

interventions in Alzheimer's disease has also been included. While neuroprotection is still in its infancy, symptomatic treatment of cognitive function in some patients is now feasible.

Part III deals with "*Clinical and Management Issues*". There are several chapters that deal with functioning of rehabilitation programs. The chapters deal with diagnostic issues and emphasize the need for a precise diagnosis. There are numerous factors that contribute to successful rehabilitation. Within this context, the issue of assessment of outcome has been also addressed in various chapters.

Part IV deals with "*Neurorehabilitation Techniques*". In this part there are chapters describing the neurorehabilitation approaches to aphasia, attention, executive disorders, as well as rehabilitation of patients with traumatic brain injury and memory rehabilitation in the elderly.

In a multi-authored, edited book such as this, various opinions are expressed and this is refreshing. This book has brought together individuals with expertise from molecular, cellular, psychological, and society levels. Each editor has provided an overview and opinion about the subject matter. The diversity of opinions reflects the current understanding of this complex subject. While each reader will obviously come up with his or her own conclusions about individual chapters, it is important to be able to compare one's thoughts with those of others with expertise in this field. There are many developments of cognitive neurorehabilitation that require further research and development. Some aspects, such as neuroprotection, our understanding of neuroplasticity, and how this could be used in neurorehabilitation, are in their infancy. This book represents a thorough and comprehensive review of the subject of neurorehabilitation, both from a basic science, as well as a clinical point of view, and should serve as an excellent starting point for neuroscientists interested in cognitive function.

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PARKINSON'S DISEASE AND PARKINSONISM IN THE ELDERLY. 2000. Edited by Jolyon Meara, William Koller. Published by Cambridge University Press. 251 pages. C\$73.42 approx.

This compact volume is a collaborative effort authored by a group of American neurologists and a group of geriatric and rehabilitation specialists from the United Kingdom and Ireland. The book addresses the diagnosis and treatment of parkinsonism, specifically in the elderly. Chapters are included which review the differential diagnosis of parkinsonism and discuss other disease processes which may mimic some parkinsonian features in older age groups. A very helpful chapter discusses "gait apraxia" and reviews the complex classifications that have been applied to patients with isolated gait disorders. This chapter helps clarify the fact that not all shuffling gaits in the elderly are caused by Parkinson's disease. Drug-induced parkinsonism and essential tremor are discussed in separate chapters. Treatment is reviewed in detail insofar as medical aspects are concerned, but very little is said about neurosurgical management, beyond the statement that few elderly patients are likely to be candidates. Unfortunately, not all of the discussions on treatment are of general applicability. For example, apomorphine is mentioned in several chapters as playing a major role in patient management, but this medication is not readily available in North

America. The authors emphasize the importance of a multidisciplinary team approach and of rehabilitation to the management of the elderly parkinsonian patient. Chapters on physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and speech and language therapy provide extensive discussion regarding the utility of these modalities. The value of community-based nurses in managing the elderly parkinsonian individual with home visits is a major component of the therapeutic approach advocated in this book. Although this appears to be a very efficient approach, it has not been widely implemented in our medical system.

This book should appeal to anyone who deals with medical problems in the geriatric population. It would be of value not only to neurologists and geriatricians, but also to nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, etc. Its major strength lies in its advocacy for a multidisciplinary approach and for the importance of rehabilitation in patient management. It provides food for thought concerning how we might care for these patients better within our medical system.

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BENIGN CHILDHOOD PARTIAL EPILEPTIC SEIZURES AND RELATED EPILEPTIC SYNDROMES. 1999. By CP Panayiotopoulos. Published by John Libbey & Co. Ltd. 406 pages. C\$141.75 approx.

The recognition of the childhood epileptic syndromes and their careful delineation has been a major contribution of the European pediatric neurologists during the past two decades. The book being reviewed, a single author text by Panayiotopoulos, outlines the experience and conclusions of a dedicated epileptologist over the past 25 years.

The book is logically arranged, beginning with a brief review of epilepsy and the benign partial epilepsies of childhood. This is followed by a detailed review of benign Rolandic seizures, by far the commonest of the partial seizure syndromes. In chapter 5, allowing for a misprint in the title, there is a review of the implications regarding children who have centro-temporal spikes, but no seizures, and the figures regarding the incidence of neurologic disorders are quoted. The question of whether this is guilt by association or cause and effect is still left unresolved, but such is part of the challenge of clinical medicine.

The occipital seizures and allied epileptic syndromes are described in great detail using, as a basis, the author's own data from his many years of research in the subject. He delineates carefully the more common early childhood onset form of benign occipital seizures (Panayiotopoulos' syndrome) and distinguishes this from the later childhood onset form. There is a discussion of the implications of occipital spikes both in normal children and those who are neurologically impaired, and an excellent description of the EEG findings both with and without visual fixation, and this is followed by a comprehensive review of the literature of these syndromes.

Because of the clinical similarities between basilar migraine and late childhood onset benign occipital seizures and the conflicting views expressed in the neurological literature, this receives the author's attention across two chapters. It is always heartening to see views forcefully and well-expressed in this era of mealy mouthed scientific timidity, and Dr. Panayiotopoulos reviews, dissects and