

Advances and Technical Standards in Neurosurgery

Edited by

L. Symon, London (Editor-in-Chief)

L. Calliau, Gent.

F. Cohadon, Bordeaux

V. V. Dolenc, Ljubljana

J. Lobo Antunes, Lisboa

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Valedictory Note

It has been both an honour and a privilege to serve as Chief Editor of *Advances and Technical Standards in Neurosurgery* for the past ten years. During that time it has been a pleasure to work with distinguished colleagues from all over Europe and the yearly Editorial Board Meetings in London have enabled us to continue the tasks set by the founding members of the Board under Hugo Krayenbühl's direction. The increasing integration of Europe has seen the aims of those founding members and of their successors of increasing standards of education throughout Europe more readily realizable, and this progress will clearly continue.

The excellence of our publishers, Springer-Verlag of Vienna has maintained an impeccable standard of production and has been of inestimable value to us throughout.

With my retirement from active practice in 1995 it is a great pleasure to hand over the Chief Editorship to Professeur François Cohadon knowing that with the support of a distinguished group of co-editors from all over Europe, his task will prove as successful and as pleasurable as has been my own.

Lindsay Symon
CBE, TD, FRCS, FRCS (Ed), FACS (Hon)
Editor-in-Chief

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 Krayenbühl. Thus were established the principles of European co-operation which have been born from the European spirit, flourished in the European Association, and have throughout been associated with this series.

The fact that the English language is well on the way to becoming the international medium 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.

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, furnished by experienced clinicians; in these articles the authors describe the techniques they employ and explain the advantages, difficulties and risks involved in the various procedures. 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.

The descriptions of standard operative procedures are a novel feature of our series. We intend that this section should make available the findings of European neurosurgeons, published perhaps in less familiar languages, to neurosurgeons beyond the boundaries of the authors' countries and of Europe. We will however from time to time bring to the notice of our European colleagues, operative procedures from colleagues in the United

States and Japan, who have developed techniques which may now be regarded as standard. Our aim throughout is to promote contacts among neurosurgeons in Europe and throughout the world neurosurgical community in general.

We hope therefore that surgeons not only in Europe, but throughout the world will profit by this series of Advances and Technical Standards in Neurosurgery.

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A. Advances

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