

Books Received

FUNCTIONAL NEUROANATOMY. AN INTERACTIVE TEXT AND MANUAL. 2004. by Jeffrey T. Joseph, David L. Cardozo. Published by John Wiley & Sons. 575 pages. C\$90 approx.

HYPOTHERMIA AND CEREBRAL ISCHEMIA. MECHANISMS AND CLINICAL APPLICATIONS. 2003. Edited by Carolina M. Maier, Gary K. Steinberg, Published by The Humana Press. 188 pages. C\$132 approx.

KENNETH GEORGE MCKENZIE AND THE FOUNDING OF NEUROSURGERY IN CANADA. 2004. by Thomas P. Morley. Published by Fitzhenry & Whiteside. 208 pages. C\$40 approx.

MIGRAINE IN WOMEN. 2004. by Elizabeth Loder, Dawn Marcus. Published by BC Decker. 196 pages. C\$150 approx.

NEUROMUSCULAR JUNCTION DISORDERS. 2004. by Matthew N. Meriggioli, James F. Howard, Jr, C. Michel Harper. Published by Marcel Dekker. 300 pages. C\$231 approx.

NEUROSURGERY AND NEUROLOGICAL SCIENCE IN MANITOBA 1884 – 1984. 2003. by Rankin K. Hay. Published by self. 239 pages.

PAIN. PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES. 2004. Edited by Thomas Hadjistavropoulos, Kenneth D. Craig. Published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. 376 pages. C\$106 approx.

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF EMERGENCY NEUROLOGY. HANDBOOK FOR EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS. 2003. Edited by Sid M. Shah, Kevin M. Kelly. Published by Cambridge University Press. 438 pages. C\$75 approx.

SCALES AND SCORES IN NEUROLOGY. QUANTIFICATION OF NEUROLOGICAL DEFICITS IN RESEARCH AND PRACTICE. 2004. by Harald Masur. Published by Thieme. 464 pages. C\$75 approx.

TUBEROUS SCLEROSIS COMPLEX: FROM BASIC SCIENCE TO CLINICAL PHENOTYPES. 2003. Edited by Paolo Curatolo. Published by Cambridge University Press. 314 pages. C\$100 approx.

Book Reviews

MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING IN STROKE. 2003. Edited by Stephen Davis, Marc Fisher, Steven Warach. Published by Cambridge University Press. 266 pages. C\$170 approx.

This is a comprehensive text covering current magnetic resonance imaging techniques in stroke. It sets out to cover in depth the various and still emerging applications of this technology in diagnosis and treatment of the common cerebrovascular diseases. The authorship is European and American and it is very well-written with the chapters flowing logically, and each being succinctly presented.

The obligatory introductory chapter on the importance of accurate diagnosis in cerebrovascular disease gives a good review of pathophysiology in stroke, and creates a solid foundation upon which the following chapters are set. A subsequent brief chapter outlines the various imaging modalities in stroke, highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of each. This is followed by two fairly detailed reviews of CT imaging in acute ischemia and in determining cerebral blood flow. The former by Dr Kummer effectively reminds us that CT still is an important modality in the initial workup of the stroke patient from a practical technical perspective as well as one of therapeutic impact.

The section on the technical aspects magnetic resonance spectroscopy and imaging is surprisingly understandable, even for the molecular physics-challenged such as myself. Written by radiologists, it is an important section to grasp in order to appreciate the technique applied to stroke.

The subsequent chapters deal with specific modalities of MRI in the common cerebrovascular diseases in a comprehensive but distilled fashion; this is all one needs to know to capably order and interpret reports of these studies. The explanations of perfusion and diffusion weighted imaging are clearly provided, as are the descriptions of various MR angiography techniques. Knowing the limitations, for

example, of MRI diagnosis of extracranial vertebral artery dissection is of immediate use to the clinician “in the trenches,” and this text sets these topics out in a very accessible manner. The final chapters provide an overview of the frontiers of this modality in drug development, applications of spectroscopy in stroke, and functional imaging.

In all, this text is a reasonably priced and valuable addition to the library of any clinician involved in the care of the cerebrovascular patient at probably any stage of his or her disease.

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NEUROLOGICAL AND NEUROSURGICAL CRITICAL CARE. 4TH ED. 2003. By Allan Ropper, Daryl Gress, Michael Diringer, Deborah Green, Stephan Mayer, Thomas Bleck. Published by Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. 403 pages. C\$163 approx.

When asked to review the fourth edition of Allan Ropper’s book on “Neurological and Neurosurgical Critical Care,” I paused a minute. Could I reliably review a book written and edited by my mentor and good friend and co-written by esteemed colleagues in the field? Many that I asked said “no.” I thought I could write homage to a book that was so influential in my thinking. “Neurological and Neurosurgical Critical Care” has been the book that made me get into intensive care neurology. It is required reading for anyone considering a career in intensive care neurology. It should be read and reread until it falls apart.

The first edition was co-edited by a neurosurgeon and an anesthesiologist, who each in subsequent edition dropped out, leaving Ropper the task for the third edition but are now replaced by five experienced neurointensivists, many from the first hour. The table of contents has not changed much, although the fourth edition slimmed