
BOOK REVIEWS

Furie K. L., Kelly P. J., editors

Handbook of Stroke Prevention in Clinical Practice

Humana Press Inc., Totowa, New Jersey, 2004. ISBN: 1-58829-158-8, E-ISBN: 1-59259-769-6

The vast literature on cerebrovascular disease has obtained a new specific item, devoted to prevention. It has 310 pages in hard envelop and an Adobe eBook version added on a CD-ROM. In addition to both editors 19 further authors contributed to the 17 chapters included in the book. These authors come from Boston with the exclusion of 3 – from Dublin, London and Tübingen. Rich references are attached to each chapter and an Index of 4 pages is at the end of the book. A number of tables and several diagrams increase the clarity of the text.

The core of the book is anchored in 5 chapters on particular major risk factors (hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and diabetes, tobacco with alcohol and obesity /sedentary life style). All of these are thoroughly analyzed in subcategories and the text contains a great deal of therapeutic recommendations. The 2 introductory chapters before them cover Epidemiology of stroke and the clinical view of Ischemic stroke subtypes. Other chapters are devoted to secondary prevention of stroke using Antiplatelet therapy, Hormonal therapy and Recanalization procedures on large arteries. The latter ones are reviewed with regards to diagnostics, in

regard to the impact of carotid stenosis on cerebral perfusion and in the curative aspect carotid endarterectomy and endovascular stenting/angioplasty are discussed. Two chapters handle Cardiac or Cryptogenic embolism and the 3 concluding chapters review Perioperative stroke risk assessment, Prediction of stroke risk using biomarkers and Genetic susceptibility of stroke risk.

Reading this book is rewarding for neurologists, stroke experts, and internal medicine specialists engaged in atherosclerosis and angiopathies, for general practitioners, neurosurgeons, as well as for managers, dietetic specialists and physiotherapists. It gives account an all the important factors producing atherosclerotic and non-atherosclerotic large and small vessel disease and still in a very concise manner. The text is clear, running rapidly forward. I found delight in reading this book. It can be recommended to everybody, who is willing to improve his accuracy and expertise in preventive treatment of his aging patients.

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