



Book review

Neuromuscular Disorders: A Comprehensive Review with illustrative Cases, Satish V. Khadilkar, Rakhil S. Yadav, Bhagyadhan A. Patel. Pages 1–534, Springer 2018. ISBN: 978-981-10-5360-3; 978-981-10-5361-0 (ebook)

This is a review of neuromuscular disorders in adults and children by the Indian authors Satish V. Khadilkar, Rakhil S. Yadav, Bhagyadhan and A. Patel who specialise in Neuromuscular conditions. This is probably the first in the Indian subcontinent as most comparable books are written by Western authors.

As Neuromuscular disorders are poorly understood and recognised, investigations are expensive, and the focus on clinical history and examination is highlighted throughout the book.

The contents of the book are laid out as a initial introduction followed by eight sections of the book covering adult and paediatric neuromuscular conditions with more emphasis on the former. Both neuropathies and muscle conditions are reviewed. Specific neuropathies particularly pertinent to the Asian subcontinent such as AMAN, Post polio syndrome and Leprosy give detailed subject reviews.

Tables, photographs and simple illustrations are dotted through the book and useful to break the extensive reading material the book provides. Certain chapters such as Hirayama Disease have a good overview on the imaging sections, unlike Limb Girdle Muscular Dystrophy, where the importance of muscle MRI is lacking emphasis.

Each chapter has very useful concluding sections outlining the key points/when to suspect, how to diagnose and/or how to treat and the detailed tables on differential diagnosis that are very useful for students preparing for exams.

The authors have made a good effort to report epidemiological data and references related to the Asian/Indian subcontinent. An introduction of the current clinical practice of neuromuscular disorders in the Indian subcontinent would have given a better idea of the challenges and limitations to investigations, particularly genetics tests, for the busy clinician, outside the bigger cities and tertiary centres such as Mumbai and relevant hospitals where the authors work and practise.

Minor mistakes noted in the book on pages 362 and 363 where the legend for the MRI scan and photograph is interchanged for Figure 31.2 and 31.3, though the readers are directed to appropriate photographs in the text.

This book sets the scene within the paediatric neuromuscular field in the Asian subcontinent of regional expertise within the field.

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