Book Review

PRINCIPLES OF NEUROLOGIC INFECTIOUS DISEASE

edited by Karen Roos, 571 pp., New York, McGraw-Hill, 2004, \$178

While most infectious disease texts invariably contain a condensed neurology chapter, few comprehensive infectious disease resources exist for neurologists. Dr. Karen Roos, a neurologist specializing in neurologic infectious diseases, has edited an extraordinary text written by recognized experts in their respective fields. Her book is an ideal resource for any neurologist searching for answers to questions on clinical presentation, diagnostic testing, or treatment of a myriad of infectious diseases.

The first of 29 chapters is a review of CSF analysis and gives excellent explanations for interpreting various CSF tests. There are chapters dealing with neurologic infections by anatomic location, such as the meninges, brain parenchyma, spine, and peripheral nerves. Other chapters focus on specific pathogens like rabies, mycobacteria, fungi, helminthes, protozoa, and prions. Chapters on neurologic manifestations of ophthalmologic disorders and infective endocarditis are also included. Several chapters focus on HIV and its neurologic complications, including dementia, neuropathy, myelopathy, and opportunis-

tic infections. Readers can even find chapters on infectious causes of movement disorders, congenital infections, and the neurologic complications of immunizations and antimicrobial agents.

The chapters in Dr. Roos' book are sensibly organized and information is presented in a clear, logical fashion. The tables throughout each chapter are this book's forte as they are immensely valuable and quite complete. Readers will find the differential diagnosis discussions in each chapter to be comprehensive and the detailed information given on diagnostic testing to be indispensable. However, the inclusion of more radiographic and pathologic images would have made this resource more complete. This book seems to otherwise have everything that a practicing neurologist would need to diagnose and care for patients with neurologic infectious diseases in a highly readable and useful format.

I would highly recommend this book to anyone in need of a reference for or a text about neurologic infectious disease. Readers will find enough detail to effectively diagnose and treat their patients without having to sift through superfluous information.

Reviewed by Kristi Mahaffey Nord, MD

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