

that the section on benzodiazepines was perhaps too brief, and that the subtle differences between the various benzodiazepine analogues could have been better discussed. Also, there are a few redundancies; for example, almost identical figures showing the metabolism of carbamazepine are given in several different chapters. The quality of the figures is somewhat variable throughout the text. In several places, the figures are rather blurry, lacking clarity and crispness. This is particularly true of the molecular formulae given for several of the anticonvulsant drugs. Finally, although this criticism is probably unique to this reviewer, I felt that there was a paucity of molecular formulae, especially for the new, emerging drugs.

In conclusion, this edition of *Antiepileptic Drugs* continues an already strong tradition, and re-establishes the dominance of this book as the definitive reference in the area of anticonvulsant drugs. This book is a "must reference" for clinical epileptologists, clinical pharmacologists involved with anticonvulsants, and for anyone who extensively employs anticonvulsant drugs in their day-to-day practice.

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SLEEP MEDICINE. 2002. Edited by Teofilo L. Lee-Chiong, Jr., Michael J. Satela, Mary A. Carskaon. Published by Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. 737 pages. C\$109 approx.

This multi-authored, 71 chapter, text contains all the essential and expected chapters regarding normal sleep physiology, neurobiology, ontogeny of sleep and the usual myriad of sleep disorders. What distinguishes this test from others is the strong evidence based approach adopted by many of the authors in areas of sleep medicine where opinion or convention might have prevailed. This is particularly true in chapters relating to respiratory problems in sleep and the conventional therapies such as CPAP, use of oral appliances and surgery for obstructive sleep apnea (OSA). The other outstanding feature of this publication is the excellent detailed coverage of the technology of polysomnography including esophageal and nasal pressure monitoring, multiple sleep latency testing and maintenance of wakefulness testing. There are also

relatively detailed chapters covering video-electroencephalography and actigraphy.

Adult neurological and respiratory disorders and pediatric disorders are discussed separately helping to accentuate the differences in these patient populations. The text is organized so that each chapter can stand alone as a reference source. For example, all of the chapters on sleep disordered breathing, neurological, or neuromuscular disorders are introduced with appropriate definitions and clinical descriptions before more detailed text regarding investigation and treatment of these disorders.

The text offers insightful and clinically relevant chapters on sleep in the critically ill patient, drugs of abuse, psychiatric and neurological medications and the neuropharmacology of sleep medicine. There is also a much-welcomed chapter on forensic sleep medicine. Some chapters especially dealing with neurological disorders in sleep fall short of the comprehensive standard set in other chapters. For instance, the chapters on miscellaneous neurological disorders and sleep, and seizure disorders in sleep, deal with too broad a topic and as a result can do little more than list some essential epileptic syndromes or neurological disorders (clusters or migraine) which have an impact on sleep or are affected by sleep.

Because each chapter is written as a potential stand-alone reference, there is much repetition throughout the text especially in regards to definitions and clinical descriptions of sleep disorders. Although this may seem tiresome to a reviewer, the authors have allowed for this overlap so that a reader, less familiar with respiratory, psychiatric or neurologic disease, might be better able to understand these conditions in the context of sleep medicine.

This text is strongly recommended for practitioners with an interest in sleep medicine, including general practitioners, pediatricians, neurologists and respirologists. It would be of value in any sleep lab given the sections on polysomnography and sleep scoring. Its only weakness is perhaps that, like many reference texts, it provides material relating to all sleep disorders and has limited depth in some areas. Nevertheless, it is considered an excellent starting point for any reader with an interest in sleep medicine.

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