INTRODUCTION

This book is the second edition of the second volume of the *Atlases of Electroencephalography* (EEG). This collection was started some 15 years ago, and the second edition, long overdue, will be completed in 2019. The first volume covers the scope of the normal awake and sleep EEG. The third volume focuses on the EEG in neurology and critical care. This second volume deals with the epilepsies.

This volume appears simultaneously with the 6th edition of the "Blue Guide" (*Epileptic Syndromes in Infancy, Childhood and Adolescence,* John Libbey Eurotext, 6th edition, 2019), the treatise devoted to the study of epileptic syndromes. Indeed, we have used the same approach, as we still consider that a syndromic diagnosis is the goal that we all strive to reach, although it may not be possible in many cases. This EEG atlas should be consulted while keeping this in mind.

A new Classification approach to epileptic seizures and to the epilepsies became official in 2017, and we have included several of its aspects, in terms of terminology in particular. We have retained some of the old, outdated descriptors that have not been entirely discarded by the modern approaches, terms such as "idiopathic" or "benign", because these terms retain a major clinical significance in many situations. The new classification system has pushed us to change the order of presentation of the various epilepsies, but the reader will recognize the large and smaller chapters of clinical epileptology.

We remain fully aware that it is not possible to cover *all* aspects of clinical electroencephalography in epilepsy, and had to make choices. The second edition of this volume is not designed only for dedicated specialists, and we decided not to include examples drawn from intracranial recording, nor to dwell too heavily upon the problems posed by neonatal seizures, or many of the rare epileptic conditions.

From our practice, we have learnt that clinicians and EEG specialists or technologists who deal with patients with epilepsy, will encounter both the frequent forms (which pose many problems in the interpretation of EEG), and the rare forms (which pose even more problems, but turn up less often). We chose to highlight problems encountered in daily practice, but did not refrain from giving examples drawn from rare pathological situations. We hope that the balance will satisfy the user of this atlas.

The authors