serotonergic agonists, antagonists and reuptake inhibitors, and tricyclic antidepressants in the treatment of anxiety disorders are all very adequately covered.

Drawing attention as it does to the treatment of a range of disorders which are common and yet largely unsatisfactorily addressed by most clinical services, this is an important book. It is unfortunate that it is unlikely to be read more widely than by the faithful few who will be familiar with its contents.

HUGH MIDDLETON

Pediatric Clinical Electromyography. Edited by H ROYDEN JONES, JR, CHARLES F BOLTON and C MICHEL HARPER, JR. (Pp 485.) Published by Lippincott-Raven Publishers, Philadelphia 1996. ISBN 0-7817-0288-7.

It is a pleasure to read this concise account of the clinical neurophysiology of paediatric neuromuscular disease. The authors are adult neurologists with an interest in this subject. It is a readable book, with some poignant comments including the "Gestalt impression" of motor unit recruitment in infants. Variability in the ease of diagnosis is reflected upon, contrasting the difficulties encountered in the diagnosis of infantile SMA, for example, with neonatal myopathic processes. The reader is also reminded about prognostic implications.

There are nine chapters, all of which emphasise important clinical correlations, including an initial description of paediatric electromyography, an approach to the floppy infant, and investigations on the critical care unit. There are several illustrative case reports and multiple original references. I suspect this book will find itself onto the shelves of many clinical neurophysiologists and those neurologists and paediatricians who are involved with these investigations.

SIMON BONIFACE

Advances in Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery II. Edited by B A MEYERSON, C OSTERTAG. (Pp 138.) Published by Springer-Verlag, Wien, 1995. ISBN 3-211-82720-X.

This volume contains the conference proceedings of the XIth Meeting of the European Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery (Antalya, 1994), and has been published previously as a supplement to *Acta Neurochirurgica*. The book can be divided into several broad headings. It begins with a series of papers on various aspects of movement disorders. A review of the pioneering work of the late Ted Hitchcock into neural transplantation is followed by articles on pallidotomy, and the place for thalamotomy in the management of disabling tremor in multiple sclerosis. A brief consideration of spasticity is then followed by the experiences of several units with image-guided frameless stereotaxis. The book then covers a diverse group of topics including the endoscopic treatment of cystic brain lesions, neurosurgery for

affective disorders, and the localisation of epileptic foci. The final section on the management of pain discusses CT-guided percutaneous cordotomy and trigeminal tractotomy, several papers evaluating the role of spinal cord stimulators in the management of back and lower limb pain, concluding with consideration of some aspects of trigeminal neuralgia and central neuropathic pain.

It is inevitable with books of this kind that both the subject matter and the quality of the contributions is diverse. Whilst a number of the individual contributions are excellent, they are too short to contain anything more than a brief outline of the literature, making this very much a book for the expert rather than for those wishing to gain a broad understanding of the subject. Unfortunately there is no discussion or editorial comment after any of the papers, and the index is poor. I think that it is likely that clinicians will choose to read only selected papers from this text rather than to purchase the entire collection as a single volume.

ROBERT MACFARLANE

Practical Neuro-Urology. Edited by MICHAEL B CHANCELLOR and JERRY G BLAIVAS. (Pp 390; £55.00.) Published by Butterworth Heinemann, Oxford 1995. ISBN 0-7506-9556-0.

This is an excellent volume which should be in the library of most urologists interested in this subject. The book is split into six parts which cover basic anatomy, investigative techniques and a discussion of neurological diseases in adults and paediatrics. The last section is concerned with therapy.

The basics of neurological anatomy are well covered in part 1 and there is an additional section on sexual dysfunction and infertility which is not usually found in this sort of volume. Investigative techniques are well covered and in part 3 the common causes of damage to the controlling system of the bladder are discussed in sections so that spinal cord injury has a separate section from multiple sclerosis and cauda equina injuries. This leads to repetitious style inevitably as some conditions have similar precipitating causes. The children's section covers the common causes of neuropathy in children and has a useful section on enuresis. Part 5 covered urological disorders with neurologic implications so that prostatic hypertrophy and its sometimes devastating effects on the urinary tract is well covered. The section on treatment is up to date and comprehensive.

I think that the authors are to be congratulated on producing an interesting and well written book which in fairly short, succinct chapters, covers the basics of the subject very well. References are up to date and comprehensive.

PATRICK DOYLE

Evaluation and Treatment of Myopathies. Edited by ROBERT C GRIGGS, JERRY R MENDELL, ROBERT G MILLER. (Pp 434; price £125.00.) Published by Waverly Europe Ltd, London. 1995. ISBN 0-8036-4410-8.

This book is written by three acknowledged American experts in the field, each with a different background. It sets out to provide a clinical approach to the patient with muscle disease and, to a significant extent, succeeds. The book begins in a fairly conventional manner with sections on various aspects of the structure and function of normal muscle, the evaluation of patients with myopathies, and genetic evaluation. The second part of the book deals with specific myopathic disorders, classified into the traditional subgroups. The third and final portion of the book describes general strategies of clinical management and includes a chapter on muscle pain and fatigue, including short sections on fibromyalgia and chronic fatigue syndrome. Generally, the information contained within the book is up to date and there are useful sections summarising recent advances in many of the chapters.

Who should read it? It is not comprehensive enough to be a reference text but would provide ample information for any neurologist or non-specialist physician wishing to refresh their memory about a specific disease or clinical syndrome. It would serve as a good textbook containing all the information on muscle disease that would be needed by any trainee in neurology, clinical neurophysiology, rehabilitation medicine, or rheumatology. If any of the above describe your needs then I would recommend it.

TIMOTHY WALLS

SHORT NOTICES

Readers may be interested in

Biological Psychiatry. Second Edition. By MICHAEL R TRIMBLE. (Pp 480; £60.00 h/bk.) Published by John Wiley and Sons, Chichester 1996. ISBN 0-471-96360-7.

Neural Cell Culture. A Practical Approach. (The Practical Approach Series. Edited by J COHEN and G P WILKIN. (Pp 248.) Published by IRL Press at Oxford University Press, Oxford 1995. ISBN 0-19-963484-X.

Laser Surgery and Medicine. Principles and Practice. Edited by CARMEN A PULIAFITO. (Pp 447; £60.00.) Published by Wiley-Liss Inc, New York 1996. ISBN 0-471-12070-7.

Dialogues in Neurological Surgery. Edited by MARK N HADLEY and DANIEL L BARROW. (Pp 280; £64.00.) Published by Waverly Europe Ltd, London 1996. ISBN 0-942219-76-7.

Brain Injury and After. Towards Improved Outcome. Edited by F D ROSE and D A JOHNSON. (Pp 216; £15.99.) Published by John Wiley and Sons, Chichester 1996. ISBN 0-471-96288-0.