CLINICAL APPLICATIONS OF FUNCTIONAL BRAIN MRI

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Oxford University Press, 2007

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Over the past few years fMRI has become one of the most widely used methods for imaging normal brain function, in turn becoming a valuable tool in the study of many disorders.

The editors have set to provide an overview of the current status of clinically related fMRI research of a selection of neurological and psychiatric disorders.

The book is structured in 12 chapters which explain the status of current clinical applications of fMRI in preoperative evaluation, diagnosis, discriminations of pathology and in understanding recovery, therapeutics and rehabilitation of some disorders. Individual chapters cover the use of fMRI in the preoperative assessment of both motor function and language, as well as the assessment of age-related change in memory. More focused chapters cover the use of fMRI in dementia, schizophrenia, depression and anxiety disorders, stroke, Parkinson’s disease and multiple sclerosis. The final chapter describes the role of fMRI in monitoring the effects of medication on brain function.

The editors stated that “the book does not offer a complete description of clinical fMRI of all disorders studied with fMRI. The choice of topics was dictated by the potential and expected impact of fMRI as related to a particular disease and whether the accomplishments were significant enough to justify a chapter in this book.”

Well organized and documented, with many explicit photos, this volume will be of interest to both novice fMRI researchers and expert fMRI scientists as well as to clinicians in neurology, radiology and psychiatry.

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