Schiff and Gles. The sections were examined and the number of plaques, tangles and cells showing granulovacuolar degeneration (GVD) in the hippocampus was rated on a four point scale; none, some, moderate and many.

The results are shown in the table and show evidence indicating differences between the ratings for the left and right hippocampus. Chi-square tests show the differences between left and right to be highly significant for plaques, tangles and GVD (p < 0.0004 for all three measures). There was no consistent difference between counts on one side compared with the other.

### Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>% Agreement</th>
<th>% Disagreement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plaques</td>
<td>65.45</td>
<td>34.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangles</td>
<td>61.82</td>
<td>38.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GVD</td>
<td>69.09</td>
<td>30.91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our results derived from a larger sample of aged subjects but assessed with a less rigorous method of quantification are similar to the results reported by Wilcock and Esiri for Alzheimer cases. They emphasise the need for caution in making correlations between pathological and biochemical measurements obtained from the two hemispheres. The pathological and biochemical data in adjacent areas need to be established before adjacent sampling techniques are adopted for pathological and biochemical correlations in controls and dements of the Alzheimer type.

1 JANOTA
Department of Neuropathology, Institute of Psychiatry, London

CQ MOUNTJOY
St Andrew's Hospital, Northampton

#### References


#### Book reviews

### Cranial and Spinal Magnetic Resonance Imaging: An Atlas and Guide

The accurate interpretation of pathology in magnetic resonance imaging requires both an in depth knowledge of normal anatomy and also an appreciation of the appearance of normal and abnormal tissue on different sequences. So an atlas dealing with this subject should play an essential part in the background reading of everyone likely to come into contact with MR imaging.

### Intracranial Tumors in Infancy and Childhood: Basic Research Diagnosis and Treatment

The International Publishers, Karger are skilled in the alchemy of turning symposiums into books. Paediatric neurosurgeons already know this from Concepts in Paediatric Neurosurgery that records the annual meetings of the American Society for Paediatric Neurosurgeons. That series is already up to seven but this present volume is number 30 in Karger's series, Progress in Experimental Tumor Research. It is a record of the International Symposium on Paediatric Oncology (ISPN) that was held in Tokyo, Japan, in November 1985. Neurooncology in this context is confined to those tumours whose primary diagnosis and management is most likely to come within the province of the neurosurgeon. Those interested in neuroblastoma or the neurological complications of lymphoma and leukaemia (not to mention the problems of spinal cord compression from extra-dural malignant disease) will be disappointed.

The volume opens with some chapters of basic research in neurooncology before passing on to individual tumours and their management. Much of the material presented overlaps with that already published in the Concepts of Pediatric Neurosurgery series, but this is perhaps not surprising because the Toba conference contributors are derived almost exclusively from the United States and Japan. Again, it is not surprising that the Japanese provide most of the articles on the management of pineal tumours and details of their extensive experience is always interesting to read.

#### Matters arising

As is to be expected with a multiauthor book there is some unnecessary repetition in the text but this has been kept to a minimum. The book is well produced and contains a wealth of detail. Nevertheless it is not cheap and at $150 will not easily find its way into individual ownership. However, it should be available in libraries as a reference to all those, surgeons, physicians and radiologists alike, who have anything to do with the interpretation of MRI scans and anyone who is prepared to spend this sort of money will find it a very rewarding book.

DPE KINGSLEY