

An Introduction to the Physiology of Hearing


By James Pickles

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An Introduction to the Physiology of Hearing By James Pickles

This book deals with the way that the auditory system processes acoustic signals. The current edition has been revised in all areas to reflect the progress that has been made since the 3rd edition. As well as dealing with the basic anatomy and physiology of all stages of the auditory system, the book relates basic physiological processes to the performance of the auditory system as a whole, in the perception of acoustic signals including speech. The chapter on sensorineural hearing loss not only describes the physiological and anatomical changes that are associated with hearing loss, but includes latest information on treatments including cochlear implants, and work being undertaken on stem cell and other cellular therapies for deafness. A reading scheme has been provided to guide readers to the section most appropriate for their interests. The book is written so that those entering auditory research from very little background in auditory neuroscience are able to understand the current research issues and the current research literature. It is also intended to be a source book and reference work for advanced undergraduates studying the special senses, and for clinicians in the specialty of Otorhinolaryngology.

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Editorial Review

Review

Pickles (biomedical sciences, U. of Queensland, Australia) presents a textbook for undergraduate students and for medical professionals in other specialties besides audiology. There are multiple entry points for readers with different levels of background, and the treatment is non-mathematical except for a few elementary algebraic equations. The topics include the physics and analysis of sound, the auditory nerve, mechanism of transduction and excitation in the cochlea, the auditory cortex, and sensorineural hearing loss. Previous editions were published between 1982 and 2008; this one incorporates recent developments in the science and devotes more attention to clinical aspects. Distributed in North America by Turpin Distribution. --Book News Inc. Portland, OR

About the Author

James Pickles is the Head of the Hearing Unit, University of Queensland, Brisbane. He was previously Reader in Auditory Physiology in the Department of Physiology at the University of Birmingham, UK, and moved to the Vision, Touch and Hearing Research Centre in 1989. He has been financed by a Garnett Passe and Rodney Williams Memorial Foundation Senior Research Fellowship. Before that, he was an Australian Senior Research Fellow of the Australian Research Council.

Dr James Pickles' research concentrates on the function, development, regeneration, and pathology of the hair cells of the cochlea. The work is a development of the discovery of 'tip links', fine macromolecular strands that interconnect the tips of the mechanosensitive hairs or stereocilia on the cells, enabling the cells to detect sound.

Users Review

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Sandra Alexander:

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