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Book Review

Handbook of Clinical Neurology

Wolfgang Grisold, Riccardo Soffietti (eds). Elsevier, Edinburgh-New York, 2012, hardcover, 1st edition, vols 104 & 105, 603 p, ISBN: 978-0-4445-2138-5 and 978-0-4445-3502-3

Soffietti and Grisold as editors together with an all-star cast of academic leaders and expert senior clinicians have contributed 2 remarkable new volumes on "Neuro-Oncology" to the highly regarded "Handbook of Clinical Neurology" series published by Elsevier. For nearly 50 years, the Handbook of Clinical Neurology has prided itself on being the quintessential authoritative reference textbook for disorders, diseases, and conditions of the nervous system, and these new volumes, which are dedicated to neuro-oncology, uphold this important tradition. Volumes 104 and 105 will be much sought-after additions to personal and departmental libraries where senior faculty and junior trainees, alike, can enjoy them.

In volumes 104 and 105, the authors address virtually every major topic in the field of neuro-oncology with a particular emphasis on primary brain tumours and their treatment. Although some of the chapters address topics of current interest such as gene and anti-angiogenic therapies, most review more foundational subjects such as the molecular genetic basis of

brain tumours, brain tumour pathology, and the roles of surgery, radiotherapy, and chemotherapy in their management. There are strong chapters devoted to each of the major subtypes of primary brain tumours in adults and children, including glioblastoma, medulloblastoma, and low-grade glioma, and also excellent chapters on rare brain tumours, tumours of the peripheral nervous system, ancillary therapies, and clinical trials methods.

A major portion of volume 105 is devoted to thorough reviews of metastatic brain tumours, neurological complications of cancer and paraneoplastic disorders of the nervous system. These chapters are similarly informative and thorough so that the Handbook of Clinical Neurology can now be considered the definitive reference for clinical neuro-oncology

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