



Springer

1st
edition

Softcover reprint of the
original 1st ed. 1972, XII,
335 p.

Printed book

Softcover

Printed book

Softcover

ISBN 978-1-4684-8233-1

\$ 149,99

Available

Discount group

Professional Books (2)

Product category

Contributed volume

Series

Advances in Experimental Medicine and
Biology

Biomedicine : Neurosciences

Arden, G. (Ed.)

The Visual System

Neurophysiology, Biophysics, and Their Clinical Applications

The International Society for Clinical Electrophysiology provides a link between scientists who are enlarging our understanding of the normal functioning of the visual pathway, and clinicians who investigate and treat visual disturbances. The chief function of the Society is to organise symposia, where, with skill born of long practice, the participants obtain the benefits of both social and scientific contact, without detriment to either. The resulting spread of information is documented both in the society's Newsletter, and by the publication of volumes such as this, the record of the 9th Symposium held at Brighton in 1971. This meeting was a joint Symposium of the ISCERG and the International Union of Physiological Sciences. The subjects covered represent merely the interests of the organisers. The biophysical studies are represented by chapters on such diverse topics as the x-ray diffraction of receptor membranes and impedance properties of outer limb suspensions. Other papers deal with the problems of maintaining the retina in vitro in a physiological condition. Papers describing techniques for investigating the functional properties of the visual system shade into those which describe new aspects of human disease. In the past such serendipity has been of value as evidenced by comparison between this and previous volumes. In 1965 the physiological section of the Proceedings was largely devoted to a new electrical response, the evoked potential of the visual cortex.

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ISBN 978-1-4684-8233-1 / BIC: PSAN / SPRINGER NATURE: SCB18006

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