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BOOK REVIEW

## **Binder DK, Sonne DC, Fischbein NJ, cranial nerves: anatomy, pathology, imaging**

**Thieme 2010, ISBN 978-1-58890-402-7**

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This is a slim volume packed with illustrated text. Succinctly classified by chapter according to the different cranial nerves, this book is an easy-reference text that is highly readable and immensely informative. Each chapter begins with a brief summary of the normal function and anatomy of the corresponding cranial nerve being discussed, before going on to a largely pictorial excursion into the pathological states encountered. High-quality CT and MRI scans are interposed with schematic illustrations, each accompanied by captioned paragraphs detailing the structures of interest. Information is captured in concise, bite-sized chunks, laid out in bulleted form for ease of reference. A series of cases is presented in each chapter to allow translation of this knowledge into clinical practice. Pearls of information contained within defined boxes are set out within the text, drawing the reader's attention to key aspects of clinical or imaging data. The entire setup of the text aims to be reader-

and reference-friendly. The authors have chosen text layout format that encourages and inspires the reader; this is achieved by the interplay of an abundance of imagery with minimal text. The text itself is surgical in its succinct objective. The appendices are extensively dedicated to a coverage of brainstem anatomy, the pupil parasympathetic ganglia and cranial nerve reflexes. The index is well presented and surprisingly detailed for such a slim volume. All in all, this is an excellent comprehensive review of cranial nerve anatomy, pathology and radiology.

**Conflicts of interest** None.

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