This widely respected text and practitioner guide, now revised and expanded, provides a roadmap for effective clinical practice with clients with substance use disorders. Specialists and nonspecialists alike benefit from the authors’ expert guidance for planning treatment and selecting from a menu of evidence-based treatment methods. Assessment and intervention strategies are described in detail, and the importance of the therapeutic relationship is emphasized throughout. Lauded for its clarity and accessibility, the text includes engaging case examples, up-to-date knowledge about specific substances, personal reflections from the authors, application exercises, reflection questions, and end-of-chapter bulleted key points.

New to This Edition

- Chapters on additional treatment approaches: mindfulness, contingency management, and ways to work with concerned significant others.
- Chapters on overcoming treatment roadblocks and implementing evidence-based treatments with integrity.
- Covers the new four-process framework for motivational interviewing, diagnostic changes in DSM-5, and advances in pharmacotherapy.
- Updated throughout with current research and clinical recommendations.

Praise for Treating Addiction: A Guide for Professionals

“The authors have provided an excellent foundation for the understanding of addiction and its context and recommendations for intervention. New and experienced practitioners will be interested in this book and will make reference to it throughout their working lives.”

-Drug and Alcohol Review

“Must reading for all who work with persons with substance use disorders. What makes this book unique is that it goes beyond specialist care in addictions to offer a practical guide for professionals in a wide range of fields. The case management chapter is especially useful, as is the new chapter on mindfulness.”

-Katharine van Wormer, PhD, MSSW, Department of Social Work (Emerita), University of Northern Iowa

“Although substance use disorders are inherently complex, this text manages to provide a clear overview of their biological underpinnings; how they develop; and how to assess, diagnose, and treat them.”

-Katie Witkiewitz, PhD, Regents’ Professor, Department of Psychology, University of New Mexico
This is the book I wish I’d had back when I was teaching addiction psychology. I didn’t get around to writing it until after I retired, so it reflects what I’ve learned from 45 years in this field. With my two co-authors (Drs. Alyssa Forcehimes and Allen Zweben), we have more than a century of experience in addiction treatment.

We spent two years reviewing another decade of clinical science published after our first (2011) edition, so that this second edition would be thoroughly up to date. Beyond some background about substance use disorders, there are 18 practical chapters on evidence-based treatment. Everything was updated and rewritten. There are new chapters on mindfulness and contingency management. Also added is a chapter on working unilaterally through family members, particularly with community reinforcement and family training (CRAFT). We address how to respond to common clinical issues in a new practical chapter called “Stuff That Comes Up.” A new final chapter considers how to implement evidence-based treatment methods in ongoing practice.

We worked hard to write in a style that is clinically-relevant and accessible even to students and other newcomers to this field. There are “personal reflection” boxes from each of the authors, key summary points and reflection questions at the end of each chapter, practical case examples and dialogue, and over 1300 references documenting the science behind our work. Welcome to a richly rewarding clinical field where your work makes a life-or-death difference!