

# Family – Health – Disease. Preface

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The monograph *Family – Health – Disease* is a part of an interdisciplinary issue on the impact health and disease have on the family. It includes eleven chapters, eight of which are case reports, while the remaining three are original studies. The authors of the individual chapters are doctors, nurses, midwives, physiotherapists, biologists and psychologists who are involved in academic activities and teaching in various units, including medical students. Both the structure and content of the individual chapters of the monograph reflect the editors' intent in the title very well. Furthermore, they make research contributions to the discipline of medical and health sciences.

The study by Kinga Tułacz, Julia Kronkowska and Anna Rozensztrauch, which forms the first chapter, is a case report that presents the specifics of caring for a newborn from a neglected pregnancy ending with

a home birth without medical assistance. The authors point out that within the framework of perinatal care standards it is the midwife who provides individual and complex care for the newborn as well as the mother during pregnancy and after childbirth. The next chapter by Kinga Tułacz *et al.*, reports two cases of women following a low-carbohydrate diet while breastfeeding. An interesting conclusion is put forward, namely, that the samples of breast milk collected from patients on a low-carbohydrate diet contained higher protein levels. Therefore, the authors point out that the introduction of a low-carbohydrate diet in breastfeeding women requires consultation with a dietitian due to the negative consequences of dietary errors. The following chapter by Anna Dąbek, Marta Wójcik and Iwona Zborowska, which is based on a case study, presents a plan of nursing care for a patient with coronary artery disease. Due to fatigue and reduced exercise tolerance, the patient was diagnosed with difficulties in daily functioning, both physically and psychosocially.

The next three chapters are based on case studies and present the use of the International Classification for Nursing Practice (ICNP<sup>®</sup>). One of the chapters, by Marcelina Bańdo and Renata Bakalarz, focuses on the model of nursing care for a patient after thyroid cancer dissemination and metastasis of papillary and follicular thyroid carcinoma. The following case study, by Anastasia Shapar and Agnieszka Skorupska-Król, shows the model of care for patients with relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis. The third chapter by Julia Zabawa and Renata Bakalarz is a developmental model of care for a patient with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), with the use of ICNP<sup>®</sup>.

Two of the next case reports address issues in cancer care. Iwona Klisowska *et al.* prepared the model of nursing care for a patient with hormonally inactive pituitary macroadenoma, while Iwona Twardak *et al.* describe health problems in the care of a patient with malignant prostate cancer.

The section based on original studies consists of three chapters. Alicja Stołkowska, Marzena Lech-Brytan and Mariola Seń analysed the connection between the assessment of the level of acceptance of the disease and

the quality of life of patients with Parkinson's disease, utilizing the diagnostic survey method with the aid of standardised assessment tools.

Mariola Seń *et al.* have made an assessment of the relationship between self-efficacy and health behaviours and the level of knowledge about breast cancer prevention among professional nurses. This is followed by Marcelina Powązka *et al.*'s paper, who have written an assessment on parents' knowledge and awareness of development and care in the case of postural defects in children.

The monograph chapters compiled by the authors will be a valuable resource for students of medicine and health sciences, professionals in the medical field as well as researchers taking on the problems of health and disease.

The editors of this monograph hope that this subject will facilitate the work of those taking on the challenges brought by disease. We invite you to read this book with the hope that you will receive its contents favourably.