Uncommon Causes of Stroke
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Dr. Julien Bogousslavsky and I, during a lunchtime conversation, thought of the idea of editing a book that would represent a source reference about various stroke syndromes and causes of stroke. The first publication appeared in 1995 and included: 1) patterns of symptoms and signs, 2) lesion patterns in patients with infarcts and hemorrhages in various brain locations and in various vascular territories, and 3) “patterns and syndromes that occur in unusual conditions that are known to cause stroke but that are not encountered very often.” The book was conceived as a compilation of stroke syndromes and so was entitled *Stroke Syndromes*. The entire book contained 510 pages. The third section of the book entitled “particular vascular etiologic syndromes” consisted of 15 chapters covered in only 95 pages.

After the book was published and Bogousslavsky and I received considerable feedback and did our own postmortem thinking about the book, we concluded that: 1) the two main topics – syndromes and uncommon causes – were quite different, and 2) each was inadequately covered in the initial publication. We decided to edit separate greatly expanded volumes on each topic. *Stroke Syndromes, 2nd edition*, was published in 2001 and contained 54 chapters and 747 pages. A separate volume entitled *Uncommon Causes of Stroke* also appeared in 2001 and contained 48 chapters and 391 pages.

*Uncommon Causes* proved very successful but, as always, in carefully conducting a postmortem we found that there were many omissions and that some chapters were not optimally written. Furthermore, during the ensuing years there were important advances in diagnostic technology, more physicians and researchers became involved in cerebrovascular disease-related activities, and there were many advances in therapeutics. We decided to edit a second edition of *Uncommon Causes*.

A major change from the first edition is that I am the sole editor of this volume. Dr. Bogousslavsky and I together initially planned the outline and contributors to this second edition of *Uncommon Causes*, but he was not involved later in writing any of the chapters or in collecting or editing the chapters. The sole editorship allowed a somewhat more uniform style and language and collation of the various chapters.

In this edition, I have attempted to simplify the English to make the chapters more easily read and understood by readers. I have also expanded the number of chapters and have revised the authorship of many of the chapters. I wrote or co-authored 13 of the chapters. I have also edited each chapter in the book to ensure that it is accurate, complete, referenced sufficiently, and authoritative. I take sole responsibility for the final form of each chapter.

This volume contains 71 chapters.

I owe considerable thanks to Dr. Julien Bogousslavsky, who was the progenitor of the original idea of publishing a compilation of chapters on unusual stroke-related vascular conditions. He also deserves credit for helping to plan this volume. The staff at Cambridge University Press has been involved in all of the publications in this series. Dr. Richard Barling was responsible for shepherding the first volumes in this series and was initially involved in the planning of this volume. Rachel Lazenby worked with me to ensure that the authors submitted completed chapters in the time assigned. Matthew Byrd deserves considerable credit for creating the final proofs and seeing the volume through print. Nicholas Dutton, Laura Wood, and others at Cambridge University Press were also instrumental in ensuring publication. Most of all I thank my colleagues who wrote the chapters and put up with my frequent prodding and cajoling. They have done an outstanding job.

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