information related to the genetics of meningiomas associated
with data on the role of oncogenes and multiple growth factors.
The second group of sections discuss the evaluation of both adult
and pediatric meningioma patients related to concepts of
anesthesia, diagnosis, and pre-operative care. The third segment
provides a significant overview of all the advancements that have
occurred in the operative techniques used to manage the multiple
different locations and types of meningiomas. These chapters not
only focus on the many resection techniques involved but outline
newer approaches such as, endoscopic resection, image guided
surgery along with intraoperative MRI. Typical patients with
meningiomas are discussed including those involving the olfactory
groove to the cervicomedullary junction along with spinal
meningiomas. The following three sections provide information
as well as an assessment of non-operative treatments including
radiotherapy, radiosurgery and chemotherapy that are utilized to
control these lesions. The final two sections discuss special
considerations such as patient outcome and quality of life in the
management of these lesions.

The figures in the book are of very high quality, many
involving illustrations of the various types of meningiomas and
their operative resection. They significantly help to define the
anatomy that is crucial for the safe removal of these tumours.
Many of these figures and illustrations are associated with
photographs of actual operative procedures which aid the reader in
his/her understanding and visualization of the approach(s) that are
discussed. In many of the chapters the author(s) begin with patient
positioning, then proceed with outlining the most appropriate skin
incision, bone flap removal, operation and finishes with the
closing of the dura and replacement of the bone flap. This provides
the reader with a comprehensive assessment of the each operative
approach and the complications and problems associated with
each technique.

This volume provides the reader with an array of treatment
modalities that are currently standard in the care and the treatment
of patients with these very interesting, but at times, complex
tumours. This book does accomplish its goal of updating students,
residents, practicing neurosurgeons and others in the plethora of
advances that have occurred in the treatment of meningiomas over
the last 20 years. It deserves consideration for a prominent place
on the shelf of any neurosurgeon involved in the treatment of these
lesions.

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EPILEPSY. ANIMAL AND HUMAN CORRELATIONS. 2012. By David
W. McCandless. Published by Springer. 532 pages. C$240 approx.

Rated ⭐⭐

Animal models of seizures have contributed greatly over the
past 50 years to the understanding of the natural history of
Epilepsy. To narrow the bridge between bench research and
clinical epilepsy, there is a need to have clear understanding of the
diverse animal models associated with the multiple seizures types
and diverse epileptic syndromes. The hope has been that
understanding this could help researchers and clinicians to
collaborate in the research and development process that could
lead to new antiepileptic discoveries. Unfortunately, there is a
paucity of books that attempt to explain in a concise fashion how
that bridge can be established. For the clinical neurologists and
epileptologists dedicated to the care of children and adults affected
with epilepsy, a concise book like Epilepsy; Animal and Human
Correlations by David W. McCandless, is a good attempt to
become a source for those seeking rapid immersion in the
essentials of translational epilepsy research that have tried to
explain those critical aspects of epileptogenesis that involve
acquired and developmental seizures. The book starts very well
from Chapter 3 to 10, explaining alternatively the animal-human
correlate of each seizure type. Thereafter, the book would have
benefited from a better chapter organization, by separating the
animal-human seizure types of focal and generalized epilepsies
from those including both focal and
generalized epileptic syndromes.

Subsequently, the purpose of the book almost disappears after Part IV with the
title of Miscellaneous Epilepsies. A
most appropriate title should have been for this section Common Pediatric or
Childhood Onset Epilepsies, rather than separating this group of more common
and severe epilepsies, almost
dismissively as two different parts and
chapters named Miscellaneous and
Pediatric Concerns. This section also
lacks the initial organization dividing animal and human models of
each pediatric epilepsy, which is well structured in the first five
introductory chapters. Finally, if the purpose of the book is mainly
to address the animal and human correlate, then chapters such as
neuroanesthesia in epilepsy, pseudoseizures and diagnostic
technology do not have a place in this book, since there is no
mention of any translational aspects in these chapters.

The book attempts to integrate data between animal and human
epilepsy research by reviewing most relevant developments of the
clearly established classical models of epilepsy, however it falls
short of its complete goal, by omitting more recently described
animal models of symptomatic epileptic spasms, atomic seizures
and autism among others. Nonetheless it is a good foundation for
those looking for a quick initial reference, which may not be
available in rapidly accessible vast internet sources.

The epilogue and the future directions of the author address the
current on-going challenges that as clinicians we confront during
the management of the epilepsies, emphasizing that there is still
lots more to learn through expediting on-going translational
research. This book opens the door for further reviews and
editions, to keep pace with the new increasingly identified
etiologies of human epilepsies and the increased need of animal
models for those ones still where the etiologies still remain
elusive.

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