance education, and given a Creative Teaching award by Duquesne U.

She currently lives in Dublin, Ohio, and remains actively involved in writing and in the nursing profession. She has been honored by nursing and specialty associations, state government, academic institutions, and local businesses.

Catherine Moore, PhD, MSN, BSN, RN, is the Director of Sheps Health Workforce NC and the Health Professions Data System in the Program for Health Workforce Research and Policy at the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research. Prior to her current role, Dr. Moore served as the Chief Legislative and Quality Officer for the North Carolina Board of Nursing (NCBON). A chief function of Dr. Moore’s role with the NCBON was to provide consultative and educational services to members of the North Carolina General Assembly, nurses, occupational regulators, healthcare association and practice communities, and the public. One example of this work is the successful 2019 legislation that updated the North Carolina Nursing Practice Act and included provisions granting the NCBON authority to create regulatory waivers during a declared state of emergency (such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the Hurricane Helene state of emergency).

Dr. Moore has been a registered nurse for 22 years, with a clinical background in neonatal intensive care. Prior to her role with the NCBON, she served on the North Carolina Nurses Association’s staff leadership team as the Director of Nursing Practice and Education—a role that enhanced her skills in interprofessional collaboration and the development and facilitation of liaison relationships. Dr. Moore is a strong proponent of healthcare policies that promote access to care and the safe delivery of nursing and healthcare services. She has published and presented on policies that impact utilization of nurses in the delivery of health care. Her dissertation research, which explored how stakeholders for nurse practitioner full practice authority determine the appropriate time to pursue legislative changes to nurse practitioner scope of practice regulations, was awarded the Sigma Theta Tau Gamma Zeta Chapter PhD Award for Excellence. Dr. Moore’s professional interests include healthcare workforce research and policy, healthcare regulation, healthcare safety, and interprofessional collaboration.

Jessica L. Peck, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC, CNE, CNL, FAANP, FAAN, is a Clinical Professor at Baylor University Louise Herrington School of Nursing. Prior to her role at Baylor, her distinguished background includes Tenured Professor at Texas A&M Corpus Christi College of Nursing; Associate Professor of Nursing, University of Texas Health Science Center School of Nursing; and Will Dean Bivens Singleton Professor of Pediatric Nursing, University of Texas Medical Branch. She has served in elected leadership positions including the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, and Texas Nurse Practitioners. She maintains active memberships in the American Public Health Association, National League for Nursing; Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society; and Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nurses. She is involved in two Alumni Associations: Alabama and Texas.

Throughout her career she has received many awards and recognitions such as the Shining Star by the Houston Area Nurse Practitioners, Digital Innovator of the Year nominee at Digital Strategies Symposium 2018, Kelly Reed APRN Community Impact Award 2018 from the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board, Outstanding Nurse 2014 by the Houston Chronicle Salute to Nurses Top 100 Nurses, and Texas Nurse Practitioner of the Year in 2019. Dr. Peck has published and presented at the state, regional, national, and international level on subjects related to pediatric health care, advanced practice nursing, and human trafficking.

Dr. Peck is a nationally recognized anti-human trafficking advocate, serving as Lead Medical Consultant for *UnBound Houston*. She served as the founding Chair of the Alliance for Children in Trafficking (ACT) and started the ACT Advocates grassroots advocacy program, training hundreds of nursing professionals to respond to human trafficking in their communities. As a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, devoted wife, and mother of four, Dr. Peck has a special interest in educating and equipping families to promote positive physical, emotional, mental, social, and spiritual health. She frequently speaks at community events, teaches parenting classes, and serves as a volunteer nurse at camp and other community settings.

Audra N. Rankin, DNP, APRN, CPNP, is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. In this role, she serves as program director for the Doctor of Nursing Practice program as well as the program director for the Health Care Leadership and Administration program. She is the Associate Faculty Director-Nursing for the UNC Center for the Business of Health at the UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School. She holds a doctoral degree in nursing practice from Duke University and a master's degree in nursing from Vanderbilt University. She completed a post-master's certificate in nursing education from Johns Hopkins University. In addition, she holds master's degrees in education from Harvard University and business administration from UNC Chapel Hill.

Dr. Rankin maintains active certifications as a Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Pediatric Mental Health Specialist, Certified Lactation Counselor, and Certified Nurse Educator. She has served as faculty at the Harvard Macy Program for Educators in Health Professions at Harvard University, was named an American Association of Colleges of Nursing Faculty Health Policy Fellow, and is a 2025 Distinguished Fellow in the National Academies of Practice. She currently serves as the National Health Policy Chair for the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, a federal liaison for the National Committee on Federal Government Affairs

for the American Academy of Pediatrics, and a dissemination and implementation partner liaison for the United States Preventive Services Task Force.

Her interests in curriculum development have resulted in numerous international collaborations such as the 2024 Curriculum Development Award (COIL): Health Policy Collaboration with Ramathibodi School of Nursing of Mahidol University: Connecting Carolina Classrooms with the World; 2023 Global to Local: Creating sustainable health care solutions through an exploration of value-based care using digital technology; 2023 Curriculum Development Award (COIL): Health Policy Collaboration with Ramathibodi SON of Mahidol University: Connecting Carolina Classrooms with the World; as a curriculum developer for the 2022 Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)/World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center in Quality and Safety Education in Nursing and Midwifery at UNC-CH; and the 2021 Curriculum Development Award (COIL): Health Policy Collaboration with Ramathibodi SON of Mahidol University: Connecting Carolina Classrooms with the World.

You can catch Dr. Rankin on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lx7y5HToIQU>.

Leslie Sharpe, DNP, FNP-BC, is a Clinical Associate Professor at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) School of Nursing and FNP Program Director. An experienced family nurse practitioner of 25 years with experience in primary care specializing in the care of patients with complex, comorbid physical and mental health illnesses, Dr. Sharpe is committed to educating primary care nurse practitioners to be able to apply behavioral health concepts in primary care. She is the Primary Care Education Team Lead for HRSA ANEW Grant “Partners in Practice, Engagement, & Education in rural NC: Preparing Nurse Practitioners for Behavioral Health Integration in Primary Care” (PI: V. Soltis-Jarrett). She is also a hub team member of the UNC ECHO MOUD ABC (Addiction-Behavioral Health Clinic) team.

In 2013, Dr. Sharpe took the lead role in facilitating and coordinating the opening of Sylvan Community Health Center, a school-based community health center in Snow Camp, NC. This community health center was a unique partnership with Piedmont Health Services, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing, and Alamance-Burlington School System with the goal of increasing access to health care in a rural community. She has now transitioned to full time teaching; however, she remains committed to serving underserved communities and currently volunteers as a provider with the UNC School of Nursing Mobile Health Clinic. The UNC SON MHC provides clinical interprofessional education and practice in a robust mobile health environment that mentors students from multiple disciplines to screen for social determinants of health, hypertension, diabetes, depression, and anxiety; provide health education and resources; and connect to health care.

Dr. Sharpe is passionate about teaching NP students and mentoring new nurse practitioners as they enter the workforce. With a passion for improving health outcomes and reducing health disparities, Dr. Sharpe mentors nurse practitioners who desire to reimagine health care by starting innovative NP-led practice settings in underserved communities. She attended the Duke-Johnson & Johnson Nurse Leaders Program as an inaugural fellow during 2013–2014 and is now a project coach for the Duke-Johnson & Johnson Nurse Practitioner Entrepreneur Program.

She regularly publishes in peer reviewed journals and participated in the 2023 National League for Nursing Writing Retreat. She has received numerous professional awards including The Great 100 Nurses' Award in 2023; National Lead of Nursing Scholarly Writing Retreat Participant in 2023; North Carolina Nurses Association Board of Directors Mentorship Award in 2022; American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, North Carolina Award for NP Advocate in 2014; and NCNA Legislative Nurse of the Year Award in 2011.

She educates and mentors nurse practitioners and nurses about actively engaging in advocacy efforts related to health policy and improving the health of North Carolinians. As a member of the APRN Legislative Strategy team for NCNA, Dr. Sharpe routinely advocates for increased access to care for patients in North Carolina, educating legislators about the need for full practice authority and passage of the SAVE Act. As Chairperson of the NC Nurses Association's NP Council Executive Committee from 2011 to 2014, she represented nurse practitioners at state legislative political events and educated legislators and other stakeholders in health care about advanced practice registered nurse issues. She currently serves as the NP PAC treasurer.

Nancy Munn Short, DrPH, MBA, RN, FAAN, earned a Doctor of Public Health degree with a major in health policy and administration at the University of North Carolina's Gillings School of Global Public Health, and a Master of Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Duke University, Durham, NC. She is an Associate Professor, Emerita, at Duke University School of Nursing.

She began her work at the Duke University School of Nursing (DUSON) in 1997 as a staff member managing a 3-year Robert Wood Johnson Foundation *Partnerships for Training* grant. The grant partnered DUSON's Family Nurse Practitioner program with East Carolina University's Family Nurse Practitioner, Certified Nurse Midwife, and Physician Assistant programs. DUSON used a customized learning management platform to provide education to students enrolled in the PFT programs. This was the first online degree at Duke University and one of the first in nursing. The purpose of the RWJF Partnerships for Training grant was to train FNP's and PAs in their rural home towns with the hope that they would remain in a rural setting to practice.

After completing her doctorate, Dr. Short served as regular ranked faculty at DUSON from 2003 to 2020 when she retired. From 2002 to 2006, she served as an Assistant Dean at the school. She was Chair of the ABSN program, shepherding the faculty through the successful initial CCNE review for the major. Dr. Short received the School of Nursing's Distinguished Teaching Award in 2010 and the Outstanding DNP Faculty award in 2015, 2013, 2011, and 2010 for her courses on health policy, comparative international health systems, transformational leadership, and health economics. In 2009, she was recognized as an Arnold J. Kaluzny Distinguished Alumnus by the UNC-CH Gillings School of Global Public Health. Dr. Short completed a post-doctoral fellowship as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellow from 2004 to 2007. As a part of this fellowship, in 2005, she served as a Health Legislative Aide for U.S. Senate Majority Leader, Bill Frist. With Darlene Curley, she served as co-chair of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's *Faculty Policy Think Tank* (FPTT), charged with making recommendations to the Board regarding improving health policy education for nurses. The mission of the FPTT was to evaluate the current state of health policy education in nursing programs and propose strategies to improve the curriculum and equip nursing students

with the knowledge and skills to actively participate in policy discussions. Read the full report from the FPTT at <https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/Policy/PDF/FPTT-Report-10-12-2017.pdf> and an article about the process the FPTT utilized in the May/June 2020 edition of the *Journal of Professional Nursing*, 36(3), 100–105.

Dr. Short is nationally known as an advocate for public health. She provided consultation to the UNC Public Health Management Academy, the UNC Institute for Public Health on international issues related to distance learning, and served as a mentor with the Johnson & Johnson Nurse Leadership Program at Duke. She served as a member of the Durham County (NC) Board of Health.

In 2014, she completed a 2-year tenure on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Local Boards of Health where she specialized in the development of performance standards for the ~3000 boards of health in the United States. Under the auspices of the U.S. Department of State, she delivered leadership and quality management training to a bi-communal program for nurses in Cyprus. After the Turkish takeover of northern Cyprus in 1974, Nicosia became the last divided city in the world. There is a United Nations–maintained Green Zone buffering the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and the Greek Cypriot held South (officially still the Republic of Cyprus). The mission for the U.S. Department of State was to bring a group of RNs together (half from the South and half from the North) and meet at a neutral building within the heavily armed green zone crossing in Nicosia. Despite the language barrier—the northern group spoke Turkish and the southern group spoke Greek—these courageous and kind nurses overcame years of anger and fear and partnered together on several projects. It was one of the most remarkable and unforgettable weeks in Dr. Short's career.

Nancy and her husband, Jim, live with two indoor and three outdoor cats in Jamestown, NC. She is a big fan of *Schitt's Creek* and *Ted Lasso*.

Dr. Carolyn Sipes, PhD, CNS, APRN, PMP, NI-BC, NEA-BC, FAAN, as an NIH Fellow, received her PhD from Rush University in Chicago, and her MSN and BSN from Northern Illinois University. As a CNS, her focus was on neurology/neurosurgery and cardiac critical care at Loyola University, Chicago. At Rush University, her NIH grant-funded research focused on qualitative hermeneutics and grounded theory including HIV/AIDS for both adults and pediatrics. As a research scientist for Abbott Pharma, she was PI on research and developed the *Tolerability of Medication Tool (TOMA)*, presented at *World AIDS* in Barcelona, where she received the International Distinguished Faculty award.

As a professor, with more than 40 years of clinical, research, academic, and informatics experience, currently at Walden University, she serves as a DNP and PhD core faculty and dissertation mentor. Other research interests are in executive leadership management and nursing informatics (NI) with the Chamberlain College of Nursing Informatics Research Team (NIRT) where she achieved rank and promotion as a full professor. The primary area of research at Walden is as a subject matter expert (SME) in qualitative methodology and includes quantitative and mixed methods. As an NI SME, Dr. Sipes developed NI, evidence-based project management, and leadership specialty courses, telehealth nursing courses, and micro-courses, and as an NI specialty coordinator, she held eight technology certifications in *Epic* clinical applications.

She has implemented numerous enterprise-wide EHR projects both nationally and internationally, including managing projects in the UK with the NHS as

Sr. VP for IBM and also for the Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, UAE. In the leadership roles as a consultant, she developed proprietary informatics competency skill assessments for organizations' EHRs, published the *Project Management for Advanced Practice Nurses* and *Application of Informatics and Technology in Nursing Practice – Competencies, Skills, and Decision-Making* textbooks; and co-authored, "The Practice Specialty of Nursing Informatics; Part 4—Informatics Theory and Standards," in V. K. Saba and K. A. McCormick's *Essentials of Nursing Informatics*.

In 2024, Dr. Sipes received a research award, Qualitative Research for Nurses Using Interpretative Phenomenology Analysis, in New York. Other publications include peer-reviewed publications, 2 books, 31 book chapters, and manuscript reviews; and presentations 27 nationally, and 19 internationally. She was inducted into the American Academy of Nurses as a fellow (FAAN) serving on the International Technology Expert Panel, Leadership and Council for Advancing Nursing Science and the ANA workgroup, completed revisions of the *ANA Nursing Informatics Scope & Standards of Practice* (3rd ed.), published in 2022. She received the Faculty Excellence Award and is a two-time DAISY award recipient.

AnnMarie Walton, PhD, MPH, RN, OCN®, CHES, FAAN, is the Dorothy L. Powell Term Chair of Nursing and an Associate Professor in the Duke University School of Nursing, and a Member of the Duke Cancer Institute (Duke Health System). She is also affiliated faculty in the Integrated Toxicology and Environmental Health Program in the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University. Prior to becoming faculty, she worked for 13 years in inpatient hematology/oncology in roles from Clinical Nurse I through Clinical Nurse IV and co-created the first nurse manager job share in the state of North Carolina.

Dr. Walton's program of research centers on understanding and minimizing occupational and environmental exposures to carcinogens. Her dissertation work combined her educational preparation and clinical experience caring for patients with acute leukemia to examine the pesticide protective behaviors of Latino migrant and seasonal farmworkers. This work was supported by a T32 Fellowship in Cancer, Aging and End of Life from the National Institutes of Nursing Research, An American Cancer Society Doctoral Scholarship in Oncology Nursing, and a Jonas Nurse Leader Scholarship. She has received grant funding in support of her current research work from the Duke University School of Nursing, the Duke University School of Medicine, the Duke Cancer Institute, the NC Occupational Safety and Health Education Research Center, and the Oncology Nursing Foundation. She co-edited the fourth edition of *Safe Handling of Hazardous Drugs* (2024) with MiKaela M. Olsen, DNP, APRN-CNS, AOCNS®, FAAN of Johns Hopkins Medicine. Other publications and scholarly work are available at <https://scholars.duke.edu/person/annmarie.walton/publications>.

Dr. Walton received a PhD in 2015 from the University of Utah. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship at UNC-Chapel Hill's School of Nursing. She received support from a T32 Fellowship in Interventions to Prevent and Manage Chronic Illness from the National Institutes of Nursing Research and pilot funds from the NC Occupational Safety and Health Education Research Center for work that focused on understanding the protective behaviors of Nursing Assistants handling antineoplastic drug contaminated excreta. She has been very active in public policy and practice recommendations to improve safe handling of hazardous drugs.

She has received numerous professional awards including Doctorate of Nursing Practice Chair Award 2024, Faculty Teaching Award 2023, Early Career Scientist Award 2022, Excellence in Oncology Nursing Health Policy and Advocacy Award in 2016 from the national Oncology Nursing Society, Breakthrough Leaders in Nursing Award in 2014 from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and AARP Foundation's Center to Champion Nursing in America, and The Great 100 in 2007 from the Great 100 Nurses of North Carolina. She was inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in 2020.

Dr. Walton was co-chair for the sustainability workgroup of the National Nurses on Boards Coalition and cofounded the North Carolina Nurses Association's Nurses on Boards 2020 Council. She frequently speaks to local and regional audiences about board service. As faculty at DUSON, she teaches and facilitates the population health course for all MSN students and the health policy course for all DNP students. She also mentors DNP and PhD students. Dr. Walton's service work centers on preparing and enabling nurses to lead change to advance health.



Reviewers

The author and publisher also wish to thank the reviewers, whose valuable feedback contributed greatly to the preparation of this new edition.

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A Note on Getting Started in a Policy Course

Health care in the United States is highly politicized. Each time I taught a health policy course, I started the semester with students completing a quick self-test. Seasoned RNs and graduate students are used to being skilled and capable at what they do; however, as students enter a policy course, they may return to being novices: an uncomfortable place to be. Or they may need advanced challenges to grow as a competent policy nurse. This is a nonscientific questionnaire intended for reflection or perhaps setting goals as you pick up this book.

—Dr. Nancy M. Short

1. I avoid politics and policy because it is: (Choose as many as you like)
 - a. Dirty
 - b. Incomprehensible
 - c. Hopeless.... I can't make a difference
 - d. Too confusing
 - e. I am too busy or tired
 - f. Boring
 - g. Other _____
2. I am registered to vote.
3. I vote in Presidential elections only.
4. I vote in all elections that I can and prepare ahead of time so I know who I want to vote for.
5. I know how rules and regulations are made that affect my nursing license.
6. I know who my senators and representatives are at the state and federal level.
7. I am a dues-paying member of a professional organization that lobbies on behalf of nursing.
8. I know of at least two issues related to my profession that are currently under discussion at the state or national level and I have visited the office of an elected official with a message.
9. I'm aware of the legislative committees that handle healthcare issues at the state and federal level.
10. I've worked on a political campaign; published an op-ed in a blog, served on the Board of Health; testified at the Board of Nursing; or run for local office; etc.

There are no right or wrong answers.¹ After assessing yourself, where do you think you fall on a scale of 0–5 measuring policy competence? Where would you like to be? Two peer-reviewed questionnaires about nurses' political astuteness are available at:

Byrd, Mary E., Costello, J., Gremel, K., Schwager, K., et al. (2012). Political astuteness of baccalaureate nursing students following an active learning experience in health policy. *Public Health Nursing*, 29(5), 433–443. doi: 10.1111/j.1525-1446.2012.01032.x

Gentry, H., Patton, R., Lindell, D., Ludwick, R. (2024). Civic knowledge and self-reported political astuteness of academic nurse educators in the United States. *Journal of Professional Nursing*, 54, 85–91. doi: 10.1016/j.profnurs.2024.06.001

1 That will annoy some of you who enjoy tests. I'm sorry!!

