Book Review

S.N. Farb Otorhinolaryngology; 2nd ed.

This condensed textbook was written for medical students, non-specializing residents and practicing physicians confronted with ear, nose and throat disorders in daily practice. Emphasis has been placed on diagnosis and treatment, whereas a circumstantial description of functional anatomy and pathophysiology was considered to be beyond the scope of this book. This concept, however, is rather questionable because neither pathology nor diagnosis and treatment of a disease (such as, e.g., chronic otitis media, sinusitis, chronic tonsillitis, salivary gland disorders, hearing and speech disorders) can be understood without some fundamental knowledge of the underlying mechanisms related with the anatomic and histologic structures of the diseased organ, with pathologic, pathophysiologic, immunologic and other aspects of the disease.

The chapter on pharmacotherapy in otorhinolaryngology is quite instructive and useful. This volume will be appreciated by non-specialists looking for quick and brief information about an ear, nose and throat problem or an introduction to diagnosis and clinical management of otorhinolaryngological diseases.

C.R. Pfaltz, Basel
F. Zöllner

The 6th (and last but one) volume of this series has been published, and the 2nd edition of the handbook of Otorhinolaryngology is now nearly complete. Volume 6 presents, in a totally revised form, the following subjects: pathophysiology of the sound transmission system, management of chronic specific and unspecific otitis media, intracranial complications of ear disease, neurologic and neuroradiologic diagnostic procedures in connexion with the pathology of the temporal bone and related structures, as well as a chapter on neurosurgical aspects of diagnosis and therapy of diseases and injuries involving the base of the skull, an important borderland of our speciality.

An important part of this volume is dealing with various problems of cochleo-vestibular disorders: Ménière’s disease, vestibular dysfunctions of peripheral origin, sud-

Two chapters present the technical and medical aspects of hearing aids, followed by a brief review on the present state of cochlear implants. Finally, a treatise on central and psychogenic hearing disorders as well as on the medico-legal expertise of posttraumatic cochleo-vestibular disorders.
dysfunction even up this completing volume on otology. Although the number of single contributions is rather high, involving a certain risk of both discontinuity and overlapping, the competence of the authors, the concise text with excellent, instructive illustrations and the noteworthy generous outfit guarantee again the high scientific and didactic standard of this 2nd edition of the handbook.

C.R. Pfaltz, Basel

Announcements
International Course in Microsurgery of the Posterior Fossa
Hannover, March 17-20, 1982
Organisation and information: Prof. Dr. M. Samii, Neurochirurgische Klinik im Nordstadt-Krankenhaus, Haltenhoffstrasse 41, D-3000 Hannover 1 (FRG).

First International Congress of the Skull Base Study Group: Traumatology of the Skull Base Brussels, June 9-12, 1982
Organisation and information: Prof. Dr. J. Brihaye, Department of Neurosurgery, Rue Héger Bordet, 1, B-1000 Brussels (Belgium).


Preliminary list of subjects: Endoscopical and Radiological Diagnostic; Histomorphology and Cytology; Staging and Grading; Endoscopical Microsurgery; Laser Surgery; Horizontal and Vertical Resection; Functional and Regional Neck Dissections; Follow-Up and Documentation.
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