

# **Handbook of Forensic Nursing**

## **For B.Sc. Nursing V Semester**

**(As Per INC Syllabus)**

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- **Dr. Grace Jebakani Sweety. G**
- **Dr. Sampooram. W**

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# FOREWORD



It is with great pleasure and honor that I write the foreword for the exceptional book on Forensic Nursing, a vital and evolving field that bridges health care and the legal system.

Forensic Nursing is an interdisciplinary field that requires a unique set of skills, combining medical expertise with an understanding of criminal law and the judicial system. The book thoughtfully addresses the responsibilities of forensic nurses, including their roles in evidence preservation, assisting in investigations and providing care to victims and their families in the aftermath of trauma.

The importance of Forensic Nursing cannot be overstated, as it is essential not only for providing immediate care to victims but also for ensuring that proper evidence is collected and preserved for legal proceedings. The book highlights the pivotal role nurses play in the multidisciplinary forensic team, working alongside law enforcement, legal professionals and healthcare providers to ensure a holistic approach to care and justice.

Furthermore, the book also emphasizes the critical legal framework that supports forensic nursing practice in India. I congratulate the authors for their diligent research and commitment for providing thorough and accessible resource for both nursing students and professionals in the field. As I reviewed all the chapters of this book, I declare that this book will undoubtedly serve as an invaluable guide for forensic nursing practitioners equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary to deliver compassionate care while contributing to the judicial system.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dr. Anandharam M.', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Dr. Anandharam M.**

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# PREFACE

Forensic nursing stands at the unique intersection of healthcare and the justice system where healing meets investigation, and compassion coexists with the pursuit of truth. Rooted in both scientific rigor and empathetic care, forensic nursing addresses some of the most critical and complex challenges in modern healthcare: violence, trauma, abuse, and legal accountability.

As forensic practice evolves in response to societal needs, so does the demand for specialized knowledge that blends nursing science with medico-legal understanding. This book has been carefully developed to guide students, practicing nurses, and educators through the foundational principles, roles, and responsibilities that define forensic nursing. It illuminates the path from clinical care to courtroom testimony, from evidence collection to victim advocacy.

As authors of this book, we are privileged to contribute to this growing and vital field. In a world increasingly shaped by issues of justice, human rights, and interdisciplinary collaboration, the role of the forensic nurse is more relevant than ever. This book highlights not only the theoretical frameworks but also the practical applications of forensic nursing across diverse settings like emergency rooms, correctional facilities, disaster zones, and more.

Each chapter offers a clear, accessible, and engaging exploration of key forensic nursing domains such as ethical and legal considerations, evidence preservation, trauma-informed care, death investigation, and the nurse's role within the legal system. Our aim is to empower readers with knowledge, critical thinking, and confidence to function effectively and ethically in this challenging yet profoundly impactful field.

May this book serve as both a guide and a catalyst for learning, for professional growth, and for the pursuit of truth through compassionate care.

**Dr. Grace Jebakani Sweety. G**  
**Dr. Sampooram. W**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The successful completion of this book has been made possible through the unwavering support and encouragement of many individuals. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each one who played a role, directly or indirectly, in this academic journey. Above all, we offer our deepest thanks to our Almighty God for granting us the wisdom, strength, and mental clarity to bring this work to fruition.

We are especially thankful to **Dr. Anandharam M., MD, Forensic Medicine**, Assistant Professor, Thanjavur Medical College, for his kind contribution in penning the foreword for our book. His support has added great value and depth to this work.

**Dr. Grace Jebakani Sweety. G**

**Dr. Sampooram. W**

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**Dr. Grace Jebakani Sweety. G**

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With heartfelt appreciation, I acknowledge the constant support of my husband, **Prof. Mr. D. Gurubatham**, who stood by me with strength and care through every phase of my academic and personal life. I am thankful to my sons, **Master G. Daniel Davidraj** and **Master G. Doni Webster**, for their love and good wishes. I pay loving tribute to my parents, the late **Mr. Webster** and **Mrs. Rachel Suganthi**, whose encouragement shaped my journey. My deepest gratitude also goes to my brothers, whose sacrifices and unwavering belief in me made this achievement possible.

We also extend sincere appreciation to our mentors, colleagues, and students, whose insights and encouragement have continually enriched our understanding and practice of nursing research. This book is not merely an academic contribution but it is a testament to the love, sacrifices, and unwavering support of our families. Without them, this milestone would not have been achieved.

**Dr. Sampooram. W**

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