

BOOKS RECEIVED

COMPREHENSIVE NEUROSURGERY BOARD REVIEW. SECOND EDITION. 2010. Edited by Jonathan S. Citow, R. Loch Macdonald, Daniel Refai. Published by Thieme Medical Publishers, Inc. 576 pages. C\$135 approx.

fMRI TECHNIQUES AND PROTOCOLS. 2009. Edited by Massimo Filippi. Published by Humana Press. 843 pages. C\$175 approx.

THE NEUROSCIENCE OF RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE. 2009. By Patrick McNamara. Published by Cambridge University Press. 301 pages. C\$90 approx.

THE QUEST FOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE. A HISTORY OF IDEAS AND ACHIEVEMENTS. 2010. By Nils J. Nilsson. Published by Cambridge University Press. 562 pages. C\$45 approx.

NEUROSURGERY CASE REVIEW. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. 2010. By Remi Nader, Abdulrahman J. Sabbagh. Published by Thieme Medical Publishers, Inc. 435 pages. C\$135 approx.

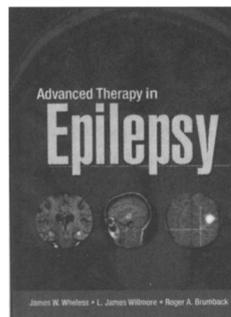
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ADVANCED THERAPY IN EPILEPSY. 2009. Edited by James W. Wheless, L. James Willmore, Roger A. Brumback. Published by People's Medical Publishing House. 478 pages. C\$140 approx.

Rated ★★★★★

This is the first edition of a book focused to describe advanced therapies for patients with epilepsy. It is the fruit of an international collaboration, with the participation of experts from all over the world and with a predominance of authors from the US. The book is divided into 59 chapters. The book makes a comprehensive review of the different types of treatment for epilepsy, including medical and surgical treatments. Also some new therapies such as neurostimulation are reviewed. In addition there are chapters on diagnostic tests such as EEG and imaging, aspects of epidemiology, epileptic syndromes and some interesting chapters on neurophysiology and pathology.

One of the strongest parts of this book is the review of currently available medications available for patients with epilepsy. The book reviews, in a comprehensive manner, the most important aspects of the main medications used for patients with epilepsy. One of the most recommended sections of this book, are the chapters on the new generation of antiseizure medications such as topiramate, levetiracetam, lamotrigine and others. These chapters will be useful for professionals in the field of epilepsy and also for residents and fellows in training. The book includes some interesting chapters such as the one that reviews the systemic metabolic consequences of antiepileptic medications and the chapter related to epileptic drug treatment in special populations. Another useful chapter is written by Dr. Andres Kanner about the



practical treatment strategies of psychiatric comorbidities in epilepsy. This chapter reviews the pharmacological treatment for depression and other psychiatric comorbidities in patients with epilepsy. These chapters will be very useful for potential readers of this book.

Regarding non-medical therapies, the book reviews aspects of epilepsy surgery and aspects of neurostimulation. The chapter on vagal nerve stimulation is highly recommended. Dr. Kossof presents a good description of the technique, its efficacy and safety. Other chapters such as the one on dietary therapy for epilepsy and immunotherapy in epilepsy are also very well written and helpful.

There are a good number of chapters concerning specific epilepsy syndromes. I enjoyed reading some of the chapters such as the one on Landau-Kleffner syndrome and language and the chapter written by Dr. E. Wirrel on generalized seizures and generalized epilepsy syndromes. Regarding miscellaneous topics the chapter by Dr. Sarnat and Florez-Sarnat is very comprehensive, and few books explore aspects of pathology in patients with intractable epilepsy. The rest of the chapters on diagnostic tests and epidemiology balance the book very well. The DVD with seizures contains very good examples and is highly recommended for residents and fellows.

I strongly recommend the book but I would like to remark that most of the content of this book is highly specialized and probably is more suited for physicians who continuously evaluate patients with epilepsy or interested people working in epilepsy programs.

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