The Chronically Ill Child: A Guide For Parents And Professionals

Audrey T McCollum

A Practical Guide to Therapeutic Communication for Health

PROFESSIONALS by The Institute for Trauma and Stress at The NYU Child Study Center experienced chronic nightmares, fear of public places and patterns, sweating, feeling sick and being irritable.
This humane and sensitive book gives practical advice and support to parents of chronically ill children and to those involved with their care. Audrey McCollum deals sensitively with both the physical and emotional difficulties these children face at each stage of their development as well as the unique pressures encountered by their families. She focuses on ways to meet these challenges and to make the ill child’s quality of life as meaningful as possible. First published in 1975 as Coping with Prolonged Health Impairment in Your Child. A mother of a chronically ill child who has developed post-traumatic stress, offers four ways a parent in her situation can be supported. When a child is seriously ill or has developmental issues, the family is surrounded by medical professionals who treat the child for the condition that is diagnosed. The medical professionals are not appeasing the parents, there is truly a need for treatment, and there is real concern for the child. Trying to appease a parent can be enraging and isolating, as well as cause the parent to second-guess themselves and feel extreme anxiety. 2. The family will need practical and emotional support. If you don’t feel equipped to give emotional support, try to find a way to develop that skill.