



Z. NICHOLAS ZAKOV, MD, SECTION EDITOR

HANDBOOK OF PARKINSON'S DISEASE

Edited by William C. Koller
Marcel Dekker

This excellent review is one of the most readable, yet in-depth and complete monographs dealing with Parkinson's disease currently in existence. It is state-of-the-art, and includes excellent reviews of 1-methyl-4-phenyl-1, 2, 3, 6-tetrahydropyridine (MPTP) and the current status of brain graft. The editor has selected a substantial list of contributors from both sides of the Atlantic who are well known and respected in the field.

The book begins somewhat nontraditionally with chapters discussing history, epidemiology, and genetics. These are followed by sections on individual symptoms, pathology, neurochemistry, and neuropharmacology, and finally, a chapter on etiology and several on treatment. Yet there is some logic in this organization based on the individual authors' expertise and bias. The appendix is especially handy because it includes various rating scales that are hard to find without referring to individually published articles. A sufficient number of illustrations adequately depict the concepts discussed.

Overlap between chapters is minimal, given the large number of contributors, and attests to good editing. As with any multi-authored text, however, quality, organization, and usefulness vary. The opening chapter by Tyler and the section describing the history of Parkinson's disease are especially interesting and thorough. This is also true of the chapter by Koller discussing classification. Jankovic's chapter about motor symptoms is excellent and well organized. Sections on pharmacologic treatment, which include anticholinergics, amantadine, L-dopa, and dopaminergic agents, are among the best in the book, although there could have been more detail pertaining to various approaches to the management of the on-off effect. Some of the chapters about individual symptoms are too detailed and seemingly are given excess emphasis, including those dealing with the autonomic nervous system and the section discussing dysarthria. The chapter about sleep is well written but seems out of context and might have been more appropriately included with the other sections dealing with symptoms.

Perhaps the most controversial chapter is by Langston, who convincingly argues that "if not genetic in origin then the disease must be due to something in the environment," dismissing the possibility of some undiscovered intrinsic mechanism.

Despite these minor shortcomings, this is a superb reference work that should be read by anyone with an interest in Parkinson's disease.

MAURICE HANSON, MD
Department of Neurology

THE HEART AND STROKE: EXPLORING MUTUAL CEREBROVASCULAR AND CARDIOVASCULAR ISSUES

Edited by Anthony J. Furlan
Springer-Verlag

This book is an important contribution to the literature of the newly emerging clinical discipline of brain and heart interactions. Dr. Furlan has assembled a distinguished group of contributors for this addition to the new monograph series, *Clinical Medicine and the Nervous System*.

Cardioembolic stroke, the subject of the first of five major sections, constitutes nearly 40% of the text. It begins with a chapter regarding the history of cerebral embolism and hemorrhagic infarction and covers a wide range of clinical aspects of cerebral embolism of cardiac origin. This section thoroughly reviews such important topics as cerebral ischemia with mitral valve prolapse and mitral annulus calcification, as well as the timely topic of anticoagulation therapy of acute non-septic embolic stroke.

The section on cardiovascular neurobiology covers more basic issues of central nervous system regulation of cardiovascular functions, as well as the clinical problem of cardiac dysfunction following stroke. Anoxic encephalopathy following cardiopulmonary arrest, and practical diagnostic and therapeutic approaches to syncope and orthostatic hypotension are among the topics reviewed in the section on global brain ischemia. Management of coexisting carotid and coronary artery