

Books Received

CHILDHOOD HEADACHE. 2002. Edited by Ishaq Abu -Arafah. Published by Cambridge University Press. 200 pages C\$100 approx.

COLOR ATLAS OF MICRONEUROSURGERY OF ACOUSTIC NEURINOMAS. 2003. By Wolfgang T. Koos, Christian Matula, Johannes Lang. Published by Thieme. 340 pages C\$303 approx.

NEW TRENDS IN CEREBRAL ANEURYSM MANAGEMENT. ACTA NEUROCHIRURGICA SUPPLEMENT 82. 2002. Edited by Y. Yonekawa, Y. Sakurai, E. Keller, T. Tsukahara. Published by SpringerWienNewYork. 121 pages C\$125 approx.

PARKINSON'S DISEASE AND MOVEMENT DISORDERS. FOURTH EDITION. 2002. Edited by Joseph J. Jankovic, Eduardo Tolosa. Published by Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. 704 pages C\$185 approx.

PREDICTION IN FORENSIC AND NEUROPSYCHOLOGY. 2003. Edited by Ronald D. Franklin. Published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. 311 pages C\$49.50 approx.

PROGNOSIS OF EPILEPSIES. 2003. Edited by Pierre Jallon, Anne Berg, Olivier Dulac, Allen Hauser. Published by John Libbey Eurotext. 344 pages C\$180 approx.

RESEARCH AND PUBLISHING IN NEUROSURGERY. ACTA NEUROCHIRURGICA SUPPLEMENT 83. 2002. Edited by Yucel Kanpolat. Published by SpringerWienNewYork. 135 pages C\$125 approx.

TEXTURE OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM OF MAN AND THE VERTEBRATES, VOLUME III. 2002. Edited by Pedro Pasik and Tauba Pasik. Published by Springer WienNewYork. 663 pages C\$266 approx.

THE CEREBELLUM AND ADAPTIVE CONTROL. 2002. By John S. Barlow. Published by Cambridge University Press. 340 pages C\$122 approx.

THE CLINICAL MANAGEMENT OF EARLY ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE. 2003. Edited by Reinhild Mulligan, Martial Van der Linden, Anne-Claude Juillerat. Published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. 348 pages C\$90 approx.

THE INFANT AND FAMILY IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY. 2002. Edited by Joao Gomes-Pedro, J. Kevin Nugent, J. Gerald Young, T. Berry Brazelton. Published by Brunner-Routledge. 344 pages C\$122 approx.

WHY WE SEE WHAT WE DO: AN EMPIRICAL THEORY OF VISION. 2002. By Dale Purves, R. Beau Lotto. Published by Sinauer Associates. 263 pages C\$65 approx.

WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE IN SECURE ACCOMODATION. 2002. By Jim Rose. Published by Brunner-Routledge. 202 pages C\$40 approx.

Book Reviews

A FIRST STEP – UNDERSTANDING GUILLAIN BARRÉ SYNDROME. 2002. By Brian S. Langton. Published By Trafford. 363 pages. C\$39.99 approx.

I read "A First Step" by Brian S. Langton with pleasure. This is a book about a patient who suffered severe Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) with widespread axonal damage. He was a resident of an Intensive Care Unit for some months prior to discharge to a rehabilitative facility, then home. All physicians, nurses and others looking after GBS patients should consider the perspectives raised in this book. Mr. Langton correctly points out that it is a very unique and terrifying perspective for patients. He also makes the point that patients with GBS should never be considered to be in the same category as those with "quadriplegia" from spinal cord disease or other problems. There may be retained sensations or painful dysaesthesiae. The first portion of the book outlines the patient's thoughts through the course of his illness and daily records that his wife kept of his progress. The second half of the book is more light-hearted and is really a series of short anecdotes of dreams the patient had while "locked in" with GBS. It is definitely an interesting point of view for health care providers to consider. While we may think of

these issues, we don't always remember and such a vivid reminder can be a wake-up call. Thanks to Mr. Langton for retaining the energy, after suffering through such a devastating disorder to put together some comments that may help future patients.

*Douglas W. Zochodne
Calgary, Alberta*

HEADACHE AND MIGRAINE IN CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE. 2002. Edited by Vincenzo Guidetti, George Russell, Matti Sillanpää, Paul Winner. Published by Martin Dunitz. 502 pages. C\$147.54 approx.

This is a superb book. It is the most comprehensive of a group of recent books on childhood headache. The book is divided into 12 sections, beginning with a thoughtful introduction by Drs. Guidetti and Galli. The second section, which deals with the pathophysiology of headache, reviews in three chapters the neurophysiology, neurochemistry and pharmacology of childhood headache.

The second section addresses the assessment and diagnosis of

childhood headache, with chapters devoted to history taking, psychological assessment and investigations. The chapters are thoughtful, detailed and well-referenced.

The fourth section is devoted to migraine and covers the clinical features, genetics, pathogenesis, psychiatric comorbidity and prognosis. A separate chapter covers menstrual migraine in adolescence, a topic which is often overlooked in texts on childhood headache. There are also excellent chapters on migraine equivalents, migraine and stroke, and the role of diet in migraine. The final short but thorough chapter in this section deals with medical prophylaxis. The author offers both a review of the literature and his own recommendations.

The next four sections are single chapter contributions, which deal with cluster headache, tension-type headache, chronic daily headache and "psychogenic" headache in childhood. Most chapters end with a short conclusion which summarizes the most salient points.

The ninth section deals, in some depth, with nonmedical treatment methods. I found this section to be particularly helpful as Canadian pediatric headache specialists tend to use biofeedback and other "nonmedical" approaches less often than we probably should.

The next section covers symptomatic headaches, with an excellent chapter on post-traumatic headaches by Paul Winner, one of only four North American contributors to the book. The penultimate section is devoted to special issues, such as sleep and quality of life.

The final contribution offers helpful suggestions on the establishment of headache centers for children and adolescents with an appendix, which outlines a proposed intake form for all patients.

Overall therefore, this book is a major contribution to the literature on childhood headache. It is a sizeable book of 500 pages and is written mainly by European authors. It is, however, easy to read and should be part of the library of every physician who treats children with headaches. The references are current and the authors offer thoughtful commentaries in an area which is often devoid of good evidence based data.

*J.M. Dooley
Halifax, Nova Scotia*

EPILEPSY SURGERY: CASE STUDIES AND COMMENTARIES. 2002. Edited by Kost Elisevich and Brien J. Smith. Published by Lippincott Williams and Wilkins. 225 pages. C\$183 approx.

This 225 page, hard cover book is divided into eight chapters dealing with three major components. The first four chapters deal with epilepsy as to their lobar ictal onset, i.e. temporal lobe, frontal lobe, parietal lobe, and occipital lobe. The next three chapters discuss surgery of epilepsy according to the precipitating conditions or etiologies, i.e. infection and trauma, ischemia, and neurodevelopmental. Finally, the last chapter entitled "Perspectives on selected cases" brings in discussants, who are leaders in the field of epilepsy surgery, to give their opinion as to the way they personally would manage cases that are presented.

Each chapter is made of illustrative cases and commentaries. The illustrative cases are documented by a history, physical examination, pharmacological therapy, and results of investigations. The investigations include electroencephalography, imaging, and neuropsychology. There is a brief description of the surgery, operative

findings as well as pathological findings. There is information concerning the postoperative course, follow-up and outcome.

The first chapter deals with temporal lobe epilepsy and is divided into two main portions, medial temporal epilepsy, and lateral temporal epilepsy. There are six cases presentation and two commentaries. The commentaries which follow the illustrative cases of medial temporal lobe epilepsy summarize some of the literature such as anatomic definition of the epileptic focus and pathology, EEG and SPECT in medial temporal lobe epilepsy, amygdala epileptogenicity, post-operative auras, febrile seizures, tumor associated epilepsy in the temporal lobe, extraocular neural paresis, visual field deficits. The commentaries following the portion dealing with lateral temporal lobe epilepsy discusses neocortical temporal lobe epilepsy, focal cortical dysplasia, functional imaging, lateral temporal language area, multiple subpial transection.

Chapter two deals with frontal lobe epilepsies and is divided into three main headings, i.e. prefrontal area, premotor area, medial frontal area. There are three illustrative cases, one for each area documented as previously described, with MRI illustrations, EEG tracings, operative sketches, and position of strip electrodes.

The commentary discusses seizures of frontal lobe origin, EEG in frontal epilepsy, medial frontal resection with corpus callosotomy, and functional recovery in motor-associated areas.

Parietal lobe epilepsy is the object of the third chapter, and is divided into opercular area, inferior parietal lobule and superior parietal lobule. There is one illustrative case for each area within the parietal lobe. These consist also of clinical presentations and are illustrated with imaging, excerpted video frames of seizures, EEG tracings, perioperative photographs and surgical sketches. The commentary deals with parietal lobe functional anatomy, EEG in parietal lobe epilepsy and tumoral parietal lobe epilepsy.

Chapter four deals with occipital lobe epilepsy, with one major heading of "lateral surface" and one illustrative case. The commentary is divided into three portions, seizure of occipital lobe origin, etiology of occipital lobe epilepsy and surgery for occipital lobe epilepsy.

In the next three chapters Elisevich and Smith discuss epilepsy surgery, taking into consideration the etiological factors, i.e. infectious and traumatic, ischemic related and neurodevelopmental.

Chapter five is illustrated by one case of post-meningitic epilepsy studied with subdural electrodes. The commentary discusses the risk of epilepsy following meningitis and etiology of cerebral injury related to infection, while the post-traumatic section is illustrated with one case and the commentary complemented with comments about risks of epilepsy after head injury, post-traumatic complex partial seizures and genesis of post-traumatic medial temporal lobe epilepsy.

In chapter six, the authors illustrate with one case investigated with subdural grids, epilepsy related to vascular-ischemic insult. The commentary discusses epidemiology and clinical features of perinatal ischemic brain injury, as well as the pathology and epileptogenesis in these conditions.

Neurodevelopmental disorders, as responsible for epilepsy, are presented in chapter seven with two illustrative cases, one of schizencephaly and one of hypothalamic hamartoma. The commentaries respectively discuss the presentation of schizencephaly and the results of surgery in neurodevelopmental disorders, and the presentation, semiology, epileptogenicity and treatment of hypothalamic hamartoma.