Chapter 19: LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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

1. Describe the importance of the neurologic examination in the diagnosis of neurologic diseases.
2. Determine when abbreviation of the neurologic examination is appropriate in a given patient.
3. Apply the results of a neurologic examination, as written in the patient’s medical record, to the creation and monitoring of a pharmacotherapy plan.
4. Recognize the importance of lumbar puncture, electroencephalography, evoked potentials, electromyography, nerve conduction velocities, carotid Doppler, magnetic resonance angiography, computed tomographic angiography, transcranial Doppler, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, diffusion-weighted imaging, positron-emission tomography, and single-photon-emission computed tomography in the diagnosis of a patient with a neurologic illness.
5. Comment on the importance of symmetry in the evaluation of a patient with a neurologic illness.
6. Identify when a patient has a focal neurologic deficit by interpreting the results of the neurologic examination.