

Preface

Head and spine ultrasonography is an important tool in the initial evaluation of intracranial and intraspinal abnormalities in newborns. Ultrasonography is an incredibly versatile bedside imaging tool in detecting brain and spine abnormalities in neonates, following the course of these lesions, and evaluating the maturation of the neonatal brain and spine. We believe it is a safe and cost-efficient alternative to magnetic resonance imaging and computed tomography in many cases.

This book allows readers to explore and advance their knowledge with neonatal head and spine ultrasonography and its application to a variety of common and rare neonatal neurologic disorders. Organized to correspond to daily routine bedside practice, it presents a symptom-based approach and classifies neonatal neurologic disorders at presentation. For each symptom or finding, we present exemplary clinical cases from our routine practice and illustrate how head and spine ultrasonography may help in making the correct diagnosis.

For the creation of the valuable collection of cases, we are grateful to our coauthors, Drs. Frances J. Northington, Güneş Orman, and Jacqueline Salas, who helped us with their interest and expertise in this field to select the most interesting and didactic cases and prepare succinct clinical vignettes as well as illustrative, high-quality images. To be able to complete this book, we were supported and intellectually challenged by a

number of brilliant physicians who are members of the Neurosciences Intensive Care Nursery Program at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, with their professional requests and stimulating discussions at our weekly joint neonatal neurology conference. This interdisciplinary culture has its roots in Johns Hopkins' four core values: excellence and discovery, leadership and integrity, diversity and inclusion, and respect and collegiality. These are as valid today as they were at the founding of our hospital and our school of medicine in the late nineteenth century.

We are thankful to Springer International Publishing AG, who gave us the opportunity to publish our experiences with neonatal head ultrasonography. We are particularly grateful to Janet Foltin, Senior Editor, and Patrick Carr, Project Coordinator, for their support in the conceptualization, preparation, and realization of this book.

We hope that this book and case collection is as enjoyable and helpful for readers as its preparation was for us.

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