PREFACE

Primarily because of vast improvements in neuroimaging modalities such as computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging, diagnosis and treatment of intracranial diseases are expanding rapidly in veterinary medicine. With better diagnostic capabilities, the onus falls on the veterinary neurologist to provide a better understanding of disease and to enhance treatment modalities. The ultimate goal is to improve prognosis for animals with intracranial disease. This edition of the *Veterinary Clinics of North America* was envisioned to provide a source of current thoughts and ideas regarding common intracranial diseases in dogs and cats.

While new information is available, it is striking that many of the intracranial diseases of animals are still devastating, and the spectrum of beneficial treatments relatively finite. Much information regarding basic pathophysiologic mechanisms of intracranial disease is still not known. It would seem that concentrated efforts aimed at elucidating and understanding these pathophysiologic mechanisms provides the best chance for innovative treatments. This is the challenge for the future.

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