

BOOK REVIEWS

Siev, E and Freishtat, B. (1976) Perceptual dysfunction in the adult stroke patient: A manual for evaluation and treatment. Charles B Slack.

This little book is probably already well known to many physical and occupational therapists who work in this field. Although primarily intended for occupational therapists, it provides valuable information for physical therapists who are confronted with the multiple problems of the stroke patient.

An introductory chapter discusses the reliability and validity of perceptual testing, pointing out the lack of standardisation and validation of many of the tests used currently on adult patients. The approach is practical and advice is given on how to minimise these shortcomings during administration and interpretation of tests. Three different approaches to the treatment of perceptual deficits are outlined in this chapter, namely sensory integration, transfer of training and the functional approach comprising compensation and adaptation. In each case any relevant literature on the application of these approaches in the treatment of adults is cited, but it is stressed that there is still a great need for research in this field.

The next four chapters of the book handle four specific areas of perceptual deficit — body image and body scheme disorders, the spatial relations syndrome, the apraxias and the agnosias. Although the detail of the testing procedures for each is more relevant to occupational therapy, the explanations of the nature of each deficit and the suggestions for treatment are of value to physical therapists. Many of the treatment ideas can be incorporated in the physiotherapy movement techniques used in the treatment of the adult hemiplegic, whilst many others can be reinforced in the physical therapist's day-to-day contact with and general handling of the patient.

A final chapter covers aphasia, dysphasia and sensory loss as factors which may complicate performance. The appendices contain a table of sites of lesions, suggestions for further research and a glossary. A fairly comprehensive list of references concludes this useful book.

The layout of the book is attractive and easy to follow, with adequate line drawings and with the treatment sections highlighted by a shaded background.

S. Irwin-Carruthers

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOTHERAPY UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

To celebrate the Silver Jubilee of the School of Physiotherapy an academic and social programme is planned for 5 - 8 April 1983.

Tuesday 5 April : Workshop on Neurological Problems
Thursday 7 April: Mobilisation techniques (Gleno-humeral joint)

Friday 8 April : Morning: Seminar on the rehabilitation of the lower limb
Afternoon: Trauma and soft tissue injuries.

The cost will be R40 for the whole academic programme or R15 per day (includes light lunch and tea).

For a detailed programme and registration forms please write to:

The Secretary, Department of Physiotherapy, 8 Clee Road, Observatory 7925. Telephone (021) 47 1250 ext. 402.

XIX INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON PHYSICAL THERAPY

BARCELONA, SPAIN 17 — 21 JUNE 1984.

Sponsored by C.E.T.P. (Confédération Européenne pour la Thérapie Physique) the organising committee invites scientific contributions from physiotherapists. For further information contact: Ramón Valeta Queralt, Secretary, Asociación Española de Fisioterapeutas, Gran Via Corts Catalana, 548, 1º, 1ª, Barcelona-11, Spain.

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