



Improving the Experience of Health Care for People Living with Sensory Disability: Knowing What is Going On

AUTHOR Annmaree Watharow
COLLECTION EDITED BY Damian Mellifont, Jennifer Smith-Merry

COLLECTION
Disability Studies

EDITION
1st edition

MARKET
College/higher education
and Professional and
scholarly

This course reading...

- Tells verbatim stories from people living with sensory disability about the challenges, abuses, and negative experiences of health care that arise from a lack of communication support.
- Provides vital perspective to anyone who studies or works with disabled people, neurodivergent people, those with mental illness, & queer people.
- Is crucial reading for doctors, nurses, health care providers, and social support workers in practice and training.

How does a patient with sensory disability – such as a hearing or vision impairment, or both – get effective communication from a health care provider?

Too often, the answer is that they don't. Communication is crucial for any professional–patient relationship, not least when disability is in the mix. For people living with sensory disability, however, the challenge of knowing what is going on with their healthcare, participating in shared decision making, and retaining an appropriate level of agency, is even greater. Using verbatim testimony from people with first-hand experience of sensory disability, this book explores issues such as accessibility barriers in consent forms, patient information sheets and other paperwork; situational vulnerability to abuse and neglect; and infantilisation and disempowerment in care.

Written by **Dr Annmaree Watharow MD PhD**, a doctor and author with personal experience of sensory disability, the stories in this book are told using people's own words, to allow readers to hear directly from the people who most need their own agency. Vital reading for clinicians and social support workers, this book will change the way you view sensory disability.

Annmaree Watharow MD, PhD has a medical degree, a Masters in Psychological Medicine, and a PhD on the hospital experiences of people living with sensory disabilities. She has lived experience of disabilities.

Print edition: \$19.99 / £25
Ebook editions: \$14.99 / £20
Available as part of the 2023 Library Collection of 40 titles.