

Books Received

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED DISORDERS ANNUAL 2001. 2001. Edited by Serge Gauthier, Jeffrey L. Cummings. Published by Martin Dunitz. 216 pages C\$87.00 approx.

BRAIN DRUG TARGETING. THE FUTURE OF BRAIN DRUG DEVELOPMENT. 2001. By William M. Pardridge. Published by Cambridge University Press. 353 pages C\$153.40 approx.

BRAIN'S DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM. ELEVENTH EDITION. 2001. Edited by Michael Donaghy. Published by Oxford University Press. 1242 pages C\$397.50 approx.

COLOR VISION FROM GENES TO PERCEPTION. 2001. Edited by Karl R. Gegenfurtner, Lindsay T. Sharpe. Published by Cambridge University Press. 492 pages C\$89.92 approx.

DRUG-INDUCED NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS. 2ND REVISED AND EXPANDED EDITION. 2001. By K. K. Jain. Published by Hogrefe & Huber Publishers. 480 pages C\$118.50 approx.

ISCHEMIC CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASE. CONTEMPORARY NEUROLOGY SERIES NO. 62. 2001. By Harold P. Adams, Jr., Vladimir Hachinski, John W. Norris. Published by Oxford University Press. 598 pages C\$300.38 approx.

LIMBIC SEIZURES IN CHILDREN. MARIANI FOUNDATION PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY. 2001. Edited by Giuliano Avanzini, Anne Beaumanoir, Laura Mira. Published by John Libbey & Company Ltd. 258 pages C\$102.00 approx.

MANAGEMENT OF DEMENTIA. 2001. By Simon Lovestone, Serge Gauthier. Published by Martin Dunitz. 168 pages C\$55.70 approx.

NEUROANATOMY AND NEUROPHYSIOLOGY. A REVIEW. 2001. By Jonathan Stuart Citow, Robert L. Macdonald. Published by Thieme. 181 pages C\$90.51 approx.

NEUROPATHOLOGY AND NEURORADIOLOGY. A REVIEW. 2001. By Jonathan Stuart Citow, Robert L. Wollmann, Robert L. Macdonald. Published by Thieme. 239 pages C\$90.51 approx.

PATHOGENESIS OF NEURODEGENERATIVE DISORDERS. 2001. Edited by Mark P. Mattson. Published by Humana Press. 294 pages C\$211.20 approx.

SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITIES AND DIFFICULTIES IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS: PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION. 2001. Edited by Alan S. Kaufman, Nadeen L. Kaufman. Published by Cambridge University Press. 467 pages C\$92.44 approx.

STUDENT BRAIN ATLAS. CD-ROM. 2001. By Wieslaw L Nowinski, A Thirunavuukarasuu, R Nick Bryan. Published by Cerefy, a division of Kent Ridge Digital Labs. C\$39.00 approx.

TUMORS OF THE PEDIATRIC CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM. 2001. Edited by Robert F. Keating, James Tait Goodrich, Roger J. Packer. Published by Thieme. 560 pages C\$305.26 approx.

Book Reviews

OPERATIVE TECHNIQUES IN PAEDIATRIC NEUROSURGERY. 2000. By A. Leland Albright, Ian F. Pollack, P. David Adelson. Published by Thieme. 312 pages. C\$263.13 approx.

The volume entitled "Operative Techniques in Paediatric Neurosurgery" complements the editors' previous work "Principles and Practice of Paediatric Neurosurgery" (Thieme, 1999).

These volumes are intended to be the comprehensive source describing the current state of knowledge in paediatric neurosurgery. They are intended for a general neurosurgical and sub-specialty paediatric neurosurgical audience with the *Operative Techniques* volume being most appropriate for those who are early in their career. *Operative Techniques* is consistently formatted and well-illustrated. Both line art and operative photographs are used, the majority of which are clear and well-labeled. In general, the illustrations complement the text. The few typesetting errors that remain within the text do not in themselves detract from the content.

Operative Techniques is divided into five sections. The first section entitled "Congenital and Developmental Disorders" is composed of nine chapters. The first chapter describing Cerebrospinal Fluid Shunts is well-done and liberally illustrated. It brings forward a number of key techniques, and by virtue of its illustrations, points out some of the specific risks associated with the procedure that tend to be relearned generation to generation. Newer techniques including the use of intraluminal shunt scopes are described. The chapter on Neuroendoscopy is clearly illustrative and precisely described. It

complements the chapter in *Principles and Practice* nicely. Chapters on the Chiari Malformation and Spina Bifida Occulta, along with the detailed information in *Principles and Practice*, provides a useful overview, and the chapters in *Operative Techniques* provides clear commentary on surgical techniques and potential pitfalls. An excellent chapter on Encephaloceles, Meningocele and Dermal Sinuses, liberally illustrated in colour and is complemented by clear descriptions. This builds on the chapter in *Principles and Practice*. Two chapters describing Craniosynostosis and Operative Techniques are included. Both chapters tend to replicate information available in *Principles and Practice*, and unfortunately neither provide a clear description of what the expectation should be arising from surgical intervention. The described operative techniques are aggressive, requiring 3D CT scanning and transfusion. It is not clear if the techniques described provide benefit (or outcomes) which would justify the risk of the described management. Both chapters, however, provide excellent illustrations, most of which are found in *Principles and Practice*. The chapter on Myelomeningocele and Meningocele describes what are now traditional techniques for the closure of the lesion and postoperative management. It also discusses posterior cervical myelocystocele and other dystrophic conditions. The illustrations in this chapter are in colour, contrasting to those in several chapters in *Principles and Practice* which are in black and white. Surgery at the Craniocervical Junction is described by the same author who provided the chapter in *Principles and Practice*. This is a

liberally illustrated and concisely described chapter reflecting the author's expertise. Both would be valuable to surgeons in all phases of their career.

The second section describes the Surgery of Cerebral Neoplasms, beginning with brain tumors in the first year of life, and then describing Supratentorial Hemispheric Tumors, Midline Intra-axial Tumors, Posterior Fossa Neoplasms, Skull-Base Neoplasms, with chapters discussing the surgical techniques for Intraspinous Neoplasms. The chapter addressing Brain Tumors that occur during the first two years of life is reasonably general and not particularly helpful, although the editors' comments are particularly useful and pertinent. The authors do, however, provide a clear description of the role of surgical resection in tumors in this age group. The chapter describing Supratentorial Hemispheric Tumors is interesting in that specific surgical approaches are described for a variety of locations. In particular, recommendations for the surgical access to subcortical tumors is precisely described. Midline Intra-axial Neoplasms cover craniopharyngioma and pineal region tumors. With two exceptions, the illustrations are excellent and clear. Unfortunately, this chapter does not address optic pathway/hypothalamic glioma which would have been a suitable addition to this chapter. The surgical techniques for Posterior Fossa Neoplasms are described precisely and illustrated nicely. This chapter complements that of the *Principles and Practice*. An excellent chapter on Skull-Base Neoplasms is provided. It is beautifully illustrated and provides a number of specific techniques of which surgeons working in this area should avail themselves. The chapters addressing Intraspinous Extramedullary and Intramedullary Neoplasms are comprehensive and well-illustrated. They both complement the chapters available in *Principles and Practice*.

The third section addresses issues related to trauma, specifically Repair of Skull Fractures, both acute and chronic, which are nicely described. The chapter describing Birth-Related Brachial Plexus Injury and its surgical treatment pales in comparison to the chapter in *Principles and Practice*. This chapter alone would only wet the appetite of an interested reader in this topic. The next section addresses Vascular Diseases and includes discussions of the management of Vascular Malformations and Moyamoya Disease. Both chapters are specific, well-illustrated, and contain clearly described operative techniques that young and old would find useful.

The final section describes Functional Disorders, specifically the procedures for Temporal-Lobe Epilepsy, Corpus Callosotomy, Hemispherectomy and Pump Implantation. The chapter on Temporal-Lobe Epilepsy is clear; however, a consistent orientation of line diagrams and operative drawings would be helpful. This would allow the reader to orient themselves more clearly to the descriptions provided in the text. The chapter on Callosotomy describes this procedure well and is nicely illustrated. The chapter on Hemispherectomy describes a number of techniques, in particular, ultrasound guided modified hemispherectomy. The chapter does not describe the surgical technique for peri-insular hemispherectomy. The final chapter describes techniques associated with some Pump Insertions. Specifically to address the issue of spasticity and for the administration of intrathecal baclofen. It is clear and well-illustrated.

In general, the authors who contributed to *Principles and Practice* have contributed to *Operative Techniques*. In all cases, the chapters in the two volumes are complementary or the chapter in *Principles and Practice* covers the information in *Operative Techniques*. As *Operative Techniques*, in itself, does not provide

sufficiently detailed information for defining operative indications or the results of such interventions, it should not be used in isolation from *Principles and Practice* or other references.

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SURGERY OF THE LUMBAR SPINE. 1999. Edited by Sanford J. Larson, Dennis J. Maiman. Published by Thieme. 338 pages. C\$205.72 approx.

There has been a proliferation of textbooks on spinal surgery predominantly related to the development of new instrumentation techniques and new concepts of spine biomechanics. Sanford, Larson and Dennis Maiman have drawn on their extensive experience as neurosurgeons dealing with adult surgery of the lumbar spine in their book *Surgery of the Lumbar Spine*.

This volume is divided into 13 chapters covering three major themes. The first is outlined by chapters on lumbar anatomy, biomechanics and clinical instability. Lumbar anatomy is briefly reviewed and little emphasis is placed on embryology and therefore the book has no substantial coverage of the many developmental abnormalities that occur in the lumbar spine. Radiographs and line drawings are used to provide a good review of the structures discussed. The chapter on biomechanics of the spine uses graphs and line drawings to help explain the various column theories of instability. These concepts are highlighted in the chapter on clinical instability.

The second group of chapters outline the disease entities which involve the lumbar spine. Metabolic disease of bone, disc degeneration, isthmic spondylolisthesis, infection, trauma, benign, malignant and metastatic tumours are discussed in separate chapters. A coherent and systemized approach is taken and the clinical presentations, diagnostic evaluation and management of individual conditions is summarized. The absence of multicentre trials to guide management in almost all of the disease processes involving the lumbar spine is a significant problem. This is reflected in the diverse approaches employed by orthopedic surgeons and neurosurgeons dealing with the lumbar spine and the controversies which this generates related to management. The authors present a number of views but are guided predominantly by their own extensive experience. Those chapters are complemented by significant numbers of illustrative line drawings, radiographs including some 3-D CT reconstructions and pathology. Some of the radiographs are rather small and none have labels or arrows, making interpretation a challenge at times. Pathology is illustrated by black and white photographs and no substantial discussion of neuronavigation techniques is attempted.

The last two chapters deal with the theme of operative techniques employed by the authors dealing with bone grafting and instrumentation. Line drawings of patient position, incision location and surgical techniques of a variety of lumbar approaches are all well-presented.

The authors have provided a monograph dealing with the surgery of the lumbar spine which reflects their extensive experience with disorders involving the adult lumbar spine. The book is not comprehensive since it does not deal with the many developmental abnormalities which can present in the lumbar spine during adulthood, such as congenital abnormalities of the vertebral body and sacrum, diastematomyelia and spinal dysraphic states.