need of it. While thus absorbed Henny assembled a unique collection of X-ray photographs of tuberculotic lesions, impossible to replace today. He was involved in much travelling through the Free State region with the unit responsible for mass miniature X-rays, in vogue at the time. Sadly the goal of eradicating the scourge of tuberculosis, which seemed so possible 50 years ago, would not materialise in his day.

Henny was a founder member and ardent supporter of the local medical history club. We still remember his excellently researched papers on inter alia the history of tuberculosis treatment, and the death of Hodgkin in Palestine (present-day Israel).

He contributed close on 40 articles to scientific journals, as well as a chapter on the management of tuberculosis in the pre-chemotherapeutic era in a publication entitled A Century of Tuberculosis: South African Perspectives. This acknowledged him as a leading authority on this aspect of the disease. Henny was awarded the Hamilton Maynard Memorial Medal for the best SAMJ article in a specific year (1983), a Merit Certificate by the SA National Tuberculosis Association for 20 years’ service, and was also elected life member of the SA Medical Association’s Community Health Group.

As teacher he had the gift of imparting knowledge – his ward rounds in the Pelonomi Hospital’s tuberculosis wards converted a traditionally boring subject into a positive experience for those of us present. All who came into contact with this man were struck by his humility, insight and genuine dedication. A modest colleague and gentleman, Henny truly epitomised the best in a profession of bygone era.

To his loving wife Annette we wish to offer our sincere condolences. Henny will be sorely missed, but we are all the richer for having known him. In the words of Thomas Hardy: 'He was a good man who did good things'.

S V Potgieter
F P Retief

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This American text is aimed at the emergency physician and emergency medicine registrars. In our country, those intending to do the Master of Philosophy degree in emergency medicine would also benefit from this text. Most chapters are written by a team of an emergency physician and a neurologist, and the contributors are mainly from Michigan and Pennsylvania.

The chapters include an introduction to the topic, emergency assessment, clinical findings, pathology and radiology investigations, management, and disposition. Each chapter ends with a list of ‘pearls’ and ‘pitfalls’.

The chapter on neuroradiology deals with CT versus MRI imaging for selected neurological conditions, as well as selective angiography. Imaging for craniospinal trauma is included. The chapters on altered mental status and seizures are comprehensive and offer an excellent approach to these topics.

The musculoskeletal and neurogenic pain chapter is divided into sections dealing with facial pain, neck and upper extremity pain, thoracic and truncal pain, low back and lower extremity pain. This provides a fresh approach to the assessment of pain in the emergency department. The chapter on non-traumatic spinal cord emergencies also emphasises back pain as a significant presenting complaint to the emergency physician.

The approach to the evaluation and management of neuropsychiatric patients is well described – dividing this group of patients into two groups is most valuable.

Several chapters are dedicated to paediatric conditions. Information on hydrocephalus and shunts in children is excellent, giving clear instruction on the manual evaluation to test CSF shunt patency. Other paediatric chapters include cerebrovascular disorders, infection of the CNS, and seizures.

A significant chapter on neurotoxicology includes ‘drug syndromes’, altered mental status, hyperthermia, environmental neurotoxins such as electrical injuries, and envenomation.

Clive Balfour