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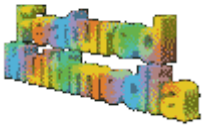
Multimedia/Software Review Section

(Page 1 b - Review by Dr. Srijit Das, Professor of Anatomy, Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi, India)

FEATURED BOOK : REVIEW 2



A REVOLUTIONARY EFFORT IN UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS OF THE BRAIN

Rating : 10/10
★★★★★★★★★★
(10/5)

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Dissection of the Human Brain (DVD), *by* Lennart Heimer, MD
Departments of Neurosurgery and Neuroscience, University of Virginia, Publication Date 2006. Total running time: 1 hour 16 mins. Price $65.00 + Shipping, USA. Contact: bsc@virginia.edu.

To order call: UVA Media Services or email: Scott Creasy at bsc@virginia.edu, .

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For more information: Lennart Heimer, MD, Dept. of Neurosurgery, PO Box 800212, University of Virginia Health System, Charlottesville, VA 22908, USA, email: lh2c@virginia.edu, LH2C@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu

Links:

Instructional Video. Dissection of the Human Brain

Neurosurg Focus 18 (6b):E4, 2005

Pubmed link of the *Neurosurg Focus* article

View an 18 minute clip from this video by Clicking here

Lennart Heimer's websites:

http://www.hubin.org/news/vip/heimer/index_en.html (English)

http://www.hubin.org/news/vip/heimer/index_se.html (Swedish)

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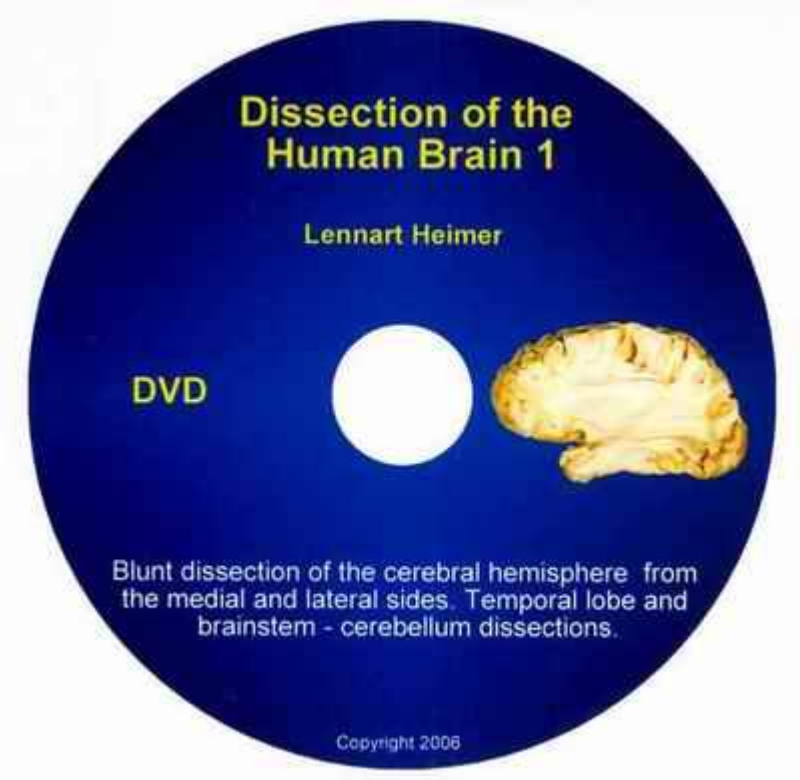

Till now, even the greatest of conventional anatomy textbooks have failed to describe anatomy of the brain effectively. Anatomy of the brain is always better understood in any dissection. The present disk filmed on the live dissection is unique of its kind. The disk compiled by Lennart Helmer can definitely give any neuroanatomy textbook a run for their money. The author has dissected all parts of a human brain and the same has been filmed and captured on a disk The disk has four sections defining the dissection of different parts of brain.

Section.1 shows the dissection from the medial side. It was an honest effort by the author to begin the presentation with the technique of dissection and defining Diffusion Tensor MRI. Diffusion Tensor MRI is an important tool for investigations in brain especially in Alzheimer's disease. The concept of in vivo tractography has been well represented. The descriptions of different instruments may be interesting for any beginner. It is often difficult to have a closer view of mamillary body especially in routine dissections during which it is damaged but in the present video the mamillary body has been exposed clearly. The cingulum, lateral ventricle, internal capsule and superior occipitofrontal fasciculus have been discussed in detail. The closer view of the thalamus is sure to impress any viewer.

Section.2 deals with the dissection of the brain from the lateral side. The concept of third ventricle and lateral ventricle has been clearly defined. The corpus callosum and its parts are easy to understand in comparison to any conventional text book of anatomy . The important aspect of this

presentation is that the dissection has been shown in a step wise manner. The demonstration of external capsule is simply outstanding.

...Before the dissection commences, an attempt is made to identify the parts grossly-e.g. corpus callosum, sensory and motor cortex. The important gross details like differentiation between grey and white matter of cerebral cortex, arbor vitae appearance of cerebellum etc. can be appreciated well...
Section.3 shows the temporal lobe dissection. The optic radiation and Meyer's loop have been clearly shown in the dissection. Good pictorial diagrams have supplemented the dissection. Temporal limb of anterior commissure has never been explained so clearly as evident in the present dissection. The dissection performed by the author to expose the glomus choroideum is worth mentioning. This type of dissection can never be found in any anatomy textbook hence the importance of the work is highly acclaimed. The amygdaloid body has been shown in an enlarged view and the author deserves credit for such meticulous dissection.

Section.4 shows the cerebellum and the brainstem. The pons and medulla have been clearly shown along with the cranial nerves related to it. The 3D picture of cerebellar peduncles are sure to impress any viewer. The nucleus of different cranial nerves in this dissection are a treat to watch.

The video has been filmed in a systemic manner and all the aspects of the brain have been covered. The author has exposed the different steps of dissection to show each and every part of the brain clearly. Any viewer will surely benefit from this video presentation instead of wasting much time in reading any anatomy textbook. It would have been better if the author would have used pointer instead of pencil while pointing any structure. It is a really enjoying video with supplemented diagrams and excellent anatomical description. In the next editions, it would be better to include more of theory matter to quench the thirst of any learner. The author has done justice to the dissection of human brain and I am sure that any viewer will have the same experience as if he was performing any live dissection on the human brain. The dissection of human brain could not have been better described and I would give full marks to the author for this lucid and meticulous presentation.



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Dr.Srijit Das is working as Professor of Anatomy in Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi (India). Dr.Das completed his medical degree in 1992 from V.S.S.Medical College, Burla, situated besides the famous Hirakud dam in Orissa. He completed his post

graduation in Anatomy (i.e MS degree) from S.C.B.Medical College, Cuttack, Orissa, in 1997. Dr.Das worked as a Senior Resident in Anatomy in the prestigious All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi from 1997 to 2001. He was selected as Asst Prof through UPSC interview in 2001. Dr.Das has been selected earlier for faculty posts in Libya, Nepal and Mauritius.

Dr.Das has several publications in National and International Journals. He has reviewed article for 'Clinical Anatomy' published from USA. Dr.Das special research areas include gross anatomy and osteology. Dr.Das has worked on ABO blood groups and secretor status. Dr.Das has also worked on the opioid receptors in CNS and this work was presented in European Opioid Conference in 2000. Dr.Das is a member of Anatomical Society of India, Biotech Society of India and International Society for vertebrate Morphologie.

To order this DVD call: UVA Media Services or email: Scott Creasy at bsc@virginia.edu, .

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