

**Essentials of Pediatric Neurology****BIBEK TALUKDAR***Peepee Publisher, New Delhi**Pages: 584; Price: Rs. 795/-.*

This book is a valuable addition to Indian medical literature. Pediatric Neurology is a relatively new discipline and is in the process of consolidation, with DM and DNB programs being initiated in different parts of India. There is need for new trained manpower to maintain and develop pediatric Neurology. Effective teachers and books are necessary, to draw young residents and students to this upcoming discipline. An Indian book on Pediatric Neurology is needed, which not only makes the reader interested but also address to the regional pediatric neurology issues. The book nicely fills this gap.

The book has six sections which naturally flow from one to the other. The first section details the clinical evaluation and investigations, imaging, stroke, electroencephalography, nerve conduction and evoked potential study and special issues with neonatal neurophysiology. The second section deals with developmental disorder including congenital malformation, attention and hyperkinetic disorders, autism, learning disorders, intellectual disability disorders and finally a chapter on approach to a child with neurodevelopmental delay. The third section deals with seizures and epilepsies and describes various types of seizure in children. There is also a chapter on pediatric status epilepticus. This section concludes with a chapter on approach to children with seizure and epilepsy. The fourth section deals with encephalopathy, neuropathy and neuromuscular disorders which deals with a wide variety of subjects like cerebral palsy, movement disorders, demyelinating disorders, Guillane Barre syndrome, Spinal muscle atrophy and neuromuscular junction disorders. The fifth section deals with infections and includes chapters on bacterial meningitis, viral meningitis, encephalitis, including Japanese encephalitis, polio, malaria and neurocysticercosis. The sixth section includes the miscellaneous disorders such as headache, stroke,

neuromuscular syndrome neuro-degenerative disease, hydrocephalus. The last chapter of this section is about dosage of drugs in pediatric practice. Most of the sections have a concluding chapter by the editor himself giving an overview based on his rich clinical experience on the respective subject thereby maintaining uniformity and conveying a mature clinical approach directly to the readers. Multiple authors are necessary in the increasingly complex medical specialty and conveying different view points and diversity of approaches whereas single author books convey a more focussed personalized approach, directly to the readers. This book has contribution from a large number of authors and overview of editor in a concluding chapter which has complimentary dual advantage. Each chapter is well referenced and amply illustrated with numerous clinical photographs, imaging findings and tables which make the reading effective and add to the value of book. The main focus of the book is clinical bedside application although basic issues have also been given due importance. Most of the conditions important in Indian context have been given due importance. Time is determinant of growth and development which applies to this book also; the present edition is larger than earlier ones, and the future editions are likely to be bigger to accommodate the growing information and developments. I hope to see a section of pediatric neurocritical care and cost effective medicine in subsequent edition of this book.

The authors of different chapters are mainly from New Delhi but are experienced, knowledgeable and have taken great care to write their chapters. This book will be useful for pediatrics, neurology and neurosurgery residents, student and consultants and anyone dealing with neurological disorders in children.

This book will not only be useful for Indian readers but also to neighboring SARC and south Asian readers where clinical requirements and practice conditions are similar to ours.

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