

Preface

The study of the neuroscience and neurobiology of aging continues to be an intensely active area of research. However, most of the research has been conducted on neurons. *Neuroglia in the Aging Brain* reviews the current knowledge of the supporting structure of the nervous system, the neuroglia, in aging.

Neuroglia in the Aging Brain discusses the role of glial cells in normal aging and in pathological aging, i.e., neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, because a great deal of knowledge can be gleaned from the study of these more severe forms of aging. The book is divided into six sections: cellular and molecular changes of aged and reactive astrocytes; neuron–glia intercommunication; neurotrophins, growth factors, and neurohormones in aging and regeneration; metabolic changes; astrocytes and the blood–brain barrier in aging; and astrocytes in neurodegenerative diseases.

It is my hope that all of those scientists engaged in this interesting area of research will find this book to be useful. Many thanks to all of the authors for their fine contributions.

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