

# Medication-Resistant Epilepsy

Fifty million people worldwide have epilepsy and yet up to 35% of patients experience seizures that are resistant to anti-epileptic drugs. Patients with medication-resistant epilepsy have increased risks of premature death, psychosocial dysfunction and a reduced quality of life. This key resource delivers guidance for all clinicians involved in caring for patients with medication-resistant epilepsy in order to reduce these risks.

Covering the epidemiology, biology, causes and potential treatments for medication-resistant epilepsy, this definitive and focused text reviews the clinical care needs of patients. Guidance is practical and includes treatment for specialized groups including paediatric patients and those with psychiatric comorbidities. Several promising non-pharmacologic interventions available for patients, such as surgery, neuromodulation diet therapy and botanical treatment, are explored in detail. Leading international figures from a range of disciplines bring their expertise together holistically in this essential manual.

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Edited by John M. Stern , Raman Sankar , Michael Sperling  
Frontmatter  
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# Medication-Resistant Epilepsy

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## Diagnosis and Treatment

Edited by

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Every effort has been made in preparing this book to provide accurate and up-to-date information that is in accord with accepted standards and practice at the time of publication. Although case histories are drawn from actual cases, every effort has been made to disguise the identities of the individuals involved. Nevertheless, the authors, editors, and publishers can make no warranties that the information contained herein is totally free from error, not least because clinical standards are constantly changing through research and regulation. The authors, editors, and publishers therefore disclaim all liability for direct or consequential damages resulting from the use of material contained in this book. Readers are strongly advised to pay careful attention to information provided by the manufacturer of any drugs or equipment that they plan to use.

Dedicated to our patients and their families who continue to teach us about medication-resistant epilepsy.

To my parents, with love and appreciation. Their values and dedications to science and caring for others are embedded in my daily life and this book.  
John Stern

To my late father whose memory remains an everlasting inspiration, to my mother, and to my wife, Oonagh, who has been a pillar of support with her love and a partner in everything that touches my life.  
Raman Sankar

To my wife, Janet, for her love and support.  
Mike Sperling

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