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Autore	Wijdicks Eelco F. M. <1954->
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Anatomy"; "Physical Examination"; "Neurologic Examination: Coma Scales and the FOUR Score"; "Neurological Examination: Clinical Observations"; "Breathing Patterns"; "Cranial Nerve Examination"; "Spontaneous Movements"; "Localization Principles and Brain Displacement Syndromes"; "Conclusions"; "4 The Clinical Diagnosis of Prolonged Impaired Consciousness"  
"Categories of Outcome"  
"Persistent Vegetative State"; "Minimally Conscious State and Akinetic Mutism"; "Laboratory Investigations"; "Prediction of Outcome"; "Conclusions"; "5 The Clinical Diagnosis of Brain Death"; "Code of Practice"; "The Clinical Examination"; "Prerequisites and Major Confounders"; "The Bedside Examination"; "Coma"; "Absence of Brainstem Reflexes"; "No Breathing Drive"; "Confirmatory Tests"; "Documentation"; "Special Issues"; "Pathophysiological Response to Brain Death"; "Organ Procurement"; "Conclusions"  
"6 Neuroimaging, Neurophysiology, and Neuropathology"  
"Neuroimaging in Coma"; "Diagnostic Imaging of Brain Tissue Shift"; "Diagnostic Imaging of Gray and White Matter Disorders"; "Neurophysiology of Coma"; "EEG Patterns in Coma"; "Continuous EEG Monitoring"; "Evoked Potentials"; "Neuropathology of Coma"; "Specific Types of Injury"; "Hypoxemia and Ischemia"; "Infarction and Hemorrhage"; "Trauma and Abuse"; "Infection"; "Demyelination"; "Neurotoxicity"; "Disease States"; "Pathology of Brain Herniation"; "Persistent Vegetative State"; "Brain Death"  
"Conclusions"

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## Sommario/riassunto

The Comatose Patient, Second Edition, is a critical historical overview of the concepts of consciousness and unconsciousness, covering all aspects of coma within 100 detailed case vignettes. This comprehensive text includes principles of neurologic examination of comatose patients as well as instruction of the FOUR Score coma scale, and also discusses landmark legal cases and ethical problems. As the Chair of Division of Critical Care Neurology at Mayo Clinic, Dr. Wijdicks uses his extensive knowledge to discuss a new practical multistep approach to the diagnosis of the comatose patient. Additionally, this edition includes extensive coverage of the interpretation of neuroimaging and its role in daily practice and decision making, as well as management in the emergency room and ICU. Dr. Wijdicks details long-term supportive care and an appropriate approach to communication with family members about end-of-life decision making.

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