

Books Received

ATLAS OF OPTIC NERVE DISORDERS. 1992. By Thomas C. Spoor. Published by Raven Press. 190 pages. \$149 Cdn. approx.

ATTENTION AND BRAIN FUNCTION. 1992. By Risto Näätänen. Published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates Inc. 494 pages. \$99 Cdn. approx.

BASIC NEUROSCIENCE: ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY. 1991 (second edition). By Arthur C. Guyton. Published by W.B. Saunders Co.

CLINICAL NEUROLOGY – INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE AND RESEARCH. VOLUME 1-1. NEUROLOGICAL ASPECTS OF HUMAN RETROVIRUSES. 1992. Edited by P. Rudge. Published by Bailliere Tindall. 262 pages. \$30 Cdn. approx.

CURRENT TRENDS IN THE TREATMENT OF PARKINSON'S DISEASE. 1992. Edited by Yves Agid and J. Jankovic. Published by John Libbey & Company Limited. 120 pages.

DRUG-INDUCED MOVEMENT DISORDERS. 1992. Edited by Anthony E. Lang and William J. Weiner. Published by Futura Publishing Company. 395 pages. \$77 Cdn. approx.

DUCHENNE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY: ANIMAL MODELS AND GENETIC MANIPULATION. 1992. Edited by Byron A. Kalulals, John McC. Howell and Allen D. Roses. Published by Raven Press. 320 pages. \$99 Cdn. approx.

LABORATORY REFERENCE FOR CLINICAL NEUROPHYSIOLOGY. 1992. By Jay A. Liveson and Dong M. Ma. Published by F.A. Davis Company. \$72 Cdn. approx.

NEURAL PROSTHESES. 1992. Edited by Richard B. Stein, P. Hunter Peckham and Dejan P. Popovic. Published by Oxford University Press Canada. 341 pages. \$91 Cdn.

NEUROANATOMY: BASIC AND CLINICAL – 2nd edition. 1992. Edited by M.J.T. Fitzgerald. Published by Bailliere Tindall. 252 pages. \$19 Cdn. approx.

NEUROSURGICAL CLASSICS. Edited by Robert H. Wilkins. Published by American Association of Neurological Surgeons. Price not available.

THE NEUROPSYCHOLOGY OF SLEEP AND DREAMING. 1992. Edited by John S. Antrobus and Mario Bertini. Published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates Inc. 329 pages. \$77 Cdn. approx.

Book Reviews

PRINCIPLES OF DRUG THERAPY IN NEUROLOGY. 1991. Edited by Michael V. Johnston, Robert L. MacDonald and Anne B. Young. Published by F.A. Davis Company. 358 pages. \$82 Cdn. approx.

Principles of Drug Therapy in Neurology is the most recent volume in the Contemporary Neurology Series. Its stated aim is to "identify and present fundamental information that is now or soon will be directly relevant to patient care in neurology and psychiatry". It achieves this goal with well written and comprehensive reviews by most of its authors, however, there are omissions which make this book slightly less than ideal.

The first chapter, Fundamentals of Drug Therapy, discusses neurotransmitter metabolism and how various drugs can modify the effect of neurotransmitters or otherwise alter cellular function. It also covers some basic concepts in pharmacokinetics and the toxicity of neuroactive drugs. It serves as an excellent precursor to the next nine chapters which are concerned with various categories of neurological illness and psychiatry. Each chapter begins with a review of basic pathophysiology and then proceeds to discuss drug therapy.

These chapters are for the most part well written, easy to follow and reasonably comprehensive. The chapter on movement disorders covers a wide range of topics including basal ganglia anatomy and neurochemistry, drug manipulation of transmitter systems, and the clinical manifestations, pathophysiology and rational for therapy for all major types of movement disorders.

It is concise, complete and imminently readable. The subjects of pain, acute drug intoxication, stroke and seizure disorders were similarly well covered.

There were several topics which were incompletely discussed. Headache, which is by far the most common problem encountered by the neurologist today, received disappointing coverage in this book. Migraine is the only form of headache discussed and therapy for acute migraine was incompletely discussed. The chapter devoted to immune mediated diseases included a good review of the pertinent basics of immunology. The authors discussed in detail the use and complications of immunosuppressive therapy and included several tables regarding their use in myasthenia gravis, inflammatory neuropathies, multiple sclerosis and polymyositis. Although general principles of treatment were covered in these tables, the treatment of some of these disorders, especially myasthenia gravis, should have been covered in more detail in the body of the chapter. Lastly, there is no chapter on infectious disease of the central nervous system, which is a major deficiency and the only significant criticism of this book.

In spite of the omissions listed above, *Principles of Drug Therapy in Neurology* is a concise, readable text which has much to offer readers. Its review of both pathophysiology and treatment makes it especially useful to those at the resident level.

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