



W. L. Nowinski, R. N. Bryan, R. Raghavan:
**The Electronic Clinical Brain Atlas. Multiplanar
Navigation of the Human Brain.**

Thieme publishers New York - Stuttgart, 1997

The electronic clinical brain atlas is fusion of several standard printed stereotactic brain atlases of Talairach and Schaltenbrand & Wahren in the form of a CD for use on a personal computer.

A CD-ROM drive and Windows® version 3.11 are the necessary requirements for use of the atlas. Digitalized "atlas volumes" have been compiled from the "Co-planar stereotaxic atlas of the human brain" by Talairach & Tournoux 1988, the "Referentially oriented cerebral MRI anatomy" by Talairach & Tournoux 1993, and the Schaltenbrand & Wahren atlas for basal ganglia anatomy. Additionally, MRI images of one person were superimposed by the Talairach atlas using elastic transformations. All data volumes were collected with identical tilting parallel to the CA-CP line. This makes it possible to visualize simultaneously the same section in different modes showing the gyri, the Brodman areas, the corresponding MRI overlays and in the basal ganglia the detailed anatomy of the Schaltenbrand atlas with the overlays dividing the different nuclei. Axial, sagittal and coronal sections can be selected. In the triplanar mode axial sagittal and coronal section are displayed simultaneously on the screen. With the function "Label" anatomic information for every point of the slice is possible. An integration of the vascular system is planned for the next version.

The electronic clinical brain atlas is very useful tool not only for stereotactic neurosurgeons but for all people who are involved in the localization of intracranial structures like general neurosurgeons, neuroradiologists, neurologists, and psychologists, etc. It seems to me also to offer an excellent didactic possibility for students to study brain anatomy.

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