Book Review

NEUROLOGY FOR THE SPECIALTY BOARDS

by David S. Gloss and Leon A. Weisberg, 307 pp., Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2005, \$52

Neurology for the Specialty Boards is a portable, high yield reference for board preparation. Though the book is ideally suited for residents and fellows in Neurology, it will find appeal among a wide audience from medical students to recertifying neurologists.

The book is arranged in two broad sections. The first outlines fundamental concepts pertaining to development, anatomy, physiology, pathology, and pharmacology. The following 22 chapters cover the clinical aspects of neurology using a topic based approach. The book has an informal style which holds the reader's attention. For example, "A whirlwind tour of other modalities" follows review of electrophysiology, fundamentals of neurotransmitters, EEG, nerve conduction velocity, and CMAPs. The use of familiar mnemonics such as "vitamins" is engaging and will complement the existing framework of many practicing clinicians.

Content is presented in a well-structured format with numbered headings and subheadings. There are a limited number of simple figures presenting essentials in anatomy and physiology. In addition, a range of gross pathology, histology, and neuroradiology

images are included. Selected information is tabulated against a contrasting background. At the end of each chapter, the reader will find 2 to 20 examination-style multiple choice questions to test their knowledge of the topic. The book concludes with a longer "final exam."

Particularly high yield chapters include those on physiology and pathology in section I, and myopathies and movement disorders in section II. The chapter reviewing pediatric neurology is more extensive than others, reflecting representation of questions in board examinations. In addition, particular comments are made regarding children and the elderly in other chapters, such as in chapters on headache and neoplasm. As a concise review text, the book cannot be comprehensive on every topic. This is most evident in the brief discussion of cerebrovascular disease. Nevertheless, the authors highlight fundamental knowledge well.

Neurology for the Specialty Boards is a slim text, ideally suited as a convenient reference for the busy clinician. Key concepts are summarized for a broad range of topics which will complement more detailed topic review from other sources.

Reviewed by Simone Ardern-Holmes, MD

Copyright © 2008 by AAN Enterprises, Inc.

Neurology[®]

Book Review

Simone Ardern-Holmes

Neurology 2008;71;e29

DOI 10.1212/01.wnl.0000326581.80302.37

This information is current as of September 22, 2008

Updated Information & Services

including high resolution figures, can be found at:
<http://n.neurology.org/content/71/13/e29.full>

Permissions & Licensing

Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures, tables) or in its entirety can be found online at:
http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions

Reprints

Information about ordering reprints can be found online:
<http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise>

Neurology® is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright . All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.