Atlas of Radiological Imaging
E. George Kassner, editor,
J.B. Lippincott, Co.,
1989, 598 pp, $195.00

This tome is as all atlases should be, that is, profusely illustrated with superb reproductions of X-rays, line drawings, and numerous charts and tables accompanied by basic explanatory textual material for the reader. The book is divided into 12 sections. Some sections are topographically oriented (pulmonary radiology, imaging of the kidneys), while others are modality oriented (abdominal sonography, diagnostic angiography). Each section is produced by individual authors and the quality of illustrations varies. In general, however, the X-ray illustrations are superb.

Although the title of the book implies a multi-modality approach to radiologic imaging, it predominantly depicts X-ray imaging. There is only a token representation of nuclear medicine in its role in radiologic imaging (32 of 2554 illustrations) and the few images depicted cannot be considered state-of-the-art.

A major defect in this book is the sparse offerings of bibliographical references, which are often generic citations from other books or chapters.

The price of the book, $195, is justified by its size, 598 pages, and numerous excellent X-ray illustrations of diseases. For the nuclear medicine practitioner, it offers an excellent depiction of an almost exclusive X-ray approach to the diagnosis of disease.

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Medical Terminology: A Self Learning Guide, Second Edition
Jacqueline Joseph Birmingham,
C.V. Mosby, 1990, 383 pp, $21.95

This self-learning guide is designed for individuals entering a health care profession or other professions who need to understand medical terminology. As the author states, the text is designed to give the learner an opportunity to gain knowledge of the fundamentals of medical terminology, thus enabling him to build on this framework, depending upon his specific needs.

This paperback book is divided into 22 chapters with Chapters 1–5 covering basic word parts and general anatomical terms and the remaining chapters each devoted to a specific human body system. Each of the chapters includes a clear statement of objectives for the learner, information related to those objectives, and a series of tests with answers to assess if the material has been mastered. In presenting terminology related to a system, the author in a very organized fashion begins with information on the anatomy and physiology of the system and then details diseases of that particular system. To increase the opportunity for the learner to retain information related to a system, the author presents terminology associated with the various signs and symptoms of diseases, diagnostic and surgical procedures, and categories of types of drugs used in the treatment of these pathological conditions.

This text contains two very timely glossaries: one defines various terms associated with the AIDS virus and the transmission of this disease; the second defines terms related to transplantation. Terms are clearly presented relating to the types of transplants and also organ selection.

This text is highly recommended as both a course in medical terminology and for use as a self-learning guide. Such an all inclusive medical terminology book is a welcome addition to a nuclear medicine library.

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