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# Book reviews

## *Ultraschalldiagnostik der hirnversorgenden Arterien: Dopplersonographie der extra-und intrakraniellen Arterien, Duplexsonographie* and *Ultrasound Diagnosis of Cerebrovascular Disease: Doppler sonography of the extra-and intracranial arteries, Duplex scanning*, by G.-M. von Reutern, H.J. von Büdingen (editors), 1993, Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart/New York, 400 pages, DM268.00, ISBN 3-13-784401-0

This book is published simultaneously in a German and an English version. The German version is a second edition (the first was published in 1989), whereas the English one is a first edition. Although the English version is a precise translation of the German one, the titles of the books (and the order of the authors) differ. The English title focuses on diagnosis of cerebrovascular disease, whereas the German title refers to the arteries themselves which might seem to suggest a more technical or more anatomical approach. Readers of neither language have to worry that they will be left out: both technical as well as pathological findings are discussed in equal depth in both books.

The book starts with a discussion of physical, anatomical and hemodynamic aspects of ultrasound diagnosis, running to some 70 pages. These introductory chapters are excellent, providing very clear explanations, not only of the Doppler technique, but also of basic aspects of arterial flow. In this respect it is refreshing to see that terminology is considered with care: the authors warn against the often thoughtless use of terms like flow, turbulence and flow velocity. For instance, they advise to use "Doppler frequency" instead of "flow velocity", in order to remain aware of the dependence of the measurements of many variables, in particular technical ones.

The next five chapters deal with how the tests should be performed, which parameters may be derived from ultrasound investigations, and which specific techniques are needed for cervical, periorbital and basal cerebral arteries. This section constitutes 100 pages and contains many examples and explanatory diagrams.

A thorough discussion of pathological findings follows. The discussion in this section is divided according to the major vessels. This section fills the remaining 190 pages of the book and is again replete with examples.

All sections are illustrated with many clear and useful illustrations, the quality of which is high enough to deserve special mention.

The book offers a very thorough discussion of all aspects of ultrasound diagnosis of extra- and intracranial arteries. The beginner will find a wealth of useful information in a single volume, while seasoned diagnosticians will find the many examples and ordered approach of great value in assessing not only the severity of occlusive vessel disease, but also their own skills.

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## *The Central Nervous System in AIDS: Neurology, Radiology, Pathology, Ophthalmology*, by J. Artigas, G. Grosse and F. Niedobitek (editors), 1993, Springer-Verlag, Berlin-Heidelberg-New York, ix + 237 pages, DM282.00 (hardcover)

This superbly produced, well-indexed and well-referenced book includes 5 chapters. First, a succinct review on the various types of neuroclinical presentations of AIDS (such as MS-like disease, demyelinating neuropathy and meningitis in the beginning, subsequently followed by dementia complex, or seizures, CNS myeloma, myelopathy, and neuropathy) and of a variety of opportunistic infections in AIDS patients (toxoplasmosis, *Cryptococcus*, PML, CMV, etc.). This 12-page review leaves the neurological reader unsatisfied, as it is quite economic with the provision of the pertinent neurological signs and symptoms characterizing the various clinical pictures.

Next comes an exhaustive 60-page CT/NMR chapter on the various types of central nervous AIDS lesions, non-specific changes, and lesions of opportunistic infections and associated disorders. The illustrations are well-selected and abundant.

The 100-page chapter on rational lesions, such as the transient cotton wool spots due to the axonal swelling; microangiopathy; retinitis, and lymphoma are captivating for the clinical neurologist who traditionally wields the ophthalmoscope. The monograph closes with a 10-page oculopathy chapter as a background.

In summary, while not going into great depths, this concisely written text provides the neuroclinician with a wealth of well-structured information that is up-to-date and brought into perspective. As such it is recommended reading even for those neurologist whose patient load includes a case of AIDS only sporadically.

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## *Referentially Oriented Cerebral MRI Anatomy: An atlas of stereotaxic anatomical correlations for gray and white matter*, by J. Talairach and P. Tournoux (editors), 1993, Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart/New York, 242 pages, DM360.00, ISBN 3-13-796701-5

Although quite a few texts have presented the anatomical correlations between computerised images of the cadaver brain and the anatomical features of corresponding slices, the lavishly illustrated volume by Talairach and Tournoux constitutes the nec plus ultra in the field. The work is based on a stereotaxic frame fixed on the basis of the NMR image, to serve as a frame of reference for the localisation and identification of intracranial contents. The proce-

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