BuSpar (buspirone HCl)

Warning: The administration of BuSpar to a patient taking a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) may pose a hazard. Since blood pressure has become elevated when BuSpar was administered concurrently with MAOIs, the co-administration of MAOIs with BuSpar is not recommended. BuSpar should be used in the absence of appropriate antipsychotic treatment.

Precautions: General - interference with cognitive and motor performance: Although buspirone is less sedating than other anxiolytics and does not produce significant functional impairment, its CNS effects in a few patients may be so pronounced that the patient might be impaired in driving or operating complex machinery until they are reasonably certain that buspirone does not affect them adversely. Since buspirone has been shown to increase alcohol-induced impairment in motor and memory tasks, caution should be exercised in the use of alcohol with buspirone.

Precautions: General - potential for withdrawal reactions in sedative/hypnotic drug-dependent patients: Because BuSpar is a medication for anxiety, it may be beneficial to use for those patients who have had CNS depressant withdrawal symptoms over varying time periods, depending in part on the type of drug and its elimination half-life. The withdrawal syndrome can appear as any combination of irritability, anxiety, agitation, tremor, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, diaphoresis, autonomic instability, dysrhythmias. Clinical experience in controlled trials has failed to identify any significant neurologic toxicity activity; however, a syndrome of restlessness, appearing shortly after initiation of treatment, has been observed in rats and mice; buspirone did not induce poland mutations, nor was DNA damage observed; chromosome changes or abnormalities did not occur because buspirone may affect the CNS medullated or chronic changes in dopamine mediated neurological function (eg, dystonia, pseudoparkinsonism, akathisia, and tardive dyskinesia). Clinical experience in controlled trials has failed to identify any significant neurologic toxicity activity; however, a syndrome of restlessness, appearing shortly after initiation of treatment, has been observed in rats and mice; buspirone did not induce poland mutations, nor was DNA damage observed; chromosome changes or abnormalities did not occur. Pregnancy: Teratogenic Effects - Pregnancy Category B: Should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Mothers: Administration to nursing women should be avoided if clinically possible.

Pediatric Use: The safety and effectiveness have not been determined in individuals below 18 years of age.

Use in the Elderly: No unusual, adverse age-related phenomena have been identified in elderly patients receiving BuSpar for the treatment of anxiety.

Use in Patients with Impaired Hepatic or Renal Function: Since buspirone is metabolized by the liver and excreted by the kidney, it is not recommended in severely hepatic or renal impairment.

Adverse Effects: The more commonly observed adverse effects during controlled trials included nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, dizziness, drowsiness, lightheadedness, gastrointestinal disturbances (1.2%), primarily headache and backache. In addition, 3.4% of patients had multiple complaints evaluated as not related to the study drug: musculoskeletal: arthralgia, myalgia; dermatologic: rash, pruritus; CNS: irritability, dizziness, lightheadedness, fatigue, sedation, lethargy; gastrointestinal: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain; genitourinary: dysuria; dermatologic: rash, pruritus.

Incidence in Controlled Clinical Trials: Adverse events reported in one or more patients that were possibly related to the study drug included: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, lightheadedness; gastrointestinal disturbances (1.2%), primarily headache and backache. In addition, 3.4% of patients had multiple complaints evaluated as not related to the study drug: musculoskeletal: arthralgia, myalgia; dermatologic: rash, pruritus; CNS: irritability, dizziness, lightheadedness, fatigue, sedation, lethargy; gastrointestinal: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain; genitourinary: dysuria; dermatologic: rash, pruritus.

In general, the incidence of adverse effects was not significantly different between patients treated with BuSpar and those on placebo. In clinical trials with BuSpar, the most common adverse effects that were more frequent in BuSpar-treated patients than in placebo-treated patients were: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, flatulence, headache, lightheadedness, fatigue, urinary tract infections, cold intolerance, tremor, abdominal pain, back pain, arthralgia, myalgia, dysuria, rash, pruritus, rhinitis, cough, pharyngitis, pyrexia, fever, un-

Reference: Dr. ATUL C. MEHTA, MD, EDITOR

MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING OF THE BRAIN AND SPINE

Edited by Scott W. Atlas

Raven Press

MR AND CT IMAGING OF THE HEAD, NECK, AND SPINE, 2ND EDITION

Edited by Richard E. Latchaw

Mosby-Year Book

THE RAVEN MRI TEACHING FILE, MRI OF THE BRAIN, VOLUME 1: NON-INVASIVE DISEASE

Edited by William G. Bradley, Jr. and Michael Brant-Zawadski

Raven Press

Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the Brain and Spine, edited by Scott W. Atlas, and MR and CT Imaging of the Head, Neck, and Spine, 2nd Edition, edited by Richard E. Latchaw, are the best works to date on their topics. The books complement each other, and their intended audiences differ only slightly. Dr. Latchaw's is an all-encompassing neuroradiology textbook that discusses the diseases affecting the central nervous system and their various manifestations on both magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computed tomography (CT). This book is useful for neuroradiologists, but will be equally beneficial to general radiologists who want a comprehensive neuroradiology textbook, and to neurologists and neurosurgeons. Dr. Atlas' contribution is a comprehensive treatise on MRI as applied to the central nervous system. This text is an essential acquisition for neuroradiologists who desire to sharpen their understanding of MRI as it relates to diseases of the brain and spinal cord. For those without significant exposure to MRI physics, the treatment of the physics is not as easily understandable as that in Edelman and Hesselink's Clinical Magnetic Resonance Imaging; nevertheless, it is an excellent summary. Unlike Dr. Latchaw's book, Dr. Atlas' work does not include a discussion of ear, nose, and throat diseases below the skull floor. Both books are well written, illustrated, and referenced. I highly recommend them to the audiences detailed above. They will not be disappointed.

For the second edition of Head and Neck Imaging, Drs. Som and Bergeron have assembled authors who present their topic in a lucid manner, enabling the reader to grasp an understanding of difficult topics, such as congenital facial and temporal bone lesions. The book's 13 chapters cover the gamut of head and neck lesions. The first chapter discusses congenital lesions of the middle ear, beginning with a clear explanation of their embryology that makes subsequent radiographic analysis of the anomalies much easier to understand. The authors of this section of the book include two neuroradiologists, two plastic surgeons, an neurosurgeon, and an ophthalmologist. Their synthesis of this complex topic into a coherent whole is an ideal approach.

Dr. Som has contributed a definitive overview of imaging of the sinonasal cavity and a comprehensive treatment of the salivary glands. Temporomandibular joint (TMJ) imaging is covered in chapter 4. Co-authored by a radiologist and an orthodontist, this chapter gives the reader useful guidelines for the use of various imaging modalities for this increasingly important area. The relatively short chapter on the mandible em-
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single videodisc which allows an interactive approach. The images can be viewed with or without the clinical history or organ system orientation. An enticing option is available for this series: it has been reproduced on a 10-volume series The Raven MRI Teaching File is a departure from their usual textbook approach. The series editors, Drs. Luftkin, Bradley, and Brant-Zawadzki, have assembled well-known experts in their fields to present an overview of MRI in a teaching file format. The preface states that their intention is to enable practicing radiologists to become proficient in a technique to which they might not have had sufficient (or any) exposure during training. In MRI of the Brain, Volume 1: Non-neoplastic Disease, they have succeeded admirably. That should not surprise anyone who is familiar with the teaching techniques of Drs. Bradley and Brant-Zawadzki.

This volume, the first of two on non-neoplastic disease of the brain, focuses on traumatic, hemorrhagic, and vascular diseases of the intracranial contents, as well as on normal and abnormal flow patterns. Each of the 100 cases is organized so that the images and clinical history are on the left-hand page, and a description of the findings, the diagnosis, a discussion, and references are on the facing page. Most of the images are of reasonably high quality; the discussions are accurate and succinct, and the references are few and pertinent. Each case takes only a few minutes to digest, and this makes the book especially useful when one does not have the time to read a more involved text. The only negative point is that the images do not always illustrate all of the abnormalities described in the text.

This is not intended to be a comprehensive reference. It will be more useful for the busy radiologist who reads MRI scans in daily work than for subspecialists in radiology. In addition, radiology residents and staff/residents specializing in neurology or neurosurgery may enjoy sitting down with this work for a quick review or introduction to MRI.

Other volumes in this series will discuss neoplastic diseases of the brain, the spine, the head and neck, the musculoskeletal system, the body, the cardiovascular system, the pediatric patient, and principles/artifacts of MRI. An enticing option is available for this series: it has been reproduced on a single videodisc which allows an interactive approach. The images can be viewed with or without the clinical history or organ system orientation. Additional images, color images, and "movie" loops are available in this expanded format as well.

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CHRONIC MYELOGENOUS LEUKEMIA: MOLECULAR APPROACHES TO RESEARCH AND THERAPY
Edited by Albert B. Deisseroth and Ralph B. Arlinghaus
Marcel Dekker

Since 1960, when Nowell and Hungerford first described the Philadelphia chromosome, knowledge of this chromosomal translocation has expanded steadily. Recently, this growth of knowledge has been explosive. This, the 13th volume in Marcel Dekker's series of hematology compendia, is an excellent review of the molecular biologic aspects of this disorder.

Both editors are highly regarded experts in the field of chronic myelogenous leukemia, and they have assembled a sterling group of experts to describe individual areas of this field. The M.D. Anderson Cancer Center is well represented, since the editors are from that institution.

This textbook is quite readable. The first of its five parts presents detailed analyses of the animal and viral models for chronic myelogenous leukemia. The next seven chapters deal with the bcr-abl gene and its structure. The next three chapters analyze cellular models for the disease. The next six chapters describe therapy of chronic myelogenous leukemia, with emphasis on bone marrow transplantation and its curative potential. The text ends with a chapter on future directions in research and therapy.

As with all textbooks in rapidly growing fields, some areas are not discussed. One area is autografting with cultured marrow: some feel that long-term tissue culture of chronic myelogenous leukemia marrow can eradicate the Philadelphia-chromosome-positive hematopoietic cells to rise in number. Also not described is the significance of minimal residual disease detected by polymerase chain reaction in patients after allogeneic bone marrow transplantation.

This textbook provides the molecular biologist with a current overall analysis of the bcr-abl locus and the protein that it transcribes. On the other hand, clinicians may find the emphasis on molecular biology overwhelming, and the book is not as helpful in the daily management of patients with this disorder. Still, the book would be an excellent addition to the library of molecular biologists dealing with chronic myelogenous leukemia.

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ASTHMA, ITS PATHOLOGY AND TREATMENT
Edited by Michael A. Kaliner, Peter J. Barnes, and Carl G.A. Persson
Marcel Dekker

During the past decade, an explosion of information implicating chronic airway inflammation and hyperreactivity in the pathobiology of asthma has led to a consensus that these are central features of the disease. This book, volume 49 of Lung Biology in Health and Disease, is a state-of-the-art summary of the pathophysiology and treatment of asthma. The editors and contributors are leading investigators from both sides of the Atlantic.

The text is well organized and readable. The first chapter summarizes recent alarming epidemiological trends in asthma mortality. The next 17 chapters examine the pathogenesis of airway hyperreactivity, including discussions of the role of neural mechanisms, various cellular components, and inflammatory mediators such as platelet activating factor and leukotrienes. The last 6 chapters detail the mechanisms of currently used agents, and consider their role in the treatment of asthma.

The work would be enhanced by an overview of the various inflammatory components discussed. Also, a chapter detailing how this new knowledge might be used clinically would be helpful. Specifically, a discussion of investigational drugs should have been included.

These shortcomings aside, the work is scholarly and up-to-date: most chapters are referenced with citations from the past 5 years. The text is augmented with schematic diagrams that interrelate components suspected of affecting the pathogenesis of asthma. The book's features make it appropriate for anyone with an investigative interest in bronchial asthma and airway hyperreactivity, and it is well suited for a medical reference library.

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