

patient education materials, listing of various internet sites to stay abreast of new developments, as well as a list of suppliers and manufacturers of equipment needed by head and neck cancer patients.

This book will prove invaluable for Speech and Language therapists and useful for all health care workers involved in the management of post laryngectomy patients as well as all other head and neck cancer patients.

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MENIERE'S DISEASE – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

P. J. Haybach

Vestibular Disorders Association, 1998

ISBN 0 9632611 18. Price: \$24.95.

This is a useful textbook for the health care professional with only a basic understanding of 'idiopathic endolymphatic hydrops', in spite of its distinctly American approach. It is well researched and provides a comprehensive coverage of this often-perplexing condition. The book is also suitable as recommended reading for people with this condition (its stated target audience), although the expansive coverage of the subject matter may prove to be a case of too much, too soon for the newly diagnosed.

The book takes a step-by-step, in depth look at Menière's Disease covering a wide range of topics

including the related anatomy and physiology, symptoms, medical examination, diagnostic testing, treatment options and coping strategies. The information is presented in a clear and concise manner. The condition and its management are discussed principally from the patient's perspective with special emphasis being placed on the reported experiences of Menière's sufferers.

It can be used as a tool to help identify the myriad of symptoms associated with this condition, which in this case have been grouped according to when they occur (e.g. warning, attack, aftermath and remission phases). The vast amount of fundamental information in the book will also answer many of the questions people with Menière's disease frequently ask health care professionals. Because it is intended for use by the American health care consumer some areas covered (e.g. insurance) are not relevant to the British health care system. However, as these areas make up only a small percentage of the total information contained in the book the wealth of the universal material more than compensates for this slight irrelevancy.

Overall this is an easy to read book, especially suited as a reference work for those with a limited amount of knowledge about this condition. It should be included in the library of any ENT Department, as well as any General Practice providing care to patients with Menière's Disease.

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