Post exertional headache

I was interested in the report of Garcia-Albea *et al* on post exertional headache[1] but they should not include footballers' migraine in this category. This is triggered, not by running about the field, but by blows to the head, either in heading the ball or—in the more robust form of the game—playing scrum half.[2]

WB MATTHEWS
St Edmund Hall
Oxford, UK

1 Garcia-Albea E, Cabbrera F, Tejeiro J, Jimenez-Jimenez F-J, Vaquero A. Delayed postexertional headache, intracranial hypotension and racket sports. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry*, 1992;55:975.
2 Matthews WB. Footballers' migraine. *BMJ* 1973;2:326–7.

NOTICE

International Congress on Stroke Rehabilitation in Berlin, 21–24 November 1993. The meeting will be organised by the German Society for Neurological Rehabilitation in collaboration with several European Societies for rehabilitation. Further information from: DER Congress, Congress Organisation, Bundesallee 56, D-1000, Berlin 31, Germany. Tel: ++49 30 85 7903-0, Fax: ++49 30 85 7903-26.

BOOK REVIEWS

Handbook of Neuroradiology (a Mosby Year book). By ANNE G OSBORN (Pp 411; Price: £27.00). 1991. London, Wolfe Publishing Ltd. ISBN 0-8151-6578-1.

I have long been searching for a small textbook that will solve all my neuroradiological diagnostic dilemmas; or at least provide a sensible differential list when I realise "I have never seen one of those before". Such a book does not exist but Dr Osborn's work goes some way to answering this need.

The 400 pages are essentially a collection of lists. My main concern is that the subheadings are poorly identified. If they were in heavy type, or underlined, the book would be much easier to use. At first sight it appears similar to a number of texts that are aimed at trainee radiologists preparing for their final professional examination. In reality it is much more than this and will be of value to trained neuroradiologists and to clinicians working in related fields. There are excellent sections on normal anatomy and variants, and abnormal brain development. Disease processes are arranged by anatomical location. There is an appropriate emphasis on the MR appearance of various pathologies. Each section has a useful summary and a short list of references. I have a few quibbles, such as the poor classification of spinal vascular abnormalities. It is reasonable value at £27. If I wore a white coat I would give this book pride of place in a pocket. That is a considerable accolade.

RICHARD JV BARTLETT

Neurologic Differential Diagnosis/2nd Edition. (Translated and annotated by Otto Appenzeller). By MARK MUMENTHALER. (Pp 178; Illustrated; Price: DM68,00.) 1992. Stuttgart, G. Thieme Verlag. ISBN 3-13-6655002-6.

In a somewhat philosophical preface to the second edition of "Neurologic Diagnosis", Otto Appenzeller describes the book as a "timely addition to the training of clinical neurologists", bemoaning, not without amusing hyperbole, the retreat of clinical skills in the face of a growing public knowledge and awareness of the advantages of "neurodiagnostic testing". He refers to the trend towards defensive medicine and the relative security of the "report" and hence the over-investigation on the neurological patient. This is a timely and well considered warning.

The book itself, translated from the original German by Otto, is the second edition of Mark Mumenthaler's original script and, I feel, does achieve its aim to "show how best to arrive at a diagnosis, and judiciously to employ the support of neurodiagnostic investigation".

The text is supported by some very good illustrations and a leavening of neuroanatomical and neuropathological correlation. Perhaps the format is a little "dated", but none the worse for that.

J B FOSTER

Neural Transplantation: A Practical Approach Series. *Edited by* S B DUNNETT and A BJORKLUND. (Pp 211; Illustrated; Price: £19.50.) 1992. Oxford University Press. ISBN 0-19-963285-5 (p/b).

This brief 200 page manual edited by two of the pioneers in the field distils the wisdom of 20 years practical experience. The experimental techniques are presented for "any neuroscientist who wishes to use neural transplantation in his or her own laboratory". There are Chapters on Staging and dissection of rat embryos (the editors); Grafting genetically modified cells (Gage and colleagues); Neural transplantation in adult rats (the editors); Intracerebral transplantation to immature hosts (Lund and Yee); Peripheral nerve grafts to study CNS regeneration (Aguayo and colleagues); Transplantation of glia to spinal cord (Blakemore and Crang); Neural transplantation in primates (Annett and Ridley); Human embryonic tissue (Brundin); Immunology (Lund and Banerjee); Identifying grafted cells (Cadusseau and Peschanski). An appendix provides information on suppliers of specialist items. The text is liberally illustrated, and practical protocls with essential detail are provided throughout. A "must" for anyone entering the field, and an invaluable bench mark of best technique for those already engaged in this exciting area of neuroscience.

C D MARSDEN

Autonomic Failure: A Textbook of Clinical Disorders of the Autonomic Nervous System/Third Edition. Edited by SIR ROGER BANNISTER and CHRISTOPHER J MATHIAS. (Pp 953 Illustrated; Price £95.00.) 1992. Corby, Oxford Medical Publications. ISBN 0-19-262219-6.

Sir Roger Bannister concluded the preface to the first edition of his book with the words of his teacher, Sir George Pickering, that it was 'in fact no more than an overture. The main body of the work is to come.' This third edition is a revision of the second edition with 20 new chapters from worldwide authors, and illustrates that prophecy.

The editors and authors have succeeded in compiling an excellent comprehensive volume on the autonomic nervous system including genetics, molecular biology, anatomy, investigations and diseases which, despite its multi-authorship, avoids the problem of repetition and shows the editors' knowledge and experience of the assessment of patients with autonomic failure. There are important practical points about testing autonomic disorders such as the time which should be taken to assess maximal contraction of the pupil with pilocarpine in the Adie syndrome and the value of urodynamic assessment, together with an excellent critique of the interpretation and validity of the commonly used clinical tests.

The volume is well balanced with an emphasis on diabetic autonomic failure, autonomic dysfunction in peripheral nerve disease, and the association of autonomic failure with extrapyramidal syndromes. Though the chapter on dopamine beta-hydroxylase deficiency seems disproportionately lengthy, it is justified by the important genetic and molecular biochemical models which it provides, and reflects the interest of the editors. The final section on disorders affecting autonomic function involving syncope and fainting, cardiac dysrhythmias and hypertension illustrates the implications of the autonomic nervous system in medical practice and assures a wider readership than clinical neurology alone.

The publishers are to be congratulated on the fact that, despite is formidable size (over 940 pages), the book easily remains open at the requisite page when placed on a desk and avoids constant struggling to find, or keep, one's place.

DAVID BATES

Handbook of Amytrophic Lateral Sclerosis (Neurological Disease and Therapy Series/12). Edited by RICHARD ALAN SMITH. (Pp 783 Illustrated; Price: $195.00 (US and Canada). $224.25 (All Others)). 1992. New York, Marcel Dekker Inc. ISBN 0-8247-8610-6.

The exponential increase in the number of papers and books on motor neurone diseases in the last decade reflects the realisation that this devastating disease represents a major unresolved problem. Fifty-two authors, 38 of them from the USA, contribute to the 31 chapters. The material is organised in two major sections: Diagnosis and Management and Research Strategy. The first takes the initial 318 pages, the second the remaining 436 pages of text.

Most research lines into the aetiopathogenesis are covered. Some of the basic science

should be available for reference for neurologists, psychiatrists and paediatricians as well as geneticists and investigators in this field.

RB GODWIN-AUSTEN

Spinal Cord Dysfunction Vol III. Functional Stimulation. Edited by L S ILLIS. (Pp 360; Price £50.00). 1992. Oxford University Press. ISBN 0-19-261919-5.

This is a timely monograph on spinal cord stimulation and forms the third volume of a trilogy devoted to spinal cord dysfunction. The editor draws together several contributions about the role of functional electrical stimulation in the rehabilitation of the damaged nervous system. As far as is possible only data derived from human studies is discussed. Most authors describe very recent work as well as giving a comprehensive review of the older literature. For the general reader, the chapters on spinal cord stimulation are probably the most useful.

The first third discusses the basic science "aspects" and a well balanced summary is given by the editor. The middle third assesses electrical stimulation of the peripheral nervous system. Little benefit is observed in chronic upper motor neurone syndromes, but useful advances have been made in the management of impotence and bladder control in paraplegics and in the management of faecal incontinence. The last third of the book discusses spinal cord stimulation. This is perhaps the most interesting of the three principal sections and starts with an excellent account of the role of spinal cord stimulation in the management of neurogenic pain syndromes. Bearing in mind that this therapeutic avenue is usually used as a last resort the reported results are heartening. Benefit seems also to occur in patients with various ischaemic conditions though the mechanism is unclear. An interesting chapter then follows on the neuropeptide changes in the spinal cord attributable to chronic stimulation. Future research in this area is likely to be fascinating. The last chapter on spinal opioidergic activation discusses the practical difficulties in the use of intrathecal morphine for spasticity and bladder irritability.

Overall the book is very readable and would be of interest to readers only vaguely familiar with this area.

JEREMY DICK

Stroke: Pathophysiology, Diagnosis and Management 2nd Edition. Edited by HJM BARNETT, JP MOHR, BM STEIN, and FM YATSU. (Pp 1270 Illustrated; Price: £165). 1992. ISBN 0-443-087326-6. Edinburgh, Churchill Livingstone.

This massive compendium costs £165. There are 73 contributors, mainly from North America with a few contributions from Japan, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland and Israel; the UK is noticeably absent. The coverage is wide-ranging and includes pathophysiology, imaging, clinical manifestations and therapy both medical and surgical; there is also a good section on medical diseases and stroke. Each contribution is accompanied by an extensive bibliography.

The book suffers, however, from lack of strong editorial direction. There are no cross references; the work is in effect a compendium of 73 separate articles, which causes problems. For example, under completed stroke it is stated that anticoagulants serve no purpose after major infarction and their value for more modest ischaemia is unproven. It goes on to say that their superiority to aspirin and ticlopidine is unknown implying the latter are of proven value which must be doubted. One has to look elsewhere to find that anticoagulants for infarction are of value, when the infarct is embolic in origin. Readers knowledgeable about strokes will no doubt find their way around; the less well informed person who is 'looking something up' could well be misled by the lack of cross reference between sections.

The contribution by JP Mohr on classification is particularly helpful as is that on platelet function and antiplatelet therapy by Babette B Weksler. However, in the latter, the account of ticlopidine (which is unwisely hailed in the preface to the entire volume as a flourishing advance) is inadequate. The side-effects, including the dangerous neutropenia, are faithfully recorded but no attempt is made to make a risk benefit analysis. Comparison with aspirin is confined to the reduction in the number of further vascular events; the incidence of side-effects and their seriousness are not compared. A cautious but encouraging attitude is adopted in the section on thrombolytic therapy.

The section on carotid endarterectomy relates the widespread, indiscriminate use of this operation which was followed by intemperate criticism leading to a dramatic retreat from an operation which has now been shown to be of value for symptomatic stenosis greater than 70 per cent. Although the book includes the word management in its title, a derisory 13 of the 1270 pages are devoted to rehabilitation.

It therefore provides useful access to a lot of information but as a definitive guide to the management of cerebrovascular disease it is disappointing.

JOHN MARSHALL

Neuromethods 21: Animal Models of Neurological Disease, 1 Neurodegenerative Diseases. Edited by AA BOULTON, GB BAKER and RF BUTTERWORTH. (Pp 368; Price: £76.00). 1992. Published by Humana Press. UK Distrib: Chichester, J Wiley & Sons Ltd. ISBN 0-89603-208-6.

Experimental animal models have played a major role in evaluating both pathophysiological mechanisms and treatment approaches to a variety of neurological disorders. Such studies will continue to be of prime importance in complementing data obtained from patients. The focus of the book is on both common and uncommon diseases including Alzheimer's Disease, Huntington's chorea, Parkinson's disease (both rodent and primate models), genetic dysmyelination, non-genetic models of myelin disorders, the cerebellar ataxias and the rare Lesch-Nyhan disease.

There is an opening chapter on the ethics of animal models of neurological diseases which cogently discusses various general ethical principles underlying animal experimentation in particular assessment of pain. Legal aspects of such work are also included, an original idea. The remaining chapters vary somewhat in length but they are all first-rate, wide ranging and show a considerable uniformity of style. The general format has been to give a general introduction to the disease which is then followed by practical details which vary in their extent. For example, some chapters such as the ones on Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease give detailed experimental protocols which would allow the reader to carry out his/her own experimentation. The rationale, advantages and disadvantages of the various techniques are described clearly and even for the non-specialist such as myself it is possible to gain very useful insights into the methodologies. In some cases, such as the chapter on genetic dysmyelination, one is given details of the various animal models rather than detailed protocols. In discussing non-genetic myelin models, there is an extensive general discussion of virally induced CNS myelin disorders which is useful, especially for the non-virologist.

Overall this is an excellent book. The chapters are very comprehensive on the whole, topical and well-written. It is also an impressive general review of experimental animal methods My only negative comment is the price £76.00.

PETER GE KENNEDY

SHORT NOTICES

Neuromethods: 19 Animal Models in Psychiatry, II. Edited by AA BOULTON, GB BAKER AND MT MARTIN-IVERSON. (Pp 386; Price £80·00). 1991. Chichester, Wiley (UK Distributors) Clifton NJ USA, The Human Press Inc. ISBN 0-89603-177-2.

Recent Advances in Neuropharmacology (Journal of Neural Transmission, Supplementum 34). Edited by H BONISCH, K-H GRAEF, S Z LANGER AND E SCHOMIG. (Pp 221; Price DM120. Reduced price for subscribers to "Journal of Neural Transmission"—DM108). 1991. Wien, Springer-Verlag. ISBN 3-211-82300-X.

Neuromethods: 18 Animal Models in Psychiatry, I. Edited by AA BOULTON, GB BAKER AND MT MARTIN-IVERSON. (Pp 411; Price £80·00). 1991. USA, Humana Press. UK Distrib: J Wiley & Sons Ltd, Chichester. ISBN 0-89603-198-5.

MRI of the Brain III Neoplastic Disease: The Raven MRI Teaching Series. Series Editors RB LUFKIN, WM G BRADLEY, JR AND M BRANT-ZAWADZKI. (Pp 216; $75.00). 1991. New York, Raven Press. ISBN 0-88167-702-7.