

**REVIEW OF NUCLEAR
MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY,
2nd ed.**

Ann M. Steves. Reston, VA: Society of Nuclear Medicine Inc.; 1996; 141 pages; \$42.00 US; ISBN 0-932004-45-8.

The second edition of the *Review of Nuclear Medicine Technology*, by Ann M. Steves, is a timely update to a worthwhile text that was originally published in 1992. Steves says she intends to provide a tool for students preparing to take certification exams in nuclear medicine technology. The second edition furthers this aim by providing problem sets in two chapters, allowing readers to evaluate their ability to apply mathematical equations to real-life situations. The appendix on Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations has been updated, and newly-approved radiopharmaceuticals have been incorporated into the text. This edition is an admirable effort to remain current with the changes in nuclear medicine.

Steves did not stop, however, at only updating. She and her contributors added considerable information to the chapters on SPECT, cardiac and central nervous (CNS) system imaging. The cardiac and CNS chapters give excellent descriptions of pharmacologic interventions, including dosages, administration protocols and contraindications. However, the use of ACE inhibitors in the evaluation of renal hypertension is not mentioned in the text. The new edition has removed the chapter on radioimmunoassay (RIA), consistent with its removal from the NMTCB exam. However, the RIA chapter in the first edition was remarkable in its clarity, and I will continue to reference it for my students as an overview of that field. A short section on bone absorptiometry that was in the first edition has been removed from the second edition. This topic is required for the NMTCB exam and should be included in future editions.

Some production aspects of this publication need to be mentioned. A lighter-weight paper and smaller print, used in the second edition, make the book more pleasing overall to the eye and hand. Section headings

and procedure steps stand out better than in the first edition. I would like to see figures and tables more closely placed to their references in the body of the text. On the negative side, image reproduction is sometimes poor and figures and legends are occasionally mismatched. In one instance a parenthesis is misplaced in an equation. The outstanding quality of the material makes these production errors all the more disconcerting.

As a program director, I have strongly recommended the first edition of the *Review of Nuclear Medicine Technology* to my students as the best resource they could get for preparation for the board exam. I will continue to recommend the second edition, but I will point out its few errors. I encourage Steves and her co-authors to prepare future editions to mirror the changes in the field of nuclear medicine technology.

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