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J. D. Pickard, Cambridge (Editor-in-Chief),
N. Akalan, Ankara, C. Di Rocco, Roma,
V. V. Dolenc, Ljubljana, R. Fahlbusch, Erlangen,
J. Lobo Antunes, Lisbon, M. Sindou, Lyon,
N. de Tribolet, Lausanne, C. A. F. Tulleken, Utrecht

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Preface

As an addition to the European postgraduate training system for young neurosurgeons, we began to publish in 1974 this series of *Advances and Technical Standards in Neurosurgery* which was later sponsored by the European Association of Neurosurgical Societies.

This series was first discussed in 1972 at a combined meeting of the Italian and German Neurosurgical Societies in Taormina, the founding fathers of the series being Jean Brihaye, Bernard Pertuiset, Fritz Loew and Hugo Krayenbuhl. Thus were established the principles of European co-operation which have been born from the European spirit, flourished in the European Association, and have been associated throughout with this series.

The fact that the English language is now the international medium for communication at European scientific conferences is a great asset in terms of mutual understanding. Therefore we have decided to publish all contributions in English, regardless of the native language of the authors.

All contributions are submitted to the entire editorial board before publication of any volume for scrutiny and suggestions for revision.

Our series is not intended to compete with the publications of original scientific papers in other neurosurgical journals. Our intention is, rather, to present fields of neurosurgery and related areas in which important recent advances have been made. The contributions are written by specialists in the given fields and constitute the first part of each volume.

In the second part of each volume, we publish detailed descriptions of standard operative procedures and in depth reviews of established knowledge in all aspects of neurosurgery, furnished by experienced clinicians. This part is intended primarily to assist young neurosurgeons in their postgraduate training. However, we are convinced that it will also be useful to experienced, fully trained neurosurgeons.

We hope therefore that surgeons not only in Europe, but also throughout the world, will profit by this series of *Advances and Technical Standards in Neurosurgery*.

The Editors

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surgery, Medical School Hospital, Hôpital Pellegrin, Bordeaux, France, ² Neuro-rehabilitation Unit, Medical School Hospital, Hôpital Pellegrin, Bordeaux, France, ³ Department of Pediatric Urology, Medical School Hospital, Hôpital Pellegrin, Bordeaux, France

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- Besser, M., T. Y. Nelson Departments of Neurosurgery and Neurology, Institute of Clinical Neurosciences, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, Australia
- Chiaretti, A., Paediatric Intensive Care Unit, Catholic University Medical School, Rome, Italy
- Dardis, R., Section of Neurosurgery, Department of Clinical Neurosciences, King's College, London, UK
- De Seze, M., Neurorehabilitation Unit, Medical School Hospital, Hôpital Pellegrin, Bordeaux Cedex, France
- Dobremez, E., Department of Pediatric Urology, Medical School Hospital, Hôpital Pellegrin, Bordeaux Cedex, France
- Guérin, J., Department of Neurosurgery, Medical School Hospital, Hôpital Pellegrin, Bordeaux Cedex, France
- Halmagyi, G. M., T. Y. Nelson Departments of Neurosurgery and Neurology, Institute of Clinical Neurosciences, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, Australia
- Higgins, J. N., Department of Neuroradiology, Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, UK
- Hummel, T., Smell and Taste Clinic, Department of Otolaryngology, University of Dresden Medical School, Dresden, Germany
- Johnston, I. H., T. Y. Nelson Departments of Neurosurgery and Neurology, Institute of Clinical Neurosciences, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, Australia
- Joseph, P. A., Neurorehabilitation Unit, Medical School Hospital, Hôpital Pellegrin, Bordeaux Cedex, France
- Lacroix, J.-S., Unité de Rhinologie-Olfactologie, Service d' Oto-Rhinologie-Laryngologie, Hopitaux Universitaires de Genève, Genève, Switzerland
- Landis, B. N., Smell and Taste Clinic, Department of Otolaryngology, University of Dresden Medical School, Dresden, Germany
- Langer, A., Paediatric Intensive Care Unit, Catholic University Medical School, Rome, Italy
- Lopes da Silva, F. H., Section Neurobiology, Swammerdam Institute for Life Sciences, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Owler, B. K., Department of Surgery, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia

- Parker, G., Department of Radiology, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, Australia
- Pickard, J. D., Department of Neurosurgery, Academic Neurosurgical Unit, University of Cambridge, Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, UK
- Strong, A. J., Section of Neurosurgery, Department of Clinical Neurosciences, King's College, London, UK
- Vignes, J. R., Department of Neurosurgery, Medical School Hospital, Hôpital Pellegrin, Bordeaux Cedex, France

Advances