Book Review

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF MOVEMENT DISORDERS

edited by Stanley Fahn and Joseph Jankovic, 631 pp., Philadelphia, Churchill Livingstone, 2007, \$199

Movement disorders is a complex field in neurology and clinical phenomenology is usually the first step in differential diagnosis. *Principles and Practice of Movement Disorders*, written by Drs. Stanley Fahn and Joseph Jankovic, provides a comprehensive overview of this field, and the complementary DVD with high-quality video clips help readers to recognize the clinical phenomenology. It contains concise clinical information and the scientific basis of all major aspects of movement disorders. This book is very well-written, and in a reader-friendly style. Most importantly, in contrast to most major neurology textbooks, this book is mainly written by only 2 authors, giving it a uniform writing style. It originated from the syllabi of the annual Movement Disorders course in Aspen, CO, which was established in 1990. Therefore, the content of the book has been edited extensively over the years, although it is still in its first edition.

The book is in 3 parts. The first part is an overview of clinical phenomenology in addition to physiology and anatomy of movement control. The second part covers hypokinetic movement disorders. The third part describes hyperkinetic movement disorders. In the second and third parts of the book, each chapter reviews the clinical phenomenology, diagnosis, treatment, and scientific basis of an individual disease. Parkinson disease receives special attention and spans 4 chapters because it is the most common and well-studied disease in the movement disorders field. Key points are summarized in tables, algorithms, and figures, and are incorporated throughout the book. For visual learners, this greatly helps readers to understand the important concepts. Video clips in the complementary DVD are well-

prepared and explained by the legends at the end of the book. A very comprehensive list of references is provided in every chapter. Useful Web sites and patient organizations are also included to provide physicians and patients with additional sources of information. The authors do a good job balancing the detailed descriptions of clinical trials with basic science research, despite the brevity of each chapter. One chapter can be easily read through in 1 or 2 hours. From a resident's standpoint, this book offers a comprehensive review of movement disorders, and from a fellow's perspective, reading from cover to cover will help one to gain additional detailed insights into the field. The references provide a further reading list. General neurologists, psychiatrists, and medical students also can use this book and DVD as a reference when encountering patients with movement disorders.

The book has some limitations. Some chapters in the hyperkinetic movement disorders section, such as those on ataxia and restless legs syndrome, seem to be oversimplified. In addition, because this book is mainly written by 2 authors, the cited references might be biased toward the works from their respective institutions.

Overall, I recommend this book for neurology residents and movement disorders fellows. The organized chapters and easily readable format make this book an ideal reference. The DVD, with a tremendous number of valuable video clips, also aids in learning the clinical phenomenology. For anyone who is interested in the movement disorders field, this book will be an excellent choice.

Reviewed by Sheng-Han Kuo, MD

Disclosure: Dr. Kuo worked with Dr. Jankovic during residency training, is working with Dr. Fahn during fellowship training, and serves on the Neurology® Resident & Fellow Section editorial team.

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Sheng-Han Kuo

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