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## Preface

During the last decade, there have been tremendous technical developments to study the human central nervous system (CNS) and its connectivity. Modern imaging techniques such as positron emission tomography (PET) and functional MRI (fMRI) have greatly improved our knowledge of the circuitry of the human CNS. New developments in MR imaging such as diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) allow the visualization of at least the major fibre connections in the human CNS. Much of our knowledge of the organization of the CNS, however, we still owe to the classic studies of Vicq d'Azyr, Edinger, Dejerine, Flechsig, Brodmann, the Vogts, Foerster and many others, anatomists as well as neurologists, who painstakingly examined fresh and later fixed brains and laid down the framework for the main circuits in the human brain and spinal cord.

Knowledge of how the various parts of the CNS are interconnected to form functional systems is a prerequisite for the proper understanding of data from other fields in the neurosciences. Connections define the functions of neurons. Information flows along connections, growth factors and also viruses are transported along connections, epileptic discharges are spread through connections, and when they are deprived of connections, neurons pine away and may die through retrograde degeneration (dying back degeneration) or through anterograde transneuronal degeneration. Neuronal death in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, spinocerebellar disorders and various intoxications, the distribution of neurofibrillary tangles in Alzheimer disease and atrophy in olivopontocerebellar degeneration progress through neuronal connections. Parkinson disease may begin in the caudal brain stem, years before affecting the substantia nigra, and then it progresses rostrally to reach limbic and cortical areas. The basal nucleus of Meynert and the extended amygdala are involved in some of the most devastating neuropsychiatric disorders such as schizophrenia and Alzheimer disease.

This book is on brain circuitry (“systems anatomy”) and its disorders. It tries to bridge the gap between neuroanatomy and clinical neurology and emphasizes human and primate data in the context of the many disorders of brain circuitry so common in neurological practice. The idea for this book arose when I moved from the Department of Anatomy and Embryology to the Department of Neurology, both of the Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre. This resulted in a fruitful collaboration with neurologists and especially the neuropathologists Pieter Wesseling and Martin Lammens. George Padberg and Berry Kremer made this project possible. I am grateful to Anthony Lohman, Rudolf Nieuwenhuys, Jan Voogd and Antoine Keyser for their support during my academic career from comparative and developmental neuroanatomy to clinical neuroanatomy. This book contains some of the fine, but sparse, anterograde degeneration studies on fibre connections in the human brain by Hans Kuypers, Jaap Schoen, William Mehler and Peter Nathan.

Throughout the book, “Clinical cases” are included to illustrate where normal brain circuitry may be interrupted and to what effect. These cases were kindly provided by clinical colleagues, neurologists, neuroradiologists and neuropathologists or, when exceptional, taken from the literature. Contributions were provided by the co-authors of the various chapters, Peter van Domburg and Akira Hori in particular, and by, among others, Anna Cantagallo (Ferrara), Anna Lavezzi (Milan), Luigi Mossuto-Agatiello (Rome), Emmanuel Pierrot-Deseilligny (Paris), Maria Thom and John Rothwell (London), Ferdinand Binkofski (Lübeck),

Bernhard Bogerts (Magdeburg), Heiko Braak and Kelly Del Tredici-Braak (Ulm), Adrian Danek (Munich), Peter Urban (Hamburg), Arnulf Koeppen (Albany), Tom Scammell (Boston), Ralph Adolphs (Iowa City), Suzanne Corkin (Cambridge, MA), Nancy Rempel-Clower (Grinnell), Maya Mimuro and Mari Yoshida (Aichi), Hiroyasu Akatsu (Toyohashi), Ryuji Sakakibara (Toho), Hiroaki Yaguchi and Ichiro Yabe (Sapporo), Erwin van Ingelghem and Michel van Zandijcke (Brugge), Gea Drost, Myrthe Hol, Hennie Schoonderwaldt, Nens van Alfen, Frank Erik de Leeuw, Jurgen Schelhaas, Henk ter Laak, Henri Timmers and Gert van Dijk (Nijmegen), Jan Geelen (Nijmegen/Enschede), Gerard van Noort (Enschede), Gerald Hengstman (Eindhoven), Rob Haaxma (Paterswolde), Nomdo Jansonius and Lars Rödiger (Groningen), Berit Verbist and Enrico Marani (Leiden), Jan Voogd (Oegstgeest), Maria van Genderen (Zeist), Majid Aramideh (Alkmaar), Henk Berendse and Ysbrand van der Werf (Amsterdam), Harriette Verzijl and Dirk Pevernagie (Heeze), Jan Zijlmans (Breda) and Olaf Schijns (Maastricht).

Macroscopical pictures of the brain were kindly provided by Arie Maat (Nijmegen) and most of the MRIs of normal anatomy by Ton van der Vliet (Groningen). Several illustrations were obtained from the Jelgersma Collection of the Anatomical Museum of Leiden University Medical Centre with the help of Andries van Dam. Uğur Türe (Department of Neurosurgery, Yeditepe University Hospital, Istanbul) provided his excellent preparations of long association fibre bundles and Uli Bürgel (Department of Neurosurgery, Antonius Hospital, Kleve) provided several excellent DTIs on these tracts. Other figures were contributed by Martin Cassell (Iowa City), Marcella Brunetti (Chieti) and Thomas Theelen (Nijmegen). Financial support came from the Department of Neurology of the Radboud University Medical Centre (Head: George W.A.M. Padberg), covering part of the costs of the illustrations. Most of the illustrations were made by Ad Gruter (Nieuwegein) and several were contributed by Chris van Huijzen (Nijmegen) and the late Marlu de Leeuw (Nijmegen). Michel Verbruggen (Nijmegen) was invaluable in the processing of the figures. The book contains three general, introductory chapters on the organization and vascularization of the human brain and spinal cord (Chaps. 1 and 2) and on techniques for studying brain circuitry (Chap. 3). Brain circuitry and its disorders are discussed in the chapters on neurofunctional systems: the somatosensory system (Chap. 4), the reticular formation (Chap. 5), the cranial nerves (Chap. 6), the auditory system (Chap. 7), the visual system (Chap. 8), motor systems (Chap. 9), the cerebellum (Chap. 10), the basal ganglia (Chap. 11), the autonomic nervous system (Chap. 12), the hypothalamus and hypothalamohypophyseal systems (Chap. 13), the limbic system (Chap. 14) and the cerebral cortex and complex cerebral functions (Chap. 15). The book is intended primarily for neurologists, neuroradiologists and neuropathologists as well as residents in these fields, but may also be useful for all those working in human brain mapping.

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