



Max Amor - Patrice Bergeron
Klaus Mathias - Dieter Raithel
Carotid Artery Angioplastic and Stenting a Multidisciplinary Approach
Edizioni Minerva Medica, Torino, 2002
ISBN 88-7711-422-3
306 p., euro 52,00

Over 20 years have been necessary to reach a consensus regarding the treatment of carotid artery and supra-aortic trunk lesions. After an initial surgical enthusiasm, the indications have been defined more precisely according to peri-operative stroke morbidity and mortality - annual stroke rates, following endarterectomy - and risk of recurrent stenosis.

Randomized trials (NASCET, ECST and others) proved the efficiency of surgical procedures and established the indications applicable to symptomatic and asymptomatic patients. With the drugs currently on the market, medical treatment does not offer a better alternative, thus surgical treatment has become the gold standard in supra-aortic trunk and carotid artery lesions.

Today, is any change of the gold standard justified? Treatment of supra-aortic trunk and carotid artery diseases is obviously much more simple, using angioplasty and stenting techniques. The size and quality of catheters has been improved. Cerebral protection, using balloons, filters or reverse flow systems is a huge progress. The selection of patients for endovascular therapy is based on the same indications as for surgery. Therefore, the results have to be better in terms of peri-operative stroke morbidity and mortality, annual stroke event rates and risk of recurrent stenosis.

The editors of this book have contributed to answer such questions and the different randomized trials underlined the benefits of endovascular therapy. Yet only truly long-term studies can provide results which could alter the gold standard.

In all cases one problem will remain, which is to determine who is the most appropriate endovascular interventionist? Is it the cardiologist, because he is the first physician to see the patient and can investigate the coronary system, while making at the same time a "global investigation" of other arteries; in this manner a "global endovascular treatment" appears to become a solution (now or in the future)? Is it the radiologist, when treatment is accepted? Or is it the surgeon, routinely performing endovascular treatment and occasionally using "the

blade". for accidents during endovascular procedures or in cases where the disease is too extensive? For the future, a problem may appear: how can a young surgeon without surgical training on localized lesions be able to treat such most complicated cases!!!

Only a serious analysis of long-term results will be able to provide an answer to these problems.

dall'Editoriale
R. Courbier

Dargent Jerome, Pascal Jean-Francois
L'obesite morbide: strategie therapeutique
Berlin-Heidelberg-New York Springer-Verlag, 2002
ISBN 2-287-59718-2
215 p.

Da circa 50 anni la condizione di obesità ha attratto l'interesse della chirurgia alla ricerca di un trattamento chirurgico in grado di ridurre l'eccesso di peso, in maniera stabile e con conseguenze negative nulle o almeno accettabili per grado di incidenza.

Il presente volumetto presenta gli aspetti storici di questa chirurgia, detta bariatrica, e le sue tendenze di sviluppo di qua e di là dell'oceano atlantico.

Vengono così prese in considerazione le diverse strategie che vedono il campo suddiviso in interventi restrittivi ed interventi mirati ad interferire sull'assorbimento alimentare.

Su questi due versanti è più di recente intervenuta la tecnica mininvasiva laparoscopica e lo sviluppo di protesi meccaniche o stimolanti elettricamente lo stomaco per controbattere lo stimolo anomalo della fame.

Vengono analizzate le indicazioni all'intervento, la multidisciplinarietà dell'approccio, le varianti di tecnica chirurgica con risultati, complicazioni e loro trattamento.

Una cospicua parte del testo è riservata infine agli interventi di chirurgia plastica tendenti a restaurare gli aspetti estetici del dimagrimento avvenuto.

Pur essendo molto completo, il testo è il compendio di singoli articoli e fornisce una visione panoramica del problema, ma non un approfondimento in senso epicritico che peraltro non può ancora essere definitivo. Infatti i diversi orientamenti terapeutici vengono seguiti dai singoli gruppi di Autori in versione monotematica, senza che sia ancora possibile una sintesi pragmatica.

Il valore culturale ed analitico del volumetto è indiscutibile anche se parzialmente di tipo antologico ed è quindi di grande utilità sia a chi si interessa di chirurgia bariatrica sia a chi ha già acquisito esperienza nell'una o nell'altra strategia chirurgica.

Nicola Picardi

Beverly Hashimoto, Donald Bauermeister
Breast Imaging: a correlative Atlas
Thieme - New York Stuttgart, 2003
ISBN 3-13-131951-8

This book is targeted for breast imagers who want to improve their interpretative skills by learning a method to analyze and integrate mammographic and sonographic findings. This method is based on developing familiarity with specific mammographic and sonographic image patterns. After a radiologist is familiar with these patterns, the imager can approach both mammographic and sonographic lesions in a systematic manner and reach a logical assessment. To facilitate this process, imaging sections 3-10 of this book are devoted to providing visual examples of these mammographic and sonographic patterns. Because most breast problems initially present with a mammographic examination, the sections are organized by specific mammographic findings according to the primary table of contents (Pattern Approach to Breast Imaging). Each mammographic pattern is illustrated by a variety of benign and malignant entities. Furthermore, the introduction of each section schematically illustrates the clinical approach to analyzing the mammographic abnormality.

The second goal of this book is to emphasize the multidisciplinary nature of breast imaging. This multidisciplinary approach is emphasized by the secondary table of contents (Pattern Approach to Breast Sonography) that organizes the individual cases into sonographic patterns. Furthermore, the cases in this book include other imaging modalities such as (magnetic resonance and various

nuclear medicine techniques. The utility of these modalities is discussed in the context of common clinical problems that are illustrated in the individual imaging cases. Sonographic examination of the breast has become more important in breast imaging. As equipment improves, imagers are able to see lesions that previously were not visible sonographically. This improved detection not only enhances one's confidence in finding malignancies earlier, but also in identifying benign lesions. However, the potentially important contribution of sonography is greatly hindered by inadequate equipment, suboptimal imaging technique, and inconsistent operator training. The third purpose of this book is to demonstrate the importance of high-resolution sonography in breast imaging. Several cases show images of the same lesion with both with high- and low-resolution equipment. These cases also demonstrate the importance of utilizing high contrast, post-processing techniques in the detection of benign and malignant entities. Hopefully, this book will enhance the sonographic skills of breast imagers by encouraging the use of high quality, high-resolution equipment and optimal technique. Furthermore, by reviewing the sonographic appearance of the numerous breast abnormalities presented in this book, one can broaden one's visual sonographic experience.

The final objective of this book is to provide an atlas of a wide variety of pathologic entities within the breast. This book includes both unusual mammographic and sonographic appearances of common pathologies as well as examples of rare breast abnormalities. By grouping the pathologies within mammographic imaging patterns, one can use this book as a base for developing differential diagnoses.

In summary, I hope this book is used both as a quick reference guide to review the schematic work-up of a particular mammographic finding as well as a more detailed reference to study methods to optimize sonographic technique and integrate alternative imaging modalities.

dalla prefazione
Beverly Hashimoto

LIBRI RICEVUTI PER RECENSIONE

Berverly Hashimoto, Donald Bauermeister, *Breast Imaging: a correlative Atlas*, Georg Thieme Verlag - New York, Stuttgart, 2003, 536 p., 743 fig., € 159,00, ISBN 3-13-131951-8.

