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

The fact that the English language is now the international medium for communication 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 for scrutiny and suggestions for revision.

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 and in depth reviews of established knowledge in all aspects of neurosurgery, furnished by experienced clinicians. 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.

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

The Editors

Contents

List of Contributors	XV
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Advances

The transition from child to adult in neurosurgery. M. VINCHON and P. DHELLEMES, Pediatric Neurosurgery, Lille University Hospital, Lille-Cedex, France

Abstract	3
Introduction	4
Example of three groups of patients	5
Tumors	6
Personal series	6
Survival and oncological outcome	10
Functional outcome	10
Implications for initial treatment of the tumor	12
Myelomeningocele	13
Personal series	13
Discussion	14
Hydrocephalus	15
Personal series	15
Discussion	17
Shunt outcome	17
Intellectual outcome	18
Organization of the transition from child to adult in neurosurgery	19
Relation of pediatric to adult neurosurgery	19
Offer/demand of care	20
Networking	21
Conclusion	21
References	22

Conflicts of interest in medical practice. J. LOBO ANTUNES, Department of Neurosurgery, University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal

Abstract	25
The ethical paradox	26
The conflicts of interest	27
Financial conflicts	28
Intellectual conflicts	29
Conflicts in surgery	29
Conflicts in academic duties	30
The relationship with industry	31
Conflicts over communication	34
Conclusions	35
References	37

Neurosurgical treatment of perineal neuralgias. R. ROBERT¹, J. J. LABAT², T. RIAN¹, M. KHALFALLAH³, and O. HAMEL¹, ¹Service de Neurotraumatologie, Nantes, France, ²Service d'Urologie, Nantes, France, ³Service de Neurochirurgie, Centre Hospitalier de la côte Basque, Bayonne, France

Abstract	42
Introduction	42
Anatomy, pathology and nosology	43
Neuropathic somatic perineal pain	43
Neuropathic visceral pain	43
Myofascial pain	43
Pudendal nerve entrapment	43
Clinical features	43
Anatomical datas	44
Neurophysiological data	46
Radiological data	46
Treatment	47
Results	51
Randomized prospective controlled trial	51
Method	51
Results	52
Retrospective study	53
Comments	55
Other diagnoses	56
Conclusion	57
References	58

Spinal cord stimulation for ischemic heart disease and peripheral vascular disease.J. DE VRIES¹, M. J. L. DE JONGSTE¹, G. SPINCEMAILLE², and M. J. STAAL³,¹Department of Cardiology, Thoraxcenter, University Medical Center Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands, ²Department of Neurosurgery, University Medical Center Maastricht, Maastricht, The Netherlands, ³Department of Neurosurgery, University Medical Center Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands

Abstract	64
Preface	65
Part I: Spinal cord stimulation for ischemic heart disease (<i>J. de Vries, M. J. L. De Jongste, and M. J. Staal</i>)	66
Introduction: Background and definition	66
History of neuromodulation for ischemic heart disease	67
Effects of SCS	68
The analgesic effect	68
The antiischemic effect	68
Mechanisms of action of spinal cord stimulation	69
At the level of the central nervous system	69
At the cardiac level	69
Patients selection	70
Implantation technique	71
Cost-effectiveness	73
Conclusions	74
Part II: Spinal cord stimulation for peripheral vascular disease (<i>G. Spincemaille and M. Staal</i>).	75
Introduction: Background and history	75
Mechanisms of action	76
Patients selection	77
Clinical studies/level of evidence	81
Implantation technique	82
Cost-effectiveness	83
Conclusions	84
References	84

Surgical anatomy of the petrous apex and petroclival region. H.-D. FOURNIER²,P. MERCIER², and P.-H. ROCHE¹, ¹Departement de Neurochirurgie, Hôpital SaintMarguerite, Marseille, France, ²Departement de Neurochirurgie, Laboratoire d'Anatomie, Faculté de Médecine, Angers, France

Abstract	92
Introduction	92
Topographic anatomy	94
Petrous apex and its relationships within the petrous complex	95
Superior aspect of the middle cranial fossa	95

Posterior aspect of the petrous pyramid	97
Intrapetrous cavities and their relationships	97
Contents of the petroclival region	108
The cisterns	108
Oculomotor nerve	108
Trochlear nerve	110
Trigeminal nerve	110
Abducens nerve	110
Acousticofacial bundles	111
The brain stem	111
Surgical anatomy	111
Skull base anatomy and triangles	112
The triangles from the parasellar subregion	112
The limits of the triangles from the middle cranial fossa subregion	113
The triangles from the petroclival subregion	113
The petrous bone segmentation	113
Classification of the approaches	114
Lateral skull base approaches	116
Epidural subtemporal approaches: anterior and lateral skull base approaches	117
Middle fossa anterior transpetrosal approach (anterior petrosectomy)	117
Epidural temporopolar transcavernous middle fossa approach	124
Subtemporal preauricular infratemporal fossa approach (inferolateral)	132
Combined petrosal approaches	138
The combined retrolabyrinthine (anterior sigmoid)-middle fossa approach	138
Indications	143
Conclusions	144
References	144

Percutaneous destructive pain procedures on the upper spinal cord and brain stem in cancer pain: CT-guided techniques, indications and results. Y. KANPOLAT, Department of Neurosurgery, School of Medicine, Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey

Abstract	148
Introduction	148
CT-Guided percutaneous cordotomy	149
Anatomic target	150
Indications and contraindications	151
Technique	153
Preparation of the patient	153
Positioning	153
Anatomic localization with CT	154
Physiologic localization	155
Lesions	155

Contents	XI
Postoperative	156
Results and complications	157
CT-Guided trigeminal tractotomy-nucleotomy (TR-NC)	158
Anatomic target	158
Indications and contraindications	159
Technique	160
Preparation of the patient	160
Positioning	160
Anatomic localization with CT	160
Physiologic localization	162
Lesions	162
Postoperative	162
Results and complications	162
CT-Guided extralemniscal myelotomy	163
Anatomic target	165
Indications and contraindications	165
Technique	165
Preparation of the patient	165
Positioning	165
Anatomic localization with CT	165
Physiologic localization	166
Lesions	168
Postoperative	168
Results and complications	168
Conclusions	169
Acknowledgement	170
References	171

Carpal tunnel syndrome – a comprehensive review. J. HAASE, Department of Health Science and Technology, Aalborg University, Aalborg, Denmark

Abstract	178
Median nerve entrapments	178
Introduction	178
History of peripheral nerve surgery for CTS	179
Peripheral nerve anatomical structure	179
Carpal tunnel anatomy	180
Transverse carpal ligament (TCL)	181
The median nerve	183
Cutaneous innervations of the palm	185
The distal edge of the TCL	185
Carpal tunnel size – imaging	185
What is a carpal tunnel syndrome?	186
Pathophysiology of CTS	187
Definition of carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS) for epidemiological purposes	190

Incidence, prevalence and diagnostic epidemiology – important facts for diagnosing CTS.	191
Specificity and sensitivity of diagnostic procedures	191
Incidence	191
Prevalence	191
Diagnostic methods – and their validity	192
1. History taking – symptomatology	193
1) Age and family history?	195
2) Is the history of symptoms short- or long lasting and work-related?	195
3) Does the history include subjective symptoms like numbness, tingling and/or burning sensations of the hand involving the distal median nerve distribution?	196
4) What is the distribution and character of symptoms and are they worse with activity or at night?	196
5) Does the patient feel a weakness of the hand?	197
6) Is there a trauma?	197
7) Hand-diagrams – self-assessment	197
2. Clinical evaluation, “objective” signs	198
1) Anatomical deformity of wrists and range of motion	198
2) How is the sensibility?	199
3) Muscle function	200
3. Objective diagnostic tests – by tradition – but only partly objective	200
Neuro-provocative tests	200
Complementary findings	202
4. Imaging of the median nerve and carpal tunnel	202
Radiography and computerized tomography	203
Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)	203
Nuclide bone scans	205
Sonography	205
Wrist arthroscopy	206
5. Electrophysiology – neurophysiology	206
1) Electromyography (EMG)	206
2) Electroneurography (ENG).	207
3) Distal motor latency (DML).	208
Benefits and critical observations obtained from the use of neurophysiology	209
Stadium 1	212
Stadium 2	212
Stadium 3	212
Stadium 4	212
Conclusion.	213
Treatment of CTS	213
1. Non-operative or conservative treatment	214
Which are the conservative treatment options?	214
Job site alterations	214

Ergonomics	214
Nerve gliding promotion exercises	215
Manual therapy	215
Orthotics	215
Yoga techniques	215
Medications	215
Ultrasound	216
Acupuncture	216
Biofeedback	216
Micro-current TNS	216
Botulinum A (Botox [®] , Dysport [®]) injections	216
Corticosteroid injections	216
Local anaesthetics injections	216
2. Surgical – operative treatment	217
Surgical training for handling CTS surgery	218
Learning curves and the importance of learning surgical techniques	218
Anesthesia used for CTS surgery	219
1) Local anesthesia	220
2) Intravenous anesthesia, or local anesthesia eventually combined with tourniquet	220
3) General anesthesia	221
Surgical techniques	221
1a) Open surgery (OCTR)	221
1b) The minimal open technique – “Safeguard”	222
1c) The author’s personal surgical technique (learned and developed through a period of 40 years)	222
2. Endoscope techniques (ECTR)	225
a) <i>One-port technique</i> includes those described by Okutsu, Agee, Menon, Worsseg and Jimenez [1, 16, 54, 80, 90, 121]	226
b) <i>Two-port technique</i> : includes lesser different types	227
3. The blind “Paine” retinaculum technique	228
Complications to surgical treatment of CTS	228
A survey of the most common and serious complications to open surgery (OCTR)	229
Supplementary complications to the endoscope methods (ECTR)	229
Discussion on surgical techniques	230
What is a “good” result?	230
What is a surgical “failure”?	231
How to avoid the most common and serious complications?	232
Problems with skin incisions	232
Visualization of carpal tunnel – use of magnification	234
Haemostasis	234
TCL cutting	235
Infection	236
Pillar pain	236
Tendon adhesions	236

Lesion of vascular structures	237
Nerve lesions	237
Grip and Pinch strength.	238
Pain	239
Failed tract – false road.	239
Conclusion	240
References	243

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