Chapter 40:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

On completion of the chapter, the reader will be able to:

1. Describe the epidemiology of various seizure disorders.
2. Compare and contrast the clinical presentation of partial versus generalized seizures.
3. Discuss the pathophysiologic mechanisms underlying seizure disorders.
4. List the general treatment goals for a patient with a seizure disorder.
5. List the preferred first-line and alternative antiepileptic drugs for both partial and generalized seizures.
6. Describe the factors that would guide selection of a specific antiepileptic drug for an individual patient.
7. Select an appropriate antiepileptic drug for a patient based on patient-specific data.
8. Describe the cognitive adverse effects of the various antiepileptic drugs.
9. Discuss the hormonal/reproductive health considerations of antiepileptic drug treatment.
10. Discuss and compare the mechanisms of action of the antiepileptic drugs.
11. Compare and contrast the adverse-effect profile of individual antiepileptic drugs.
12. Compare and contrast the various antiepileptic drugs with respect to the pharmacokinetic, metabolic, and antiepileptic drug interactions.
14. Formulate a monitoring plan for a patient on a given antiepileptic drug based on patient-specific information and the prescribed regimen.
15. Discuss general considerations regarding duration of antiepileptic drug treatment and withdrawal of treatment.
16. Identify nonpharmacologic therapy for patients with refractory seizures.
17. Formulate appropriate counseling information to be provided a patient on antiepileptic drug therapy.