

Book Review

CLINICAL NEUROANATOMY, 26TH EDITION

edited by Stephen G. Waxman, 384 pp., McGraw-Hill, 2010, \$54.95

Basic clinical neuroanatomy is an essential topic not only for the neurologist but also for any individual in medicine. *Clinical Neuroanatomy, 26th edition* is easy to read, provides just enough detail, and comes in a well-organized package. The 26th edition brings with it color images and an online learning center, and it continues to maintain the popular case studies and clinical correlations of previous editions. Dr. Stephen Waxman, Professor of Neurology at Yale University School of Medicine, produces a concise reference that is appropriate as a resource for the medical student as well as an in-depth review source for the neurology resident or fellow.

The book is organized into 7 sections ranging from the development and basic structure and function of the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves to the functional systems within the nervous system, and finally the diagnostic testing used in neurology. The content encompasses the entire nervous system, and it is a helpful review source for the medical school neuroscience examinations, the RITE examination, or the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology board examination. The text is supplemented by schematic illustrations, electron micrographs, CTs, MRIs, and ample tables that among other topics cover CSF findings, cranial nerves, reflexes, and the major pathways. Intermixed within

each chapter are clinical vignettes related to the content material as well as sections on clinical correlations. This is beneficial for the reader as it helps to tie in the material to the case at hand and allow for better learning. Should the reader desire to further investigate a subject, there are complete lists of references found at the end of each section. At the end of the book, there is a section in which each of the cases within is discussed in detail. There is also a section giving the components of a detailed neurologic examination, complete with illustrations for testing muscle function. A final beneficial supplement is the Question and Answer section found at the end of the book.

One of the downfalls of this book is that it is lacking in discussion of neurologic disorders seen in children. Incorporating neuromuscular diseases into the section in which muscles and motor units are discussed would be beneficial. Also, the basics of EEGs are discussed, but not seizures. These topics could be reviewed in case studies as well. There are no case studies in which children are the subject.

Clinical Neuroanatomy has clearly shown its importance in the education of medical professionals in that this is the 26th edition. Well-written and concise, it should continue to stand the test of time.

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