

Description

Book Review: The Anatomy and Physiology Textbook for Midwives

Edited by Jane Carpenter and Louise Hunter

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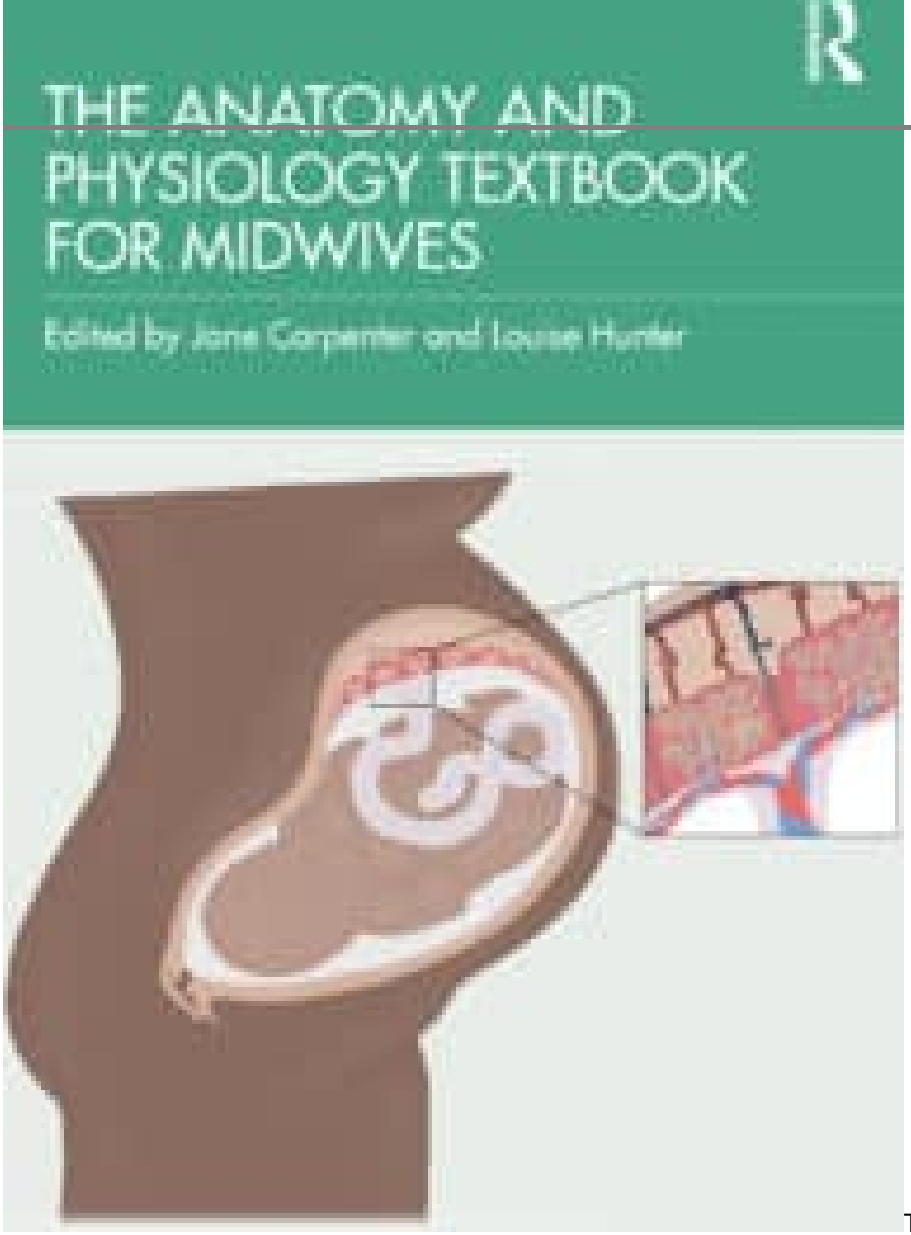
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Reviewed by Dr Anna Madeley, Lead Midwife for Education and Senior Lecturer Midwifery



This book is a comprehensive and approachable resource for students, educators, academics, and practising midwives alike. The authors have developed an important resource which seamlessly integrates complex knowledge and concepts with practical midwifery applications, making it both comprehensive, reader friendly and culturally respectful. It integrates complex anatomical and physiological concepts with practical midwifery applications, making it both informative and meaningful in the context of contemporary midwifery care. Constructively aligned with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) Standards of Proficiency for Midwives (2019), the book covers essential anatomy and physiology such as the systematic examination of the newborn and lactation, making it easily adaptable to any midwifery curriculum.

The authors embrace an inclusive, decolonised approach, reclaiming anatomical terminology to acknowledge the historical context of women's bodies in medical knowledge (e.g., uterine tube vs. fallopian tube). This perspective is refreshing, particularly for educators striving for accuracy and inclusivity. Complex biological concepts are presented in a digestible yet sophisticated manner, enhanced by beautifully illustrated diagrams and 'challenge' sections that encourage critical thinking, further research, and application to midwifery care, making the text suitable for not only undergraduate students, but also postgraduate learners.

What truly sets this book apart is its free of charge downloadable workbook, an invaluable resource for consolidating learning. Unlike similar textbooks that charge extra for supplementary materials, this workbook acknowledges financial barriers faced by students and higher education institutions. Thoughtfully designed and almost as extensive as the textbook itself, it enhances the learning experience with pedagogical care.

This book is an indispensable addition to midwifery education programmes, offering clarity, depth, and accessibility in one essential book.

Category

1. Book reviews

Tags

1. 2025
2. anatomy
3. midwifery education
4. physiology
5. practising midwife

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