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Sponsored by the
European Association of Neurosurgical Societies

Advances
and Technical Standards
in Neurosurgery

Vol. 32

Edited by

J. D. Pickard, Cambridge (Editor-in-Chief),
N. Akalan, Ankara, C. Di Rocco, Roma,
V. V. Dolenc, Ljubljana, J. Lobo Antunes, Lisbon,
J. J. A. Mooij, Groningen, J. Schramm, Bonn,
M. Sindou, Lyon

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With 95 Figures (thereof 50 coloured)

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© 2007 Springer-Verlag/Wien
Printed in Austria

SpringerWienNewYork is part of Springer Science Business Media
springeronline.com

Library of Congress Catalogue Card Number 74-10499

Typesetting: Thomson Press, Chennai, India
Printing: Druckerei Theiss GmbH, 9431 St. Stefan, Austria, www.theiss.at

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Printed on acid-free and chlorine-free bleached paper

SPIN: 11896692

ISSN 0095-4829

ISBN 978-3-211-47416-7 SpringerWienNewYork

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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List of Contributors

- De Jongste, M. J. L., Department of Cardiology, Thorax Center, University Medical Center Groningen, PO Box 3001, 9700 RB Groningen, The Netherlands
- De Vries, J., University Hospital Groningen, PO Box 30001, 9700 RB Groningen, The Netherlands
- Dhellemmes, P., Clinique de Neurochirurgie, Unite Pediatrique, Hopital Roger Salengro, CHRU, 59037 Lille-Cedex, France
- Fournier, H.-D., Laboratoire d'Anatomie, Faculté de Médecine, rue haute de reculée, 49100 Angers, France
- Haase, J., Department of Neurosurgery, Aalborg University, Frederik Bajers vej 7D1, 9220 Aalborg, Denmark
- Hamel, O., Service de Neurotraumatologie, Hôtel Dieu 2 place Alexis Ricordeau, CHU Nantes, 44035 Nantes Cedex 01, France
- Kanpolat, Y., Department of Neurosurgery, School of Medicine, University of Ankara, Inkilap Sokak No. 24/4 Kizilay, 06640 Ankara, Turkey
- Khalfallah, M., Service de Neurochirurgie, Centre Hospitalier de la côte Basque 14, Avenue Jacques Loeb, BP8 64109 Bayonne, France
- Labat, J. J., Service d'Urologie, Hôtel Dieu 2 place Alexis Ricordeau, CHU Nantes, 44035 Nantes Cedex 01, France
- Lobo Antunes, J., Hospital de Santa Maria, Univ. de Lisboa Neurocirurgia, Av. Prof. Egas Moniz, 1699 Lisboa Codex, Portugal
- Mercier, P., Laboratoire d'Anatomie, Faculté de Médecine, rue haute de reculée, 49100 Angers, France
- Riant, T., Service de Neurotraumatologie, Hôtel Dieu 2 place Alexis Ricordeau, CHU Nantes, 44035 Nantes Cedex 01, France
- Robert, R., Service de Neurotraumatologie, Hôtel Dieu 2 place Alexis Ricordeau, CHU Nantes 44035 Nantes Cedex 01, France
- Roche, P.-H., Service de neurochirurgie, Hospital Sainte Marguerite, 270 Boulevard Sainte Marguerite, 13274 Marseille Cedex 2, France
- Spincemaille, G., University Hospital Maastricht, PO Box 5800, 6202 AZ Maastricht, The Netherlands
- Staal, M. J., Department of Neurosurgery, University Medical Center Groningen, PO Box 30001, Groningen, The Netherlands
- Vinchon, M., Pediatric Neurosurgery, Lille University Hospital, Lille-Cedex, France