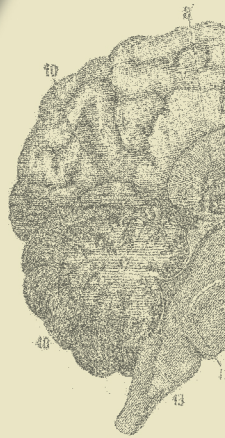
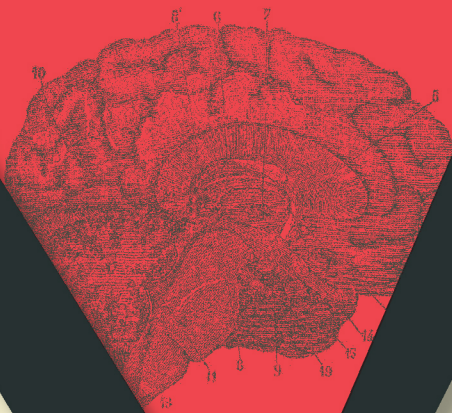


MASTERPASS

Essential Revision Notes in Clinical Neurology

Hani TS Benamer



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Radcliffe Publishing

London • New York

Radcliffe Publishing Ltd
33–41 Dallington Street
London
EC1V 0BB
United Kingdom

www.radcliffepublishing.com

Electronic catalogue and worldwide online ordering facility.

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British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

ISBN-13: 978 184619 529 7

The paper used for the text pages of this book is FSC® certified. FSC (The Forest Stewardship Council®) is an international network to promote responsible management of the world's forests.



Typeset by Darkriver Design, Auckland, New Zealand
Printed and bound by TJI Digital, Padstow, Cornwall, UK

Contents

<i>About the author</i>	vii
<i>Preface</i>	viii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	x
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xi
Part I Introduction to clinical neurology	1
1 The neurological consultation	3
2 History	5
3 Basic neuroanatomy	6
4 Mental state examination	9
5 Examination of the speech	11
6 Cranial nerves examination	14
7 Upper limbs examination	17
8 Lower limbs examination	19
9 Points to remember	21
10 Sensory examination	23

11	Gait examination	25
12	Neurological investigations	27
Part II Neurological signs		31
13	Cranial nerve disorders	33
14	Common neurological patterns	43
15	Peripheral nerve lesions	47
16	Coma (unconsciousness)	51
Part III Neurological problems and diseases – the big five		53
17	Headache	55
18	Epilepsy	61
19	Stroke	75
20	Parkinson's disease	82
21	Multiple sclerosis	90
Part IV Neurological problems and diseases – others		97
22	Infections of the central nervous system	99
23	Guillain–Barré syndrome	103
24	Myasthenia gravis	105
25	Motor neurone disease	108
26	Dementia	110
27	Intracranial tumours	114
28	Head injury	117
29	Other neurological disorders	121
	<i>Index</i>	129

About the author

After graduating from Tripoli, Libya, in 1990, Hani came to the United Kingdom in 1991 to further his training in medicine. He obtained the MRCP (Membership of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom) in 1994 and trained in neurology at the Institute of Neurological Sciences in Glasgow. He obtained a PhD and CCST (Certificate of Completion of Specialist Training) in neurology in 2000, and was appointed a consultant neurologist in Wolverhampton and Birmingham the same year. He has been the lead neurologist at New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton since 2006.

Hani has an interest in medical education, and obtained a post-graduate certificate in the field from Keele University, Staffordshire, in 2007. He has published more than 30 papers, and is currently one of the editors of the *Libyan Journal of Medicine*. He was also an examiner for the MRCP (UK) Diploma from 2005 to 2009.

Preface

Neurological disorders account for 10% of consultations in primary care and 20% of acute hospital admissions. However, there is good evidence that 'neurophobia' is common among medical students leading to the well-established reputation of neurology being a difficult subject. One of the reasons for the neurophobia is the ease with which medical students can get lost in unnecessary details, not concentrating on the most common and basic neurological problems – that is, getting bogged down in detail! This book was put together to help overcome this problem.

Essential Revision Notes in Clinical Neurology is limited to the fundamental knowledge of common and important neurological disorders, hence omitting the unnecessary details or subjects. The book is divided into four sections: Part I introduces the reader to clinical neurology by covering the basic aspects of a neurological consultation, including history and examination; Part II covers neurological signs related to cranial nerves, motor and sensory system and peripheral nerve lesions; Part III covers the major and common neurological problems and diseases (the big five – headache, epilepsy, stroke, Parkinson's disease and multiple sclerosis); Part IV covers other main neurological problems and diseases.

Deliberately, this book contains no diagrams or photos! There is a plethora of excellent neurology textbooks on the market that contain

all the classic neurological diagrams such as different types of visual field defects. In the era of the internet, looking at clinical signs such as cranial nerve palsy in printed format is probably less useful than looking at live records on YouTube.

This book is targeted towards medical students and can be used for revision. However, it could also be useful as a first read if the learner has some background knowledge in neurology through attending neurology lectures, bedside teaching and outpatient clinics during the internal medicine and neurology attachments.

I hope the book lives up to its aim of detailing basic principles while omitting unnecessary details and, therefore, I also hope it proves to be good company for medical students, as well as helping to demystify neurology.

Hani TS Benamer

June 2011

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Dr John Winer, who kindly provided me with constructive comments on the manuscript.

Abbreviations

ABC	Airway, Breathing, Circulation
AD	Alzheimer's disease
ADEM	acute disseminated encephalomyelitis
AED	antiepileptic drug
APD	afferent pupillary defect
CIDP	chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculoneuropathy
CMT	Charcot–Marie–Tooth disease
CNS	central nervous system
COMT	catechol-O-methyl transferase
CSF	cerebrospinal fluid
CT	computerised tomography
CTA	computerised tomographic angiography
CTV	computerised tomographic venogram
CVST	cerebrovenous sinus thrombosis
ECG	electrocardiogram
EEG	electroencephalogram
EMG	electromyography
ENT	ear, nose and throat
ESR	erythrocyte sedimentation rate
ET	essential tremor
GBS	Guillain–Barré syndrome

GCS	Glasgow Coma Scale
HD	Huntington's disease
IV	intravenous
LMN	lower motor neurone
LP	lumbar puncture
MAOB	monoamine oxidase B
MG	myasthenia gravis
MND	motor neurone disease
MRA	magnetic resonance angiography
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
MRV	magnetic resonance venogram
MS	multiple sclerosis
NCS	nerve conduction study
NMO	neuromyelitis optica
PCR	polymerase chain reaction
PD	Parkinson's disease
PET	positron emission tomography
PNS	peripheral nervous system
RAPD	relative afferent pupillary defect
SPECT	single-photon emission computerised tomography
SUDEP	sudden unexpected death in epilepsy
TBM	tuberculous meningitis
TIA	transient ischaemic attack
UMN	upper motor neurone

*To the two stars of my life,
my sons: Sherief and Aly*



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