



# Practicing Patient Safety in Psychiatry

By Geetha Jayaram

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*Practicing Patient Safety in Psychiatry* is an expertly written, ready-to-use practical book on patient safety that focuses on how to carefully (and courteously) treat patients in psychiatric care settings. Focusing on issues of clinical leadership, strategic planning, and how to prevent lapses, oversights and errors, *Practicing Patient Safety in Psychiatry* is designed for easy reading and reference.

Building upon case-based questions and guidance, Dr. Geetha Jayaram and her team of contributors provide extensive clinical experience to highlight patient care aspects that are most problematic for practicing clinicians and nurses who wish to improve upon the culture of safety in their respective units of service.

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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

"Dr. Jayaram's passion for patient safety permeates every chapter. The message clearly is to get us all involved in this effort. Although loaded with many facts, tables and 'how to's' to deliver safe care, the book is a quick and easy read. In spite of all her passion for safety, she recognizes that even in the best systems, mistakes sometimes happen. When that occurs, she admonishes us then 'to be honest.' I have been there - and she is right!"

- Alfred Herzog, M.D., Founding Chair, APA Patient Safety Committee; Past President, Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT

"Members of the psychiatric profession have always been uniquely concerned about the well-being of their patients. Despite this, the published literature on safety in psychiatry is surprisingly thin. This ground-breaking volume by Dr. Geetha Jayaram, recognized leader in the field, identifies key patient safety issues in psychiatry, and provides practical suggestions for improvement. It will be indispensable reading to anyone interested in making psychiatry safer."

- Albert W. Wu, M.D., MPH, FACP, Professor and Director, Center for Health Services & Outcomes Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD

"As in all medical specialties, improving patient care through thoughtful system improvements is critical to keep psychiatric patients safe. Jayaram and her colleagues have written an extremely useful text outlining how specific improvements in inpatient care systems can improve patient outcomes and minimize harm. I highly recommend this book as a guide to improve care to any health professional who practices in inpatient settings."

- Jeffrey S. Janofsky, M.D., Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences; Director, Psychiatry and Law Program, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD

"This book, if followed, is a big step towards zero suicides on psychiatric units. As a psychiatric malpractice lawyer, I depose more corporate representatives of psychiatric hospitals than anyone in the United States. If a risk manager or hospital administrator reads this book, follows the sage advice provided, and staff documents the advice was followed, hospitals and clinicians will avoid being sued. It is just that simple: just do it."

- Skip Simpson, JD, Adjunct Associate Professor, The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, San Antonio, TX

"It does an excellent job of incorporating case examples into the chapters and summarizing key information at the end of chapters. The book is a quick, effortless read and is packed with helpful pointers and safety strategies often overlooked by treatment teams." -- Jeremy Petrous, *Doody's*

## About the Author

Dr. Geetha Jayaram has been the Physician Advisor for the Department of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins Hospital for 21 years, and the Chair of the International Patient Safety committee for the American Psychiatric Association. Dr. Jayaram is an outstanding clinician who has taught patient safety to residents and faculty for two decades. She is a pioneer in the field of psychiatric patient safety, and has been invited to teach safety both nationally and internationally for many years.

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