

Neuroradiology Companion

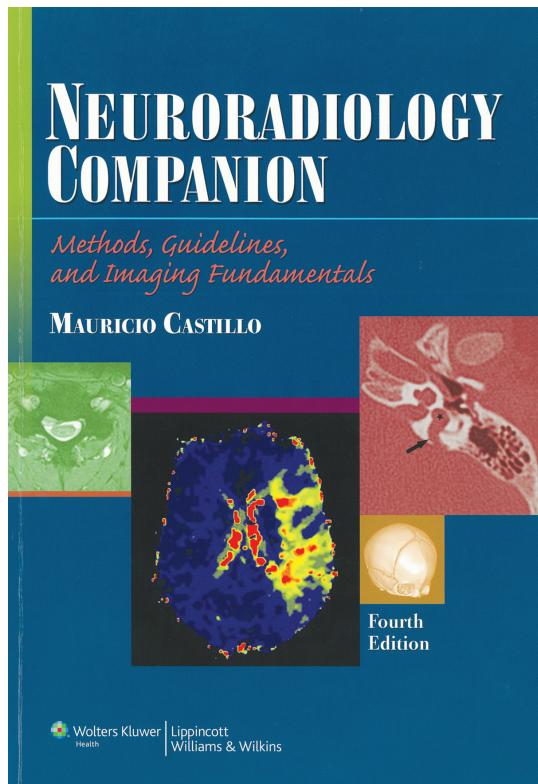
Methods, Guidelines, and Imaging Fundamentals, 4th Edition 2012

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In 1995, Dr. Castillo wrote the first edition of this unique book, which provides a basic overview of all areas of neuroradiology. Now in 2012, we are pleased to see an expanded and updated 4th edition. This paperback is of 2.4 cm thickness, with 605 pages covering key facts and useful information in bullet form for each disorder. The first part is entitled "*Imaging protocols and guidelines*" and covers CT, MRI, myelography, digital subtraction angiography (DSA), sedation and anxiolysis

protocols, medications in neuroradiology and sample dictations. This section is very valuable as a reference aid in daily practice. Sedation and anxiolysis protocols are also described as well as medications and management of contrast media reactions. The sample dictations of normal findings in MR, CT, can indeed serve as a template, which can be adjusted to the particular institution's protocol, so this section will be particularly useful for trainees.

Part two of the book deals with "*Imaging fundamentals*" of the brain, spine and head & neck. As for the descriptions of congenital malformations, the examples of each condition are easy to understand but because of brevity, may lack some details. The interpretation for CT or MR perfusion for management of each patient should be clarified more clearly. There is no description of technique with relation of CT to MR perfusion or MR spectroscopy, and few examples are given of using MR perfusion to assess cerebral infarction or tumors. The chapter on brachial plexus has excellent and clear illustrations. We can nevertheless imagine that this section would be a good companion for emergency physicians with little imaging experience, helping them to distinguish between conditions in the absence of an available consultant, such as on night shift.

Overall, we highly recommend this book as a very good reference for trainees in neuroradiology, and indeed imaging radiologists and technicians in general. We give part one 9 out of 10 for its brief and clear summary points. Most of the illustrations are new, and there are more images per entry than in the 3rd edition. Other reviewers were critical but we appreciate that there is plenty of space left for the reader to add notes and salute Dr. Castillo who is an excellent teacher for all of us.