

The last chapter (eight) consists of the presentation of three ambiguous cases, experts who discuss the diagnosis, investigation, management, surgical indication and strategy as well as follow-up. The first case discussed by S Spencer and D Spencer is entitled "apparent bitemporal epileptogenicity". The second case concerns "frontotemporal epileptogenicity" discussed by W Blume and J Girvin, while the third case deals with "multilesional pathology" and is discussed by B Diehl, W Bingaman, G Chelune and H Lüders. These experts bring their own views as to the management of the case being presented to them.

Each chapter is extremely well-documented with references.

Elisevich and Brien, with this book, have innovated by describing the practical aspects of epilepsy surgery. They do this through inviting the reader to go through the exercise that each epilepsy patient deserves, which consists of understanding the epileptic problem and deciding on its surgical treatment. This book is thus a very practical tool which has the great merit of placing the reader in realistic, detailed situations that are faced on a regular basis by those working in the field of epilepsy surgery. This book will be useful to the most knowledgeable in the field and to the beginners, students, trainees, junior staff. It should be in the library of physicians, neurologists, neurosurgeons, nurses, radiologists, psychologists, actually all those involved in caring for epileptic patients. They will find in this book, not recipes, but ways of facing and answering questions, examples of decision making process on investigative modalities and surgical strategies, these being presented in a rational way.

*Jean-Guy Villemure  
Lausanne, Switzerland*

**DIAGNOSTIC AND INTERVENTIONAL NEURORADIOLOGY – A MULTIMODALITY APPROACH.** (Translation of second German edition). 2002. Edited by Klaus Sartor. Published by Thieme. 402 pages. C\$156 approx.

This relatively short and compact volume covers vast subject material in a remarkably comprehensive and lucid manner. The book is the product of no less than 48 "young" authors, the concept being that these authors are more likely to be "(in) touch with the needs of residents and fellows".

The book has five sections covering diagnostic neuroradiology of the brain, spine, neuromuscular disease, and interventional radiology of the brain and spine. There is a good balance of material between these sections. The neuromuscular section is understandably thin, presenting limited material and some extremity images. It is of course impossible to cover all the material in great detail, particularly with respect to interventional techniques. However, an overview of devices and materials, as well as therapeutic techniques and principles should prove valuable to those who are not directly involved in the field.

The text is quite comprehensive in terms of both disease entities covered and imaging modalities used in their investigation. Throughout the book, material is very current. The images displayed are for the most part high quality and produced using state of the art equipment and techniques. Summary boxes present key points and helpful lists in a convenient format. While this is an English translation of a German text, the writing is clear and concise and it does not appear to have suffered through the translation process.

The book is well-suited to trainees in the Neurosciences as well as the practicing neurologist or neurosurgeon. In a compact form it provides an excellent summary of modern neuroimaging techniques and their application to neurological disease. In day-to-day practice it would be a useful starting reference point for imaging findings in a wide spectrum of disease processes as well as providing an overview of therapeutic options and techniques.

*Robert J. Sevick  
Calgary, Alberta*

**NEUROPSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY, THE FIFTH GENERATION OF PROGRESS.** 2002. Edited by Kenneth N. Davis, Dennis Charney, Joseph T. Coyle, and Charles Nemeroff. Published by Lippincott, William, & Wilkins. 2010 pages. C\$295 approx.

This heavy volume testifies to the fact that there has been a great deal of progress in our understanding of neuropsychopharmacology of human behaviour. Except for a few contributors from the U.K., France, South Africa, and Canada, the authors are American, as befits an official publication of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology. The book is divided into 13 sections, the first three summarize the great advances in our understanding of neurotransmitter and signal transduction, molecular biology and genetics, and imaging as applied to brain function. These three sections present excellent, concise reviews of the relevant issues. In addition, each of the nine sections that focus on a particular group of disorders include the latest advances in molecular biology and genetics of the relevant disorders, as well as the latest data from neuroimaging studies. These insights then form a basis for deeper understanding of human behaviour in terms of neurotransmitters, neurophysiological circuits, and their modulation by pharmacological agents. Many of the contributions demonstrate how much progress has been made in understanding the role of various neurotransmitters by studying genetically modified animal models, e.g., knockouts. Even section four, which deals with classical psychopharmacologic issues of drug discovery and evaluation has an exciting chapter on the advances in pharmacogenomics and the emergence of personalized therapeutics in psychiatry.

Even though this volume provides a wealth of up-to-date information about the advances in the basic science, it is well-organized and focused around various disorders, so that it can serve as a quick and useful reference for a clinician seeking information about specific diagnostic entities and their pharmacological management. Reflecting a trend towards grouping disorders on the basis of common pathophysiology, there is a section on impulsive and compulsive disorders which includes OCD, eating disorders, Tourette Syndrome, aggression, gambling, and self-injurious behaviour. Thus OCD is not grouped with anxiety disorder and Tourette Syndrome is not listed under movement disorders, as has been the case in the past.

The book is well-organized and easy to navigate. Each section begins with a useful overview of the main themes in the section and highlights changes since the last edition. Good editing ensured that the chapters in each section flow well from one to the next. The book also benefits from a large number of diagrams and tables that provide a great deal of useful information. This includes a considerable number of colour plates illustrating various kinds of information that can be gleaned from different neuroimaging techniques.

This book will be of interest to residents in psychiatry and psychiatrists interested in biological underpinnings of psychiatric disorders. It is an excellent reference for both clinicians and researchers. This book may also appeal to behavioural neurologists and psychologists. I expect this book to have a broad appeal because it connects research advances in basic sciences such as cellular biology, genetics, and imaging of neuropsychiatric disorders, with the understanding of their etiology and management. It thus provides a firmer and more scientific basis for clinical decision-making. At the same time, it can serve as a very useful starting point for students and researchers who wish to explore new possibilities for research or to understand their new data in context of existing body of knowledge.

Paul Sandor  
Toronto, Ontario

**INVESTIGATING NEUROLOGICAL DISEASE. EPIDEMIOLOGY FOR CLINICAL NEUROLOGY.** 2001. Edited by Albert Hofman and Richard Mayeux. Published by Cambridge University Press. 313 pages. C\$93.92 approx.

The literature on clinical research in the neurosciences has had an explosive growth in the last several years. Clinicians face the increasing challenge of making sense of this abundance of clinical research and applying its results to their patients. There have been few organized efforts to provide clinicians in the neurosciences with the tools they need to successfully address this challenge. Hofman's and Mayeux's book is one example of such an endeavour.

Contrary to what the book's title would suggest, the focus is not on investigating neurological diseases in the sense of searching for diagnoses, but rather on carrying out various types of clinical research in neurological diseases.

The first half of this concise and clearly written book deals with contemporary aspects of clinical research methodology, such as survival analysis, genetic epidemiology, outcomes research, decision analysis, etc. The topics on research methodology are well-chosen, reflecting those most frequently encountered by clinicians. Unfortunately, the size of the book and the large number of topics mandates brief chapters and economy of depth in the treatment of most themes. Readers will find this panoramic view of current clinical research methodology accessible and for the most part relevant. However, they will have to consult regular sources for a deeper understanding of most themes.

The second half of the book addresses thirteen common neurological conditions, with brief descriptions of diagnosis, etiology, epidemiology, intervention, prognosis and implications for clinical practice. Although the quality of the evidence is not systematically addressed, a major strength of this section is that most chapters support many of their statements with references to actual research data, which readers can consult if needed. Many of the chapters emphasize and describe epidemiological data, a useful compilation not often found in neurological texts.

Clinicians in the neurosciences will find this a useful resource to assist them in making sense of the evidence and bringing it to the bedside.

Samuel Wiebe  
London, Ontario

**ANTIEPILEPTIC DRUGS.** 2002. Fifth Edition. Edited by Rene Levy, Richard Mattson, Brian Meldrum, Emilio Perucca. Published by Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins. 968 pages. C\$285 approx.

As someone who has the previous four editions of *Antiepileptic Drugs* sitting on his shelf (with pages well-dog-eared, and backs well-broken), I read this most recent edition with interest. I was not disappointed. It remains the gold-standard reference book on anticonvulsant drugs.

This is the fifth edition of *Antiepileptic Drugs*. This most recent version has been edited by R. Levy, R. Mattson, B. Meldrum and E. Perucca, who collectively bring a diverse wealth of clinical and international expertise to this edition. *Antiepileptic Drugs* is a multi-authored text with 127 different authors (five of whom are Canadian). These authors represent experts from around the world, from basic science to clinical science, from industry to government and academia. However, despite the plethora of authors, the book is well-edited, and thus reads evenly and easily. The text has been substantially updated from previous editions. Chapters concerning "traditional" drugs have been updated; new chapters have been added to capture the unprecedented expansion in the field of epilepsy pharmacotherapy.

The book is assembled in a very logical and user-friendly fashion with 18 sections. Section I starts with 15 chapters assembled under the general heading of "General Principles". These 15 chapters comprehensively cover a range of topics, including the neurophysiological effects of anticonvulsant drugs, drug-drug interactions, combination therapy, laboratory monitoring of blood levels, and the use of anticonvulsant drugs in children, women and the elderly. Following this thorough introduction, the book then dedicates the following 16 sections each to a separate anticonvulsant drug (or class thereof): benzodiazepines, carbamazepine, felbamate, gabapentin, lamotrigine, levetiracetam, oxcarbazepine, phenobarbital, phenytoin, primidone, succinimides, tiagabine, topiramate, valproic acid, vigabatrin and zonisamide. Typically each one of these drugs has four or five chapters dedicated to it, which comprehensively discuss topics such as mechanisms of action, pharmacokinetics/biotransformation, clinical uses, interactions with other drugs, and adverse effects. Where appropriate, other topics, such as efficacy and use in nonepileptic disorders, are also presented. For each of these drugs, the information provided is complete and up-to-date, while maintaining reasonable succinctness. The final section of the book (section XVIII) gives a superb overview of drugs in early clinical development. Future agents such as ganaxolone and harkoseride are discussed.

The strengths of this book are many. It is as up-to-date as a hardbound textbook can be. No major topic related to anticonvulsant drugs has been neglected. All topics are dealt with in an authoritative and complete manner, with a writing style that, in general, presents facts in an easily assimilated manner. The chapters on mechanisms of action are particularly strong and well-written. Valuable clinical information is provided for the newer agents such as levetiracetam and zonisamide. Each chapter is exceedingly well-referenced. Notwithstanding the utility of modern computer-aided algorithms for searching literature databases, many chapters contain citations to "literature gems" not easily found during a routine literature search. This reviewer found no substantive factual error over the course of this book.

The weaknesses of this book are few. As a minor criticism, I felt