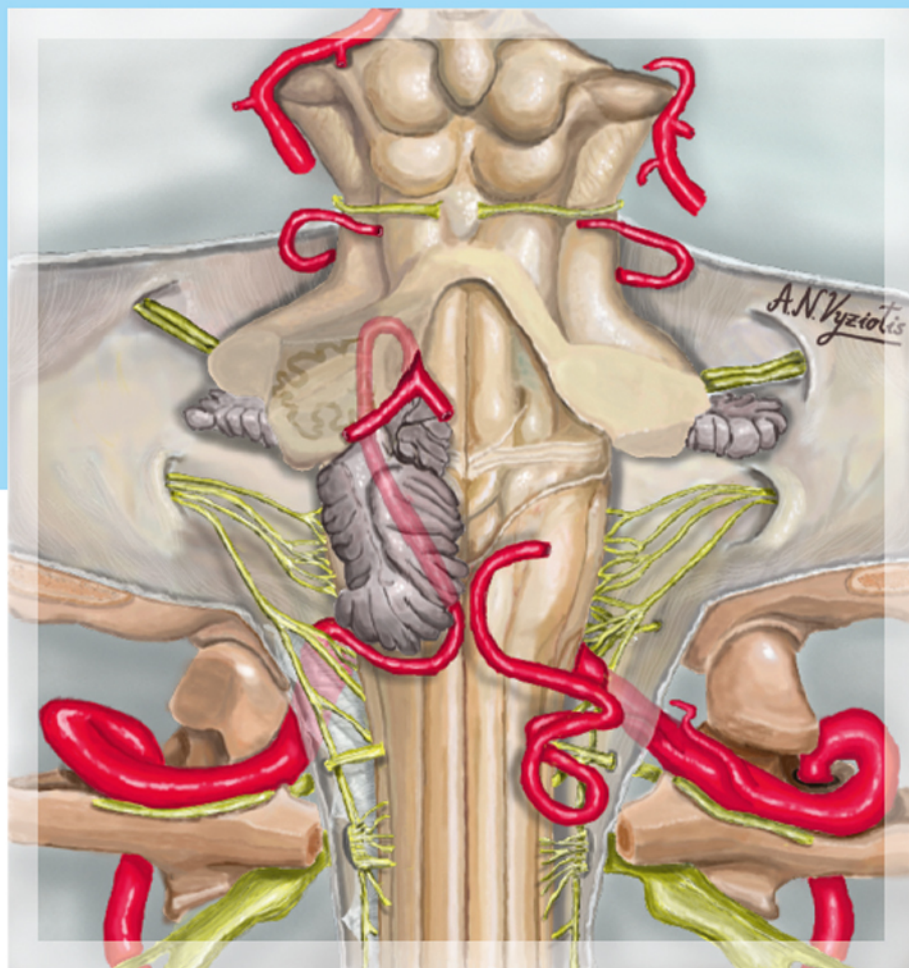


# Neurosurgical Review

For Daily Clinical Use and Oral Board Preparation

Vasilios A. Zerris



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# Neurosurgical Review

For Daily Clinical Use and Oral Board Preparation

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I dedicate this book to:

My wonderful parents, Athanasios and Anna. I owe everything to them. Their limitless love and kindness have been the foundation of my life. They are the most wonderful parents and people in the world.

My best friend Gerhard, who for 25 years has been not just my colleague, but above all, my brother in life.

To love. It's what gives life meaning.

*Vasilios A. Zerris, MD, MPH, MSc, FAANS*





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# Preface

The goal of this book is to present neurosurgical knowledge not in a time consuming long-winded text format, but rather digested in a high yield and easy to memorize format. Not to just present the data, but rather to “visualize” the knowledge. To convert vast complex neurosurgical information into a visual form that makes sense and is easy to recall. Several of the charts and tables also have associated audio files which are meant to further aid in creating the mental framework to easily comprehend and memorize the material.

Although the book is based primarily on notes taken while preparing for the ABNS oral board examination, it has been further enriched so that it serves as a handy and quick reference for daily clinical use by residents, fellows and practicing neurosurgeons throughout the world.

## The New Oral Board Format and this Book

Recently the ABNS has changed the format of the oral boards and broken the examination down into three sections. The first session is general neurosurgery, the second section is based on the applicant’s focused practice and the third session is based on the cases submitted by the applicant.

The main question is what material is included in the general session? Although an outline of included material is available on the ABNS website, the answer

is likely twofold, meaning that there are two types of general sessions. The first is the general session that is taken by all neurosurgeons irrelevant of their subspecialty focus. This session is meant to determine the applicant’s ability to treat diseases that may show up when on-call or in the ER. The applicant is expected to be able to treat all neurosurgical emergencies and stabilize patients appropriately. The second type of general session is the one taken by applicants who select general neurosurgery as their focused practice and thus have two general neurosurgery sessions during their examination. This session is meant to determine the proficiency of applicants in diseases faced both on an emergent and on an elective basis by a community neurosurgeon.

For the purpose of this book, charts likely containing information relevant to the general neurosurgery session taken by all applicants, as well as the focused practice general neurosurgery session are marked with a **G**. Although we have tried to be inclusive with the choice of information for these sessions, we recommend that applicants strive for a thorough overview of the entire book.

Most of the cases presented at the end of the chapters are targeted towards material that may be tested in both general neurosurgery sessions.

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