

the overview is enough to allow the reader to see the big picture and the variety of ideas being explored without getting too bored with finer details. The fact that many different therapies and techniques are mentioned is also a plus, as it is likely that a combination of cellular therapies will be required to achieve an improvement in outcomes.

Overall, the book does an excellent job of providing an overview of stem cell research. It would be useful for basic scientists, undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate students working in the field. In addition, clinicians who specialize in the field of stroke and who are interested in cellular therapies may wish to obtain a copy. However, because most of the research presented is bench research, it would not be high-yield to the majority of neuroscience clinicians or to residents preparing for their exams. Nonetheless, the book illustrates the explosion of significant advances made in this exciting field over the last two decades.

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INTERACTIVE ATLAS OF THE HUMAN BRAIN (CD-ROM). 2007. By Robert E. Kingsley, Robert D. Kingsley. Published by Humana Press. CD-ROM. Price C\$110.

This CD-ROM publication is an atlas of magnetic resonance imaging presented in three planes as well as a sliced cadaveric brain. Structures are labeled and a brief description provided for each. The disc loads easily, runs smoothly and has a fairly good quality pictures. The label lines are clear, but somewhat difficult to follow on some of the "busy" images; a highlight feature would be a useful addition in future editions. The atlas lacks detailed text and there is no search feature for individual structures. The "self-testing feature" consists of a simple option to turn the labels on and off.

This atlas may be valuable for those learning brain anatomy and, and quite useful in identifying normal structures on MRI. Study of complex three-dimensional structural relationships of neuro-anatomy, however, is beyond the scope of this material. The Interactive Atlas of the Human Brain CD-ROM is a good resource for medical students as well as residents of neurology, neurosurgery and radiology during their early years of training.

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ACUTE ISCHEMIC STROKE: AN EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACH. 2007. Edited by David M. Greer. Published by John Wiley and Sons. 235 pages. Price C\$138.

This 235 page textbook is thoughtfully and logically presented. It provides a review of recent acute ischemic stroke literature,

focused on diagnosis and management. As far as it is possible for any textbook on the topic, considering the rate at which new trial data and evidence is generated, the information is current. A brief summary of the chapters follows:

"Chapter 1 (Stroke: Historical Perspectives and Future Directions) is a brief introductory chapter of historical interest.

Chapter 2 (Neuroimaging of the Acute Stroke Patient) provides a concise and comprehensible evidence-based review of imaging modalities, with brief discussions of CT, MRI and DWI and a focused discussion on vascular imaging including catheter angiography, CTA and MRA and CT and MR perfusion. An increased use of figures, particularly in this chapter, would have been welcome.

Chapter 3 (Intravenous Thrombolysis) a summary of trials pertaining to intravenous thrombolysis serves as an introduction. A somewhat more detailed review of patient selection and management, including the management of complications, may have been helpful for physicians not well versed in emergent stroke care. As well, there is no mention of the Canadian experience with intravenous (IV) thrombolysis in stroke (CASES trial), or of the ASPECTS CT score utility in selection and prognosis.

Chapter 4 (Endovascular Approaches to Acute Stroke) is informative and provides a comprehensive review of intra-arterial (IA) thrombolysis trials and combined IA-IV thrombolytic trials. There is a useful review of the different thrombolytics, direct fibrinolytics and defibrinogenating agents. The final section of the chapter appraises evidence for mechanical thrombolysis, thrombectomy and augmented fibrinolysis and thromboaspiration. The chapter provides the reader with a glimpse of future trends in interventional therapy.

Chapter 5 (Non-thrombolytic Acute Stroke Therapies) is a somewhat overly abbreviated discussion of the evidence concerning neuroprotective interventions, including pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical stroke trials. The introductory paragraph provides a brief rationale for neuroprotective therapies. A somewhat more comprehensive review of the topic may have been useful, along with a table of ongoing trials with web-links to trial centres and coordinators.

Chapter 6 (Surgical Management of Acute Stroke Patients) reviews the evidence concerning carotid endarterectomy, emphasizing benefits of early surgery. There is no discussion concerning the role of surgery in patients with moderate grade stenosis. There is a brief discussion of EC-IC bypass surgery and a useful conclusion concerning decompressive craniectomy for malignant MCA compression.

Chapter 7 (Antithrombotic Therapy for Acute Stroke) is a concise evidence-based review of trials of heparin, LMWH and heparinoids in acute ischemic stroke. Antiplatelet agents are discussed using reference from older to more recent trials, including discussions on ASA, glycoprotein IIB/IIIa antagonists, dipyridamole and clopidogrel. The PROFESS results were not available at the time of final print. Antithrombotic stroke therapy is discussed according to stroke subtypes, including a review of trials pertaining to anticoagulation for atrial fibrillation-related stroke and the role of antiplatelet agents in small and large vessel disease-related stroke. American and European evidence-based guidelines are provided concerning recommendations for antithrombotic therapy and anticoagulation in stroke management."

Chapter 8 (Intensive Care Management of Acute Ischemic Stroke) provides an overview of management of severe acute