Andrew Blitzer, Mitchell F. Brin, and Lorraine O. Ramig have provided a superb update to the well-received first edition of *Neurologic Disorders of the Larynx*, which was published by Thieme in 1992. The field of neurolaryngology has experienced unprecedented growth since then, and this edition's contents reflect the vitality of that growth.

Neurolaryngology is a relatively young subspecialty of otolaryngology—head and neck surgery. The first meeting of the Neurolaryngology Study Group was held in 1989, and was attended by only 12 to 15 otolaryngologists (head and neck surgeons). All those in attendance practiced the subspecialty of laryngology as part of the larger specialty of otolaryngology. None of those in attendance had practices that consisted of only laryngology or neurolaryngology. Issues such as spasmodic dysphonia, laryngeal paralysis, laryngeal reinnervation, and laryngoplastic techniques were discussed at that first meeting of neurolaryngologists.

The ensuing years have seen a virtual explosion of technologies, knowledge, surgical techniques, and significant basic science research in this emerging field. Perhaps the best evidence of this newly focused interest on neurologic disorders of the larynx is the fact that through post-residency fellowship training in laryngology, a relatively large number of individuals on three or more continents are now practicing medicine and surgery exclusively in and of the larynx (laryngology). This has meshed nicely with the increasingly important concept of outcomes analysis, insofar as these focused laryngologists are now able to provide analysis of treatment of larger numbers of patients with laryngeal disorders. Accordingly this increased focus warrants such a superb comprehensive text as *Neurologic Disorders of the Larynx*, second edition.

In the years since the first edition was published, laryngologists and laryngeal scientists have provided profoundly significant advances in laryngeal videostroboscopy, laryngeal electromyography, laryngeal reinnervation, combinations of laryngoplastic surgical procedures, and electroglottographic analysis. There is indeed much new significant knowledge regarding neuroanatomy and the neurophysiology of the larynx. In addition, the return of high-speed laryngeal motion photography has provided scientists and surgeons with a better understanding of how the vocal folds produce sound, and how vocal fold disorders affect the emitted sound.

Of particular interest to many neurolaryngologists and laryngologists is the appropriate expansion of chapters regarding surgical procedures for laryngeal paralysis and paresis. Whereas in the first edition these issues were covered in two chapters (Chapters 17 and 18), in this new edition there are several excellent and more expansive chapters on evaluation of paralysis and paresis (Chapter 13), a full chapter on vocal fold injectable fillers (Chapter 14), and an expanded Chapter 15 discussing the techniques of medialization, arytenoid adduction, and reinnervation. This expansion reflects the evolution and progress of many of these newer surgical techniques in the treatment of laryngeal paresis and paralysis.

This book is indeed a timely summary of these most important changes in the field. It appears to have captured all of the excellence of the first edition as well as all of the important advances made in the last two decades. Neurolaryngologists, neurologists, speech pathologists and therapists, and indeed all physicians and scientists interested in voice, airway management, or the larynx will find much value in this excellent text. The authors have provided a distinct public and medical service by producing a book of this depth and breadth covering laryngeal research, science, medicine, and surgery.

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The authors wrote the first edition of this book to fill the gap in the medical literature on the evaluation, diagnosis, and management of sensory and motor disorders of the larynx and associated structures. Since the first edition was published in 1992, the field of neurolaryngology has increased exponentially. Much more information is available for patients suffering with neuromuscular dysfunction of their larynx. This second edition provides an update for specialists who treat laryngeal dysfunction, as it addresses the information gained over the past two decades.

This edition continues to address the topics included in the first edition: physiology of the larynx, including anatomy, neural innervation, and electrophysiology; clinical evaluation, including electromyography, videolaryngoscopy, and stroboscopy; acoustic analysis and airflow studies; and treatment, including speech, medical, and surgical therapy for pyramidal, extrapyramidal, neuromuscular, cerebellar, and movement disorders. New to this second edition are chapters covering laryngeal dysfunction in sleep; flexible endoscopic evaluation of swallowing with sensory testing; evaluation of paresis and paralysis; vocal fold augmentation, medialization, arytenoids adduction, and reinnervation; and management of swallowing disorders and aspiration.

The book should be of value to all who provide care to patients with laryngeal disorders, including otolaryngologists, neurologists, speech scientists and pathologists, rehabilitationists, and pulmonologists. We believe the book presents not only the current knowledge, but also some of the perplexing questions that remain. It is hoped that this book will inspire others to seek the answers to these questions and thus provide better care for these patients.

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