AVM's are dealt with in a similar way with emphasis on natural history, and surgical, endovascular and radiosurgical options for treatment are well covered. Discussions of the diagnosis, natural history and treatment options for intracranial dural arteriovenous malformations, intracranial vascular occlusive disease and cavernous malformations provide useful information for decision making for these less common, complex disorders.

A well informed debate on the controversies between surgical and endovascular treatment of extracranial vascular occlusive disease acknowledges the amazing technological advances in endovascular therapies. It also reinforces the need for reliable clinical trials to compare the safety and effectiveness of carotid endovascular revascularization to endarterectomy.

The book's last section suggests collaborative practice models for academic cerebrovascular centers in the United States. Similar models exist in Canadian academic centers and could be adapted to community hospitals where neuropractitioners share an interest in cerebrovascular disease. Finally there is a plea for evidence based decision making in the management of patients.

While the design of the book allowed a few of the contributors to digress from the stated objectives, I feel that this textbook achieves its aims, presenting a helpful perspective on present and future trends, and controversies surrounding these surgical disorders. I recommend it to neurosurgeons, neurologists and residents interested in cerebrovascular disorders.

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Most of the remainder of this volume is dedicated to the diagnosis, clinical aspects and management of Neurofibromatosis types 1 and 2, as well as Tuberous Sclerosis. Discussed in detail were the diagnostic criteria, and follow-up protocols for each of these disorders. As well, the medical and surgical management of the common complications encountered in these patients was also reviewed, often with one or two chapters dedicated to each complication. In particular, the chapters discussing follow-up protocols for patients with Neurofibromatosis were well written and provided very useful information to the clinician.

While most of this volume was dedicated to the Neurofibromatoses and Tuberous Sclerosis, a few chapters discussed some of the less common neurocutaneous disorders in particular, Hypomelanosis of Ito, Sturge-Weber, Wyburn-Mason and Proteus Syndromes. Unfortunately, some of the other neurocutaneous disorders including Incontinentia Pigmenti, McCune-Albright, Von-Hippel-Lindau and Klippel-Trenaunay-Weber Syndromes were not discussed in any detail. I also felt that one or two chapters dedicated to the molecular genetics of tuberous sclerosis and neurofibromatosis would have been well placed within this volume.

For the most part, this volume was well edited and the chapters were kept concise and brief, making this volume easy to read. The information in each chapter is up to date but also includes some of the author's own personal experiences. Overall, this reviewer felt that this volume would be a worthwhile purchase for those who see patients with neurocutaneous disorders on a regular basis.

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NEUROCUTANEOUS SYNDROMES IN CHILDREN SERIES: MARIANI FOUNDATION PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY. VOLUME 15. 2006. Edited by Paolo Curatolo, Daria Riva. Published by John Libbey Eurotext Limited. 238 pages. Price C$85.

The stated aim of this volume was to provide the reader with an updated developmental perspective on the neurocutaneous syndromes. Within the 238 pages of this volume, Drs. Curatolo and Riva were able to give a concise and well written summary of the neurocutaneous disorders. The intended audience is any physician who sees children with neurocutaneous disorders, but in particular paediatric neurologists, neurosurgeons and paediatricians.

The volume is made up of 19 chapters, written by various authors. Most chapters covered topics that were relevant to the clinician in a manner that was well written, insightful and accompanied by good tables and diagrams. The first two chapters gave a good overview of the embryological and clinical aspects of most of the neurocutaneous disorders. The initial chapter by Sarnat and Flores-Sarnat made some compelling arguments about the need to reconsider the embryological basis of the neurocutaneous disorders. Instead of considering them as disorders of ectodermal origin, they should in fact be thought of as disorders of neural crest development.

THE FACIAL NERVE IN TEMPORAL BONE AND LATERAL SKULL-BASE MICROSURGERY. 2006. By Mario Sanna, Tarek Khrais, Fernando Mancini, Alessandra Russo, Abdelkader Taibah. Published by Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart-New York. 301 pages. Price C$230.

This book is based upon a 30-year experience primarily by the *GRUPPO OTOLOGICO* in Piacenza and Rome, Italy. The case volume is comprised of over 2000 skull-base operations, and 18,000 middle ear surgeries. The text is divided into 13 chapters, describing lateral skull-base and temporal bone surgical approaches.

The more relevant chapters include sections relating to diagnosis, decision-making, monitoring and preservation of the facial nerve during surgery, as well as very useful descriptions of technique, and comments relating to "perils and pitfalls".

The chapters relating to anatomy of the facial nerve, facial nerve radiology, operating room set-up, and intraoperive facial nerve monitoring present information that can be found in other textbooks. Chapter five describes techniques for facial nerve reanimation, including the harvesting of the sural nerve for interpositioning graft, and the hypoglossal-to-facial anastomosis procedure. The latter is not frequently found in texts of surgical techniques, and is described