DESCRIPTION

The Rat Nervous System An Introduction to Preparatory Techniques J. P. Cassella Institute of Psychiatry, London, UK J. Hay Tennant Institute of Ophthalmology, University of Glasgow, UK and S. J. Lawson Imperial College School of Medicine at St Mary's, London, UK For over thirty years, rodents have been used in the study of many human and animal diseases. The rat in particular continues to serve as an experimental model for drug safety and efficacy tests for the treatment of neurological disorders, heart disease, diabetes, breast, liver and other cancers. With the more recent advent of transgenic technology, an impressive amount of new knowledge about transmissible spongiform encephalopathies has been accumulated. It is likely that the principles learned from the study of these prion diseases will be applicable to elucidating the causes of more common neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases. As a result of this and, more importantly, because of increasingly complicated legislation governing the use of animals in regulated procedures, there is a need for experimenters (both experienced and those new to the laboratory) to improve their skills continuously and to become au fait with all aspects of preparatory techniques. The Rat Nervous System provides an accessible guide to the dissection and perfusion of rats, placing particular emphasis on the preparation of nervous tissue for further study in the laboratory including biochemical analysis and microscopic study. Logically structured with highly illustrated chapters covering gross anatomy, anatomy of the nervous system, anaesthesia, biological fixation and tissue extraction, the book provides a comprehensive introduction to those techniques required to provide consistent, high-quality tissues for subsequent investigation. Animal husbandry of a high standard, together with minimisation of discomfort, is essential if the information sought by the investigator is to be valid and reproducible; an overview of these topics is therefore also incorporated in this volume.
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

J. P. Cassella is the author of *The Rat Nervous System: An Introduction to Preparatory Techniques*, published by Wiley.

J. Hay is the author of *The Rat Nervous System: An Introduction to Preparatory Techniques*, published by Wiley.

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