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Epilepsy

Second Edition

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WILEY Blackwell

This edition first published 2021

Edition History

John Wiley & Sons (1e, 2011)

Registered Office(s)

John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 111 River Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030, USA

John Wiley & Sons Ltd, The Atrium, Southern Gate, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 8SQ, UK

Editorial Office

9600 Garsington Road, Oxford, OX4 2DQ, UK

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Wiley also publishes its books in a variety of electronic formats and by print-on-demand. Some content that appears in standard print versions of this book may not be available in other formats.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Cascino, Gregory, editor. | Sirven, Joseph I., editor. | Tatum,William O., IV, editor. Title: Epilepsy / edited by Dr Gregory D. Cascino, Dr Joseph I. Sirven, Dr William O. Tatum.Other titles: Adult epilepsyDescription: Second edition. | Hoboken, NJ : Wiley-Blackwell, 2021. |Preceded by Adult epilepsy / edited by Gregory D. Cascino and Joseph ISirven. 2011. | Includes bibliographical references and index. Identifiers: LCCN 2020027892 (print) | LCCN 2020027893 (ebook) | ISBN 9781119431824 (cloth) | ISBN 9781119431930 (Adobe PDF) | ISBN 9781119432005 (epub)Subjects: MESH: Epilepsy Classification: LCC RC372.3 (print) | LCC RC372.3 (ebook) | NLM WL 385 | DDC 616.85/3–dc23 LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2020027892LC ebook record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2020027893

Cover Design: Wiley

Cover Image: © Andrus Ciprian/Shutterstock

This book is dedicated to Dr. Frank W. Sharbrough who, approximately 50 years ago, developed a contemporary epilepsy surgery program at the Mayo Clinic. Frank was a pioneer in EEG monitoring techniques and involved in innovations in electrocorticography, neuroimaging and surgical strategies. He was a Mayo Clinic “distinguished clinician” and adored by his patients and their families. His lasting legacy is the integration of multiple disciplines including neurosurgery, neuroradiology and basic research at our institution in the care and management of people with epilepsy. Frank embodied the basic concept inherent in a successful epilepsy center: “the power of talent and teamwork.”

Preface

This book represents the efforts of the Mayo Clinic Epilepsy Enterprise encompassing colleagues at the three comprehensive Level IV epilepsy programs in Jacksonville, FL., Phoenix, AZ., and Rochester, MN. The authors of this monograph are actively involved in patient care, clinical research and education at the Mayo Clinic and our associated institutions including the Mayo Clinic Health System. Individuals from multiple disciplines including pediatric and adult epilepsy, EEG, autoimmune neurology, sleep medicine, neurosurgery, neuroradiology, and basic research dedicated to the care and management of people with epilepsy contributed material to the chapters. Every attempt has been made to provide a contemporary and current presentation addressing challenging diagnostic and therapeutic issues that confront the healthcare provider evaluating patients with suspected seizure disorders. Moreover, our epilepsy journey sections that accompany many of our chapters, provide a glimpse into the decision-making process that our authors utilize in managing complex epilepsy patients. The goal of any such book is to become a *trusted, dependable and used* guide providing a reliable source of *useful* information that improves the quality of life of people with epilepsy. Our hope is that we have accomplished that goal!

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July 2019

Foreword

I'm delighted to hear that this book will be dedicated to Dr. Frank Wilson Sharbrough III on his 50th anniversary of joining the Mayo Clinic. Frank certainly deserves this honor. Frank is both an outstanding neurologist as well as an accomplished electroencepahlographer. Once he joined the Mayo Clinic in the late 1960s, he rapidly absorbed the philosophy of the “Mayo Clinic school of electroencephalography” and was one of the most distinguished and beloved EEG teachers. However, in addition, he maintained and grew his clinical skills, particularly in epilepsy. These qualifications put him in an ideal position to pioneer an epilepsy surgery program at the Mayo clinic that now has grown to become one of the leading epilepsy surgery programs in the USA.

I was fortunate to have Frank as my EEG teacher during the four years I spent in Rochester studying clinical neurophysiology. Frank always had time to answer my questions and to review an “interesting” EEG. Besides, integrating the EEG findings with the actual clinical situation, made his teachings particularly valuable. There is no doubt that Frank's teachings greatly influenced the development of EEG and Epilepsy in the USA as well as worldwide. We certainly feel privileged and most thankful for his mentorship.

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