

Clinical Evaluation and Management of Spasticity

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Clinical Evaluation and Management of Spasticity

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Preface

Clinical Evaluation and Management of Spasticity aims to be an authoritative resource for practitioners interested in learning more about the management of spasticity. Given the recent advances in treatment, there has for some time been a need for a text devoted entirely to this topic. This is the first such volume.

This book is divided into three sections, each intended to allow one to refer quickly to management strategies for specific neurologic diseases as well as specific treatment modalities.

The first section reviews basic concepts in spasticity, including the physiology and pharmacology of spasticity, the clinical evaluation of spasticity, and an overview of the clinical features and principles in the management of spasticity.

The second section outlines current treatments for spasticity. It covers such topics as physical and occupational therapy approaches, splinting and orthotics, electrical stimulation, orthopedic interventions, nerve blocks, use of botulinum toxin, specific medical interventions, including novel treatments such as tizanidine, and the use of intrathecal medications and neurosurgical interventions.

The final section reviews a coordinated approach to the treatment of spasticity and specific neurologic diseases, including spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, stroke, cerebral palsy, and traumatic brain injury. The chapters herein provide a framework for physicians to develop a care plan for patients with these disorders. Spasticity is often a poorly treated manifestation of many neurologic disorders, and it is our hope that this book will become the definitive reference to the management and treatment of spasticity, and will ultimately lead to the improvement of patient care.

David A. Gelber, MD
Douglas R. Jeffery, MD, PhD

Contents

Preface	v
Contributors	ix
<i>Part I Basic Concepts of Spasticity</i>	
1 Physiology and Pharmacology of Spasticity	3
<i>Robert R. Young</i>	
2 Clinical Features of Spasticity and Principles of Treatment	13
<i>Alex W. Dromerick</i>	
3 Measurement of Spasticity	27
<i>David C. Good</i>	
<i>Part II Treatment Modalities</i>	
4 Physical and Occupational Approaches	47
<i>Susan H. Pierson</i>	
5 Orthotic Management	67
<i>Géza F. Kogler</i>	
6 Electrical Stimulation	93
<i>Peter W. Rossi</i>	
7 Baclofen	103
<i>Eric P. Bastings and Amelito Malapira</i>	
8 Tizanidine	125
<i>David A. Gelber</i>	
9 Benzodiazepines	137
<i>Herbert I. Karpatkin and Mindy Lipson Aisen</i>	
10 Dantrolene	147
<i>Walter S. Davis</i>	
11 Alternative Pharmacologic Therapies	151
<i>Joni Clark</i>	
12 Nerve Blocks	159
<i>David S. Rosenblum</i>	

13 Botulinum Toxins 173
Lauren C. Seeberger and Christopher F. O'Brien

14 Intrathecal Medications 187
Randall T. Schapiro

15 Orthopedic Interventions for the Management
of Limb Deformities in Upper Motoneuron Syndromes 197
Mary Ann E. Keenan and Patrick J. McDauid

16 Neurosurgical Management 257
Jose A. Espinosa

*Part III A Coordinated Approach to the Treatment
of Spasticity in Neurologic Diseases*

17 Management of Spasticity in Children
with Cerebral Palsy 269
*Carol Green, Daniel R. Cooperman, Susan E. Gara,
and Carrie Proch*

18 The Evaluation and Treatment of Spasticity in Patients
with Multiple Sclerosis 287
Douglas R. Jeffery

19 The Development and Management of Spasticity
Following Traumatic Brain Injury 305
Patricia B. Jozefczyk

20 Spasticity in Spinal Cord Injury:
A Clinician's Approach 353
Kurt Fiedler and Douglas R. Jeffery

Index 369

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