

This volume is one of six in the Neurosurgical Topics series planned for publication by the AANS during 1993. There are also 12 previous issues in the series. The sixteen contributors to the present book are well established authorities in the field of posterior fossa cranial nerve surgery.

The first chapter, amounting to one third of the book, is a detailed review of the microsurgical anatomy of the brainstem, cerebellum and posterior fossa vessels and nerves, by Dr A Rhoton. The quality of description and illustration here is exemplary, and the text includes several pieces of valuable technical advice on operative procedure, such as the need when dissecting the cochlear nerves to sweep the microdissecting unit from medial to lateral only, so as to avoid traction on distal cochlear fibres. These are valuable reviews by Matthew Wilkins and Adams respectively, of physiological, microvascular and non-microvascular concepts of the cranial nerve distribution syndrome. One chapter is devoted to posterior cranial nerve tumours, and seven to cranial nerve dysfunction syndromes in general, and in particular nerves.