

Book Review

Neurological Rehabilitation Principles & Practice (2nd Edition).

A.B. Taly, K.P. Sivaraman Nair, T. Murali, editors.

New Delhi: Ahuja Book Co. Pvt. Ltd.; 2001. 302 pp. illustrated, paperback. Rs 185.

The editors A.B. Taly, K.P. Sivaraman Nair and T. Murali are amongst the eminent faculty at the prestigious National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore, India. Taly and Murali have been engaged in Neuro-Psycho-Social Rehabilitation at busy institutional setting for over a decade. They roped in a plethora of specialists from India and abroad, coming from different fields viz., Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Neurology, Neurosurgery, Psychiatry, Urology etc. to contribute chapters on their special interest topics and came out with first edition of the book in 1998. This was a pioneering effort in the country and welcomed by not only physicians but also by paramedics engaged in neuro-rehabilitation. The second edition is a more than worthy successor to the first edition. There are many additions in this new edition with new chapters on biofeedback, orthotic management, geriatric rehabilitation and neuro-surgical aspect of cerebral palsy rehabilitation.

The first four chapters are introductory in nature. The reader is gradually initiated into details on different aspects of rehabilitation and neurological rehabilitation in particular, specially the concepts and dynamics of neurological rehabilitation. In different chapters psychosocial and vocational aspects of rehabilitation are also elaborated wherever applicable. In keeping with the ever-advancing technological scenario in the field of rehabilitation, chapters on balance rehabilitation and role of functional electrical

stimulation (still in experimental labs in India) in neurological rehabilitation are included. Integration of rehabilitation services into community-based rehabilitation has been elaborated upon with traumatic brain injury rehabilitation as model.

The appendices are a very useful source of information, specially the one on benefits for disabled in India. Other appendices depict line diagrams and colored plates explaining different procedures, complications, exercise techniques, adaptive devices and desirable & undesirable postures. At a few places some disparity is found in the description of the diagram but this anomaly will hopefully be corrected in the subsequent reprint or edition. In addition readability can also be improved with two-column format rather than a single column print at present.

Overall a useful quick reference for physiatrists, neurologists, neurosurgeons, psychiatrists in practice and other physicians dealing with patients requiring rehabilitation. It will also be found beneficial for in-training residents in these fields as an adjuvant to larger comprehensive texts. Color plates may also be used to explain different procedures and complications etc to the patients as well.

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