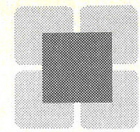

ATUL C. MEHTA, MD, EDITOR

MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING OF THE BRAIN AND SPINE

Edited by Scott W. Atlas
Raven Press

MR AND CT IMAGING OF THE HEAD, NECK, AND SPINE, 2ND EDITION

Edited by Richard E. Latchaw
Mosby-Year Book

HEAD AND NECK IMAGING

Edited by Peter M. Som and R. Thomas Bergeron.
Mosby-Year Book

THE RAVEN MRI TEACHING FILE. MRI OF THE BRAIN, VOLUME 1: NON-NEOPLASTIC DISEASE

Edited by William G. Bradley, Jr. and Michael Brant-Zawadzki
Raven Press

Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the Brain and Spine, edited by Scott W. Atlas, and *MR and CT Imaging of the Head, Neck, and Spine, 2nd Edition*, edited by Richard E. Latchaw, are the best works to date on their topics. The books complement each other, and their intended audiences differ only slightly.

Dr. Latchaw's is an all-encompassing neuroradiology text that discusses the diseases affecting the central nervous system and their various manifestations on both magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computed tomography (CT). This book is useful for neuroradiologists, but will be equally beneficial to general radiologists who want a comprehensive neuroradiology textbook, and to neurologists and neurosurgeons.

Dr. Atlas' contribution is a comprehensive treatise on MRI as applied to the central nervous system. This text is an essential acquisition for neuroradiologists who desire to sharpen their understanding of MRI as it relates to diseases of the brain and spine. For those without significant exposure to MRI physics, the treatment of the physics is not as easily understandable as that in Edelman and Hesselink's *Clinical Magnetic Resonance Imaging*; nevertheless, it is an excellent summary. Unlike Dr. Latchaw's book, Atlas' work does not include a discussion of ear, nose, and throat diseases below the skull base.

Both books are well written, illustrated, and referenced. I highly recommend them to the audiences detailed above. They will not be disappointed.

For the second edition of *Head and Neck Imaging*, Drs. Som and Bergeron have assembled authors who transmit their expertise in a lucid manner, enabling the reader to grasp an understanding of difficult topics, such as congenital facial and temporal bone lesions.

The book's 13 chapters cover the gamut of head and neck lesions. The first chapter discusses congenital lesions of the midface, beginning with a clear explanation of their embryology that makes subsequent radiographic analysis of the anomalies much easier to understand. The authors of this section of the book include two neuroradiologists, two plastic surgeons, a neurosurgeon, and an ophthalmologist. Their synthesis of this complex topic into a coherent whole is an ideal approach.

Dr. Som has contributed a definitive overview of imaging of the sinonasal cavity and a comprehensive treatment of the salivary glands. Temporomandibular joint (TMJ) imaging is covered in chapter 4. Coauthored by a radiologist and an orthodontist, this chapter gives the reader useful guidelines for the use of various imaging modalities for this increasingly important area. The relatively short chapter on the mandible em-

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phasizes plain films and CT, but is written and illustrated well.

The chapters on the pharynx and oral cavity, parapharyngeal space, neck, larynx, orbit, visual pathways, and central skull base are superbly detailed and comprehensive. All of these chapters make extensive use of MRI. The temporal bone chapter, which concludes the book, is one of the strongest, including all pathologic conditions affecting this region. One of the most useful sections discusses vascular tinnitus, a common problem that appropriate imaging can affect significantly.

This book combines the best of both worlds: it is a comprehensive reference that is readable. Its flaws are minor: some of the MR images in the TMJ chapter are inverted, and the chapter on the mandible suffers a relative lack of MR images. The text is superbly illustrated overall and is copiously referenced. It should be in the library of every clinician or radiologist who deals with diseases of the head and neck.

Raven Press has become the "MRI house" of the industry, and the 10-volume series *The Raven MRI Teaching File* is a departure from their usual textbook approach. The series editors, Drs. Lufkin, Bradley, and Brant-Zawadzki, have assembled well-known experts in their fields to present an overview of MRI in a teaching file format. The preface states that their intention is to enable practicing radiologists to become proficient in a technique to which they might not have had sufficient (or any) exposure during training. In *MRI of the Brain, Volume 1: Non-neoplastic Disease*, they have succeeded admirably. That should not surprise anyone who is familiar with the teaching techniques of Drs. Bradley and Brant-Zawadzki.

This volume, the first of two on non-neoplastic disease of the brain, focuses on traumatic, hemorrhagic, and vascular diseases of the intracranial contents, as well as on normal and abnormal flow patterns. Each of the 100 cases is organized so that the images and clinical history are on the left-hand page, and a description of the findings, the diagnosis, a discussion, and references are on the facing page. Most of the images are of reasonably high quality, the discussions are accurate and succinct, and the references are few and pertinent. Each case takes only a few minutes to digest, and this makes the book especially useful when one does not have the time to read a more involved text. The only negative point is that the images do not always illustrate all of the abnormalities described in the text.

This is not intended to be a comprehensive reference. It will be more useful for the busy radiologist who reads MRI scans in daily work than for subspecialists in radiology. In addition, radiology residents and staff/residents specializing in neurology or neurosurgery may enjoy sitting down with this work for a quick review or introduction to MRI.

Other volumes in this series will discuss neoplastic diseases of the brain, the spine, the head and neck, the musculoskeletal system, the body, the cardiovascular system, the pediatric patient, and principles/artifacts of MRI. An enticing option is available for this series: it has been reproduced on a single videodisc which allows an interactive approach. The images can be viewed with or without the clinical history or organ system orientation. Additional images, color images, and "movie" loops are available in this expanded format as well.

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CHRONIC MYELOGENOUS LEUKEMIA: MOLECULAR APPROACHES TO RESEARCH AND THERAPY

Edited by Albert B. Deisseroth and Ralph B. Arlinghaus
Marcel Dekker

Since 1960, when Nowell and Hungerford first described the Philadelphia chromosome, knowledge of this chromosomal translocation has expanded steadily. Recently, this growth of knowledge has been explosive. This, the 13th volume in Marcel Dekker's series of hematology compendia, is an excellent review of the molecular biologic aspects of this disorder.

Both editors are highly regarded experts in the field of chronic myelogenous leukemia, and they have assembled a sterling group of experts to describe individual areas of this field. The M.D. Anderson Cancer Center is well represented, since the editors are from that institution.

This textbook is quite readable. The first of its five parts presents detailed analyses of the animal and viral models for chronic myelogenous leukemia. The next seven chapters deal with the bcr-abl gene and its structure. The next three chapters analyze cellular models for the disease. The next six chapters describe therapy of chronic myelogenous leukemia, with emphasis on bone marrow transplantation and its curative potential. The text ends with a chapter on future directions in research and therapy.

As with all textbooks in rapidly growing fields, some areas are not discussed. One area is autografting with cultured marrow: some feel that long-term tissue culture of chronic myelogenous leukemia marrow can eradicate the Philadelphia-chromosome-positive cells while encouraging Philadelphia-chromosome-negative hematopoietic cells to rise in number. Also not described is the significance of minimal residual disease detected by polymerase chain reaction in patients after allogeneic bone marrow transplantation.

This textbook provides the molecular biologist with a current overall analysis of the bcr-abl locus and the protein that it transcribes. On the other hand, clinicians may find the emphasis on molecular biology overwhelming, and the book is not as helpful in the daily management of patients with this disorder. Still, the book would be an excellent addition to the library of molecular biologists dealing with chronic myelogenous leukemia.

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ASTHMA, ITS PATHOLOGY AND TREATMENT

Edited by Michael A. Kaliner, Peter J. Barnes, and Carl G.A. Persson
Marcel Dekker

During the past decade, an explosion of information implicating chronic airway inflammation and hyperreactivity in the pathophysiology of asthma has led to a consensus that these are central features of the disease. This book, volume 49 of *Lung Biology In Health and Disease*, is a state-of-the-art summary of the pathophysiology and treatment of asthma. The editors and contributors are leading investigators from both sides of the Atlantic.

The text is well organized and readable. The first chapter summarizes recent alarming epidemiological trends in asthma mortality. The next 17 chapters examine the pathogenesis of airway hyperreactivity, including discussions of the role of neural mechanisms, various cellular components, and inflammatory mediators such as platelet activating factor and leukotrienes. The last 6 chapters detail the mechanisms of currently used agents, and consider their role in the treatment of asthma.

The work would be enhanced by an overview of the various inflammatory components discussed. Also, a chapter detailing how this new knowledge might be used clinically would be helpful. Specifically, a discussion of investigational drugs should have been included.

These shortcomings aside, the work is scholarly and up-to-date: most chapters are referenced with citations from the past 5 years. The text is augmented with schematic diagrams that interrelate components suspected of affecting the pathogenesis of asthma. The book's features make it appropriate for anyone with an investigative interest in bronchial asthma and airway hyperreactivity, and it is well suited for a medical reference library.

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