

Treatment of Dystonia

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Edited by
Dirk Dressler
Hannover Medical School
Eckart Altenmüller
Institute of Music Physiology and Musicians' Medicine, Hannover, Germany
Joachim K. Krauss
Hannover Medical School





Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

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Contributors

- Jasper van Aalst**
Department of Neurosurgery, MUMC+, Maastricht, the Netherlands
- Alberto Albanese**
Department of Neurology, Istituto Clinico Humanitas, Rozzano, Milano, Italy
- Eckart Altenmüller**
Institute of Music Physiology and Musicians’ Medicine (IMMM), University of Music, Drama and Media, Hannover, Germany
- Christian Amlang**
Yale School of Medicine, Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA
- Keyoumars Ashkan**
Department of Neurology, Evelina London Children’s Hospital, London, UK
- Bettina Balint**
Sobell Department of Motor Neuroscience and Movement Disorders, UCL Institute of Neurology, London, UK
- Ausaf A. Bari**
Division of Neurosurgery, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Hansjörg Bänzner**
Department of Neurology, Katharinenhospital, Stuttgart, Germany
- Jules G. Becher**
Paediatric Rehabilitation, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- Kailash P. Bhatia**
Sobell Department of Motor Neuroscience and Movement Disorders, UCL Institute of Neurology, London, UK
- Hans Bigalke**
Toxogen, Hannover, Germany
- Christian Blahak**
Department of Neurology and Neurogeriatrics, Ortenau-Klinikum, Lahr, Germany

- Jean-Pierre Bleton**
Department of Neurology, Fondation Ophtalmologique Adolphe de Rothschild, Paris, France
- Andrew Blitzer**
New York Center for Voice and Swallowing Disorders, Head and Neck Surgical Group, St. Luke’s Roosevelt Medical Center, New York, NY, USA
- Saeed A. Bohlega**
Department of Neurosciences, King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- Laura A. Bonouvrie**
Paediatric Rehabilitation, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- Giovanni Broggi**
Unit of Functional Neurosurgery, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico ‘Carlo Besta’, Milan, Italy
- Annemieke I. Buizer**
Paediatric Rehabilitation, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- Gul Yalcin Cakmakli**
Institute of Neurological Sciences and Psychiatry, Hacettepe University, Sıhhiye, Ankara, Turkey
- Matteo Caleo**
CNR Neuroscience Institute, Pisa, Italy
- Stefan J. Cano**
Modus Outcomes, Letchworth Garden City, UK
- Robert Chen**
Division of Neurology, Department of Medicine, Toronto Western Hospital, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Sophie Cho**
Human Motor Control Section, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, USA

Contributors

Laura Cif
Research Group on Movement Disorders in Children,
Department of Neurosurgery, Gui de Chauliac University,
Montpellier, France

Sophie Cleanthous
Modus Outcomes, Letchworth Garden City, UK

Carlo Colosimo
Department of Neurology, Santa Maria University Hospital,
Terni, Italy

Cynthia L. Comella
Department of Neurological Sciences, Rush University
Medical Center, Chicago, IL, USA

Roberto Cordella
Unit of Functional Neurosurgery, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto
Neurologico ‘Carlo Besta’, Milan, Italy

Philippe Coubes
Research Group on Movement Disorders in Children,
Department of Neurosurgery, Gui de Chauliac University,
Montpellier, France

Aloysius Domingo
Institute of Neurogenetics, University of Lübeck, Lübeck,
Germany

Joost van den Dool
Department of Neurology, University Medical Centre
Groningen, Groningen, the Netherlands

Dirk Dressler
Movement Disorder Section, Department of Neurology,
Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany

Roberto Eleopra
Neurological Unit I, IRCCS Fondazione Carlo Besta, Milan, Italy

Bulent Elibol
Faculty of Medicine, Department of Neurology, Hacettepe
University, Sihhiye, Ankara, Turkey

Frank Erbguth
Department of Neurology, Nuremberg General Hospital,
Paracelsus Medical University, Nuremberg, Germany

Roberto Erro
Sobell Department of Motor Neuroscience and Movement
Disorders, UCL Institute of Neurology, London, UK

Glen Estrin
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation, Chicago, IL, USA

Sílvia Fàbregas-Molas
Institute of Art, Medicine and Physiology, Terrassa, Barcelona,
Spain

Stanley Fahn
Department of Neurology, Columbia University College of
Physicians & Surgeons, New York, NY, USA

Jessica Feeley
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation, Chicago, IL, USA

Keith Foster
Ipsen Bioinnovation Ltd, Abingdon, UK

Angelo Franzini
Unit of Functional Neurosurgery, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto
Neurologico ‘Carlo Besta’, Milan, Italy

Karen Frei
Department of Neurology, Loma Linda University Medical
Center, Loma Linda, CA, USA

Steven J. Frucht
NYU Langone Medical Center from Mount Sinai, New York,
NY, USA

Shinichi Furuya
Musical Skill and Injury Center, Department of Information
and Communication Sciences, Sophia University,
Tokyo, Japan

Thomas Gasser
Department of Neurology, Eberhard Karls University,
Tübingen, Germany

Robert E. Gross
Department of Neurosurgery, Emory University School of
Medicine, Atlanta, GA, USA

Doreen Gruber
Department of Stereotactic Neurosurgery & Neurology,
Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg, Germany

Mark Hallett
Human Motor Control Section, National Institute of
Neurological Disorders and Stroke, National Institutes of
Health, Bethesda, MD, USA

Tomoko Hanada
Department of Neurosurgery, Tokyo Women’s Medical
University, Tokyo, Japan

Daniela Hansen
Reta Lila Weston Institute of Neurological Studies,
Department of Molecular Neuroscience and Queen
Square Brain Bank, Institute of Neurology, UCL,
London, UK

Gun-Marie Hariz
Department of Clinical Neuroscience, Umeå University,
Umeå, Sweden

Marwan Hariz
Unit of Functional Neurosurgery, UCL Institute of Neurology,
Queen Square, London, UK

Ellen J. Hess
Departments of Pharmacology and Neurology, Emory
University, Atlanta, GA, USA

Contributors

Janet Hieshetter
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation,
Chicago, IL, USA

Shiro Horisawa
Department of Neurosurgery, Tokyo Women’s Medical
University, Tokyo, Japan

Paola Imbriani
Department of Systems Medicine, University of Rome ‘Tor
Vergata’, Rome, Italy

Christos I. Ioannou
Institute of Music Physiology and Musicians’ Medicine
(IMMM), University of Music, Drama and Media, Hannover,
Germany

Marjan Jahanshahi
Cognitive Motor Neuroscience Group, Sobell Department of
Motor Neuroscience & Movement Disorders, UCL Institute of
Neurology, National Hospital for Neurology & Neurosurgery,
London, UK

Joseph Jankovic
Department of Neurology, Baylor College of Medicine, Baylor
St. Luke’s Medical Center, Houston, TX, USA

Beomseok Jeon
Department of Neurology, College of Medicine, Seoul
National University Hospital, Seoul, Korea

Hyder A. Jinnah
Departments of Neurology, Human Genetics and Pediatrics,
Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA

Mandar Jog
Department of Clinical Neurological Sciences, Western
University, London, Ontario, Canada

Eric A. Johnson
Department of Bacteriology, University of Wisconsin,
Madison, WI, USA

Peter Kaňovský
Movement Disorders Center, Department of
Neurology, Palacky University Medical School, Olomouc,
Czech Republic

Barbara Illowsky Karp
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and
Stroke, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda,
MD, USA

Ryul Kim
Department of Neurology, Seoul National University Hospital,
Seoul, Korea

Teresa Jacobson Kimberley
Department of Physical Therapy, School of Health and
Rehabilitation Sciences, MGH Institute of Health Professions,
Boston, MA, USA

Marianne King
Dystonia Specialist Nurse, Lancashire Teaching NHS Trust,
Preston, Lancashire, UK

Christine Klein
Institute of Neurogenetics, University of Lübeck, Lübeck,
Germany

Arne Knutzen
Department of Neurology, Christian-Albrechts-University
Kiel, Kiel, Germany

Maria A. J. de Koning-Tijssen
Department of Neurology, University Medical Centre
Groningen, Groningen, the Netherlands

Vladimir S. Kostić
Department of Neurology, Faculty of Medicine, University of
Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia

Anne Koy
Department of Pediatrics, University of Cologne, Cologne,
Germany

Paul Krack
Division of Neurology, CHU Grenoble, Joseph Fourier
University, Grenoble, France

Joachim K. Krauss
Department of Neurosurgery, Hannover Medical School,
Hannover, Germany

Andrea A. Kühn
Movement Disorders and Neuromodulation Section, Charité,
Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany

Andreas Kupsch
Department of Stereotactic Neurosurgery & Neurology,
Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg, Germany

Zdravko Lacković
Laboratory of Molecular Neuropharmacology, Department
of Pharmacology, University of Zagreb School of Medicine,
Zagreb, Croatia

Stefania Lalli
Department of Neurology, Università Cattolica del Sacro
Cuore, Milano, Italy

Anthony E. Lang
Division of Neurology, Toronto Western Hospital, University
of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Rainer Laskawi
Department of Ear, Nose and Throat, University Medical
Centre, Georg-August University, Göttingen, Germany

Andrè Lee
Department of Neurology, Klinikum Rechts der Isar,
Technical University, Munich, Germany

Contributors

Jean-Pierre Lin
Department of Neurology, Evelina London Children’s Hospital, London, UK

Elan D. Louis
Departments of Neurology and Chronic Disease Epidemiology, Yale School of Medicine and Yale, School of Public Health, Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA

Andres M. Lozano
Division of Neurosurgery, Toronto Western Hospital, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Marta Maltese
Department of Systems Medicine, University of Rome ‘Tor Vergata’, Rome, Italy

Carine W. Maurer
Human Motor Control Section, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, USA

Riccardo Mazzocchio
Department of Neurological and Neurosensory Sciences, University Hospital, Siena, Italy

Giuseppe Messina
Unit of Functional Neurosurgery, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico ‘Carlo Besta’, Milan, Italy

Federico Micheli
Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders Unit, Department of Neurology, Hospital de Clínicas ‘Jose de San Martin’, University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Kelly A. Mills
Movement Disorder and Neuromodulation Center, University of California San Francisco Medical Center, San Francisco, CA, USA

Akshitkumar M. Mistry
Department of Neurosurgery, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN, USA

Cesare Montecucco
Department of Biomedical Sciences, University of Padova, Padova, Italy

Austen Peter Moore
The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust, Liverpool University, Liverpool, UK

Elena Moro
Division of Neurology, CHU Grenoble, Joseph Fourier University, Grenoble, France

Joseph S. Neimat
Department of Neurosurgery, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN, USA

Alistair Newton
Dystonia Europe, Brussels, Belgium

Scott A. Norris
Department of Neurology, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO, USA

Olga Orlova
I.M. Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University, Moscow, Russia

Jill L. Ostrem
Movement Disorder and Neuromodulation Center, University of California San Francisco Medical Center, San Francisco, CA, USA

Willem J. R. van Ouwerkerk
Department of Neurosurgery, VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

James Palmer
Department of Neurosurgery, Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, UK

Jung E. Park
Human Motor Control Section, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, USA

Amande Pauls
Department of Neurology, University Hospital, Philipps University, Marburg, Germany

Ellen B. Penney
Department of Neurology, Yale School of Medicine and Yale School of Public Health, Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA

Joel S. Perlmutter
Departments of Radiology, Anatomy and Neurobiology, Occupational and Physical Therapy, Washington University, St. Louis, MO, USA

Heidrun Pickenbrock
Movement Disorders Section, Department of Neurology, Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany

Andy Pickett
Toxin Science Limited, Wrexham, UK

Zvezdan Pirtošek
Department of Neurology, University Medical Centre, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Antonio Pisani
Department of Systems Medicine, University of Rome ‘Tor Vergata’, Rome, Italy

Seth L. Pullman
Department of Neurology, Columbia University Medical Center, New York, NY, USA

Angelo Quartarone
Department of Neurosciences, University of Messina,
Messina, Italy

René Reese
Department of Neurology, University of Rostock, Rostock,
Germany

Maja Relja
Department of Neurology, University Hospital Centre,
University of Zagreb School of Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia

Christian Riederer
Würzburg, Germany

Raymond L. Rosales
Department of Neurology and Psychiatry, Royal and Pontifical
University of Santo Tomas and Hospital, Manila, Philippines

Ami R. Rosen
Department of Neurology, Emory University, Atlanta,
GA, USA

Jaume Rosset-Llobet
Institute of Art, Medicine and Physiology, Terrassa, Barcelona,
Spain

Ornella Rossetto
Department of Biomedical Sciences, University of Padova,
Padova, Italy

Fereshte Adib Saberi
IAB – Interdisciplinary Working Group for Movement
Disorders, Hamburg, Germany

Michel Sáenz-Farret
Hospital de Clínicas José de san Martín, University of Buenos
Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Christoph Schrader
Movement Disorders Section, Department of Neurology,
Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany

Binit B. Shah
Department of Neurology, University of Virginia,
Charlottesville, VA, USA

Christos Sidiropoulos
Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Program,
Henry Ford Hospital, West Bloomfield, MI, USA

Miriam Sklerov
Department of Neurology, Columbia University Medical
Center, New York, NY, USA

Dan Soudant
Child Neurology, Department of Neurology, MUMC+,
Maastricht, the Netherlands

Glenn T. Stebbins
Department of Neurological Sciences, Rush University
Medical Center, Chicago, IL, USA

Thomas D. L. Steeves
Division of Neurology, Toronto Western Hospital, University
of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Matthew A. Stern
Unit of Functional Neurosurgery, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto
Neurologico ‘Carlo Besta’, Milan, Italy

Melanie Leigh D. Supnet
Department of Neurology and Psychiatry, Royal and
Pontifical University of Santo Tomas and Hospital, Manila,
Philippines

Christopher Tang
New York Center for Voice and Swallowing Disorders, Head
and Neck Surgical Group, St. Luke's Roosevelt Medical Center,
New York, NY, USA

Takaomi Taira
Department of Neurosurgery, Tokyo Women's Medical
University, Tokyo, Japan

Nobuhiko Takeda
Department of Neurosurgery, Tokyo Women's Medical
University, Tokyo, Japan

Onno Teernstra
Department of Neurosurgery, MUMC+, Maastricht, the
Netherlands

Jan K. Teller
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation, Chicago, IL, USA

Mary Ann Thenganatt
Parkinson's Disease Center and Movement Disorders Clinic,
Department of Neurology, Baylor College of Medicine,
Houston, TX, USA

Lars Timmermann
Department of Neurology, University Hospital, Philipps
University, Marburg, Germany

Daniel Truong
Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorder Institute, Long
Beach, CA, USA

R. Jeroen Vermeulen
Child Neurology, Department of Neurology, MUMC+,
Maastricht, the Netherlands

Marie Vidailhet
Department of Neurology, AP-HP, Salpêtrière Hospital,
Sorbonne University – Pierre et Marie Curie University,
Institut of Brain and Spine (ICM), Salpêtrière, Paris, France

Jens Volkmann
Department of Neurology, University Hospital Würzburg,
Würzburg, Germany

Uwe Walter
Department of Neurology, University of Rostock, Rostock,
Germany

Contributors

Thomas T. Warner
Reta Lila Weston Institute of Neurological Studies,
Department of Molecular Neuroscience and Queen Square
Brain Bank, Institute of Neurology, UCL, London, UK

Karoline Wenzel
Department of Neurology, Medical University Graz, Graz,
Austria

Lena Zetterberg
Section of Physiotherapy, Department of Neuroscience,
Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden

Kirsten E. Zeuner
Department of Neurology, Christian-Albrechts-University
Kiel, Kiel, Germany

Ulf Ziemann
Department of Neurology & Stroke and Hertie Institute for
Clinical Brain Research, Eberhard Karls University, Tübingen,
Germany

Preface

Treatment of dystonia has been a challenge since the concept of dystonia was first formulated by C. David Marsden in London and Stanley Fahn in New York City. In the absence of causal treatment, multiple pharmacological, surgical, rehabilitative and experimental therapies have been brought up. With the advent of botulinum toxin therapy and deep brain stimulation, major advances have been achieved. Improved insight into the pathophysiologic and genetic bases of dystonia might provide guidelines for future therapies.

With all of this, treatment of dystonia is a multifactorial and multidisciplinary challenge. Providing an overview about available treatment options, describing synergistic effects and outlining strategies to approach this challenge is the goal of this book. It is based on the congress series 'International Congress on Treatment of Dystonia' taking place every three years in Hannover, Germany.

All chapters are grouped around several general topics. Each chapter can be read individually. Within the chapters, reference to other chapters of the book will be provided. Some overlap between chapters may occur. However, that will allow the reader to recognise nuanced differences in the way our authors interpret their topics.

We hope that we will provide the reader with a concise and up-to-date overview about the fascinating topic of treatment of dystonia.

Enjoy your reading as much as we enjoyed pulling together this book for you!

Dirk Dressler
Eckart Altenmüller
Joachim K. Krauss
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