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What's New

Every description of the items on the following two pages was condensed from information supplied by its manufacturer. The reviews are published as a service to the professionals working in the field of nuclear medicine and their inclusion herein does not in any way imply an endorsement by the Editorial Board of the Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology *or by the Society of Nuclear Medicine.*

Gamma Camera Test Pattern

A new gamma camera test pattern, which meets the specifications for checking a camera's intrinsic spatial resolution and linearity according to National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) protocol, is available from Nuclear Associates. It consists of a ⅛ in. thick lead sheet, 22 in. square, sandwiched in protective plastic.

A series of parallel 1-mm-wide slits in the lead, 3 cm (center to center) apart, is arranged so that the ends of the slits form an 18 in. diameter circle, large enough to be compatible with most gamma cameras. The ⅛ in. lead thickness completely shields the areas between the slits from the 140 keV photons from Tc-99m. The test pattern fits most scintillation cameras.—*Nuclear Associates, 100 Voice Rd., Carle Place, NY 11514.*

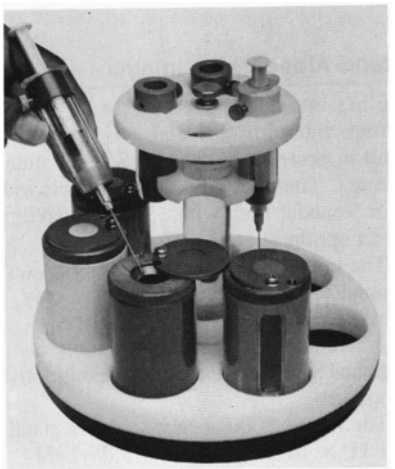
Circle Reader Service No. 51

Color-Coded Radiopharmacy

New from Atomic Products Corp. is a complete color-coded protection system for radiopharmaceuticals. The system has been designed to organize and simplify the daily administration of radiopharmaceuticals.

Color-coded vial shields with loss-proof slide tops are compatible with most radiopharmaceutical vials. Matching syringe shields are 50% lead glass for easy viewing, lightweight, and reduce Tc-99m exposure by 75%. Both can be conveniently stored on a hot lab "lazy susan" for easy accessibility.—*Atomic Products Corp., PO Box 1157, Center Moriches, NY 11934.*

Circle Reader Service No. 58



New Film Processor

Du Pont's new "Cronex" x-ray film processor provides top or rear delivery of up to 25% more films than previous Du Pont equipment.

Top or rear film delivery means the unit will fit into the smallest location for operating ease. Film capacity is increased to 220, 14 × 17 films per hour with a feed-in rate of 150 cm/min compared to 120 cm/min for the original QC-1. Processing speed is increased 25% to 90 sec.

Energy-saving features include cold water operating capability and a built-in standby control circuit, which automatically shuts off power and water during periods of inactivity. The standby system also cycles the machine during inactive periods to keep processing systems at operational levels. A water recirculation system enables the unit to operate using only 0.75 gal of water per min.

Three recirculation pumps provide proper agitation of developer, fixer, and wash water. An electronic monitor stabilizes developer temperature within ± 0.2° F. Seamless, corrosion-resistant plastic solution tanks hold up to 5 gal of solution.—*Du Pont Co., Marketing Communications Dept. Wilmington, DE 19898.*

Circle Reader Service No. 53

Xenon Dispensing System

Mallinckrodt, Inc. offers a new brochure describing the Mallinckrodt Xenomatic™ system. The system is comprised of a gas dispensing gun and 2-ml vials of Xe-133 gas, available in either 10- or 20-mCi sizes.

The brochure explains how the Xenomatic system provides faster and more convenient transfer of Xe-133 gas into the xenon gas delivery system. Included in the brochure are photos of scintigraphic images that illustrate diagnostic studies with Xe-133 gas.—*Diagnostic Products Division, Mallinckrodt, Inc., PO Box 5840, St. Louis, MO 63134.*

Circle Reader Service No. 52

Imaging Films Without Darkroom

A system for loading and unloading radiographic and video-imaging film—without a darkroom—has been introduced by Eastman Kodak.

The Kodaflex film-handling products for radiographic and video imaging, a multicomponent system, allow technologists to load film into a cassette and unload the film into a Kodak processor—or special holder in the examining room—in full room illumination.

Thus, the Kodaflex products reduce the amount of darkroom use and, in larger imaging departments, can reduce the number of darkrooms.—*Corporate Communications, Eastman Kodak Company, 343 State St., Rochester, NY 14650.*

Circle Reader Service No. 55

Cardiovascular Nuclear Medicine

Brattle Instrument announces its new models 210 and 211 Brattle R-Detects. The units provide a computer-compatible signal synchronized with a patient's QRS. This signal is required by all nuclear medicine computers in order to provide a dynamic study of the mechanics of the beating heart.

The advantages of the new units include: patient isolation; auto zero, eliminating the need for a front panel zero control; and self-adjusting threshold that will automatically adjust itself to 80% of the QR peak regardless of the size of the QRS. This feature insures that the Brattle R-Detect will operate properly over a wide range of ECG amplitudes. This alleviates operator intervention during a study if the patient moves or has poorly placed electrodes.

Other features are pacemaker pulse rejection; PVC rejection; analog ECG

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output; and flashing "QRS" indicator on front panel with lamps indicating faulty connection or broken wires.

The model 211 is functionally identical to the model 210 except that it includes a strip chart recorder displaying the patient's ECG and event marker showing the location of the R-Detect signal.—*Medical Electronics Corp., Brattle Instrument Division, 335 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02115.*

Circle Reader Service No. 54

Stand-Alone Video Imager

IIE has introduced an 11 × 14 in. film format video imager. The unit has a built-in port for an optional 35-mm slide camera. The model 8000 is available in a 4 or 9 mode, both with 35-mm capability as an option.

The unit features IIE fixed multilenses, ground to IIE's specifications; the only moving part is an electromagnetically-operated shutter. The lens assembly is matched to a flat faced, high resolution monitor.

The model 8000 accepts either a standard 11 × 14 in. cassette or a daylight loading cassette. The unit features automatic image advance, LED readout, cassette and dark slide alarms. Exposure time is operator-determined and allows for variable exposure settings.—*IIE, Marketing Dept., 901 S. Kay, Addison, IL 60101.*

Circle Reader Service No. 59

rCBF Analyzer

A new regional cerebral blood flow (rCBF) analysis system with advanced xenon delivery capability for quantitative and functional measurement of cerebral hemodynamics has been introduced.

Harshaw Chemical Company's rCBF System 400™ uses noninvasive, scintillation detector technology to measure blood flow through the brain. Evaluation and management of head trauma, normal pressure hydrocephalus, CVA, EC/IC bypass, dementia, migraine, and carotid endarterectomy patients are suggested.

A face mask is placed over the patient's nose and mouth. As the patient relaxes in a supine position, his head is placed in the transparent probe holder. Probes are then inserted into the holder in a symmetrical configuration. The patient breathes a Xe-133/air mixture for 1 min, followed by a 10–14-min washout period breathing room air. During this period, head probe detectors monitor the uptake and washout of the Xe-133.

Left and right cerebral hemispheres are displayed on a CRT graphic screen. Cerebral hemispheres are also printed on paper via a hard copy attachment for storage of patient information.

The entire patient procedure takes approximately 20 min. Computer analysis of the data acquired permits determination of gray flow, white flow, and other diagnostic parameters.

System 400 offers two methods for xenon infusion: inhalation of gas or IV injection.—*Harshaw Chemical Co., 1945 E. 97th St., Cleveland, OH 44106.*

Circle Reader Service No. 63

New Cobalt-57 Flood Source

New England Nuclear has introduced a new, very large field of view (VLFOV) Co-57 flood source that complements the existing standard and LFOV Co-57 sources.

These quality control tools eliminate the less efficient and time-consuming steps involved in the use of Tc-99m flood phantoms.

The new size source, which has an overall diameter of 61 cm and an active area of 59.7 cm, is available in two activity levels—5 mCi and 10 mCi of Co-57. All NEN Co-57 flood sources are registered with the Bureau of Radiological Health/FDA and are listed in the BRH/FDA Radioactive Materials Reference Manual to help users meet licensing requirements.

Each source is shipped in a wooden, lead-lined case and is supplied with a leak test certificate and handling and storage safety pamphlet.—*Public Affairs Coordinator, New England Nuclear, 549 Albany St., Boston, MA 02118.*

Circle Reader Service No. 67

Radiation-Resistant Glove

International Biomedical Inc. introduces a new radiation-resistant glove for special procedures.

The radiation-resistant gloves reduce hand exposure to direct or scattered radiation during catheterization, angiography, pacemaker insertion, and other radiation source special procedures.

The thin latex gloves are lead impregnated to achieve maximum attenuation of radiation with freedom of movement.

Only 0.012 in. thick, the gloves allow the greatest degree of flexibility, dexterity, and sensitivity. The gloves are supplied sterile and can be sterilized for reuse by gaseous ethylene oxide or autoclave.—*International Biomedical Inc., 512 South Freeway, Fort Worth, TX 76104.*

Circle Reader Service No. 56

What's New in Radioimmunoassay

Coated-Tube Aldosterone Assay

A simple RIA for the quantitative determination of aldosterone in serum, plasma, or urine is available from Damon Diagnostics.

The aldosterone assay can be performed directly on either a 200-μl serum or plasma sample, or a 20-μl aliquot of an acid hydrolyzed 24-hr urine specimen, with an 18–24 hr incubation period at 2–8° C. Sensitivity of the assay is 10.5 ± 2.2 pg/ml (plasma) and 0.31 ± 0.1 ng/ml (urine).

Available in 50-, 100- or 200-test sizes, the kit includes I-125 labeled aldosterone, aldosterone antibody-coated tubes, aldosterone standards, phosphate buffer, and ANS. Standards are predispensed and calibrated over the range from 0–1000 pg/ml. Shelf-life of the kit is seven weeks.—*Damon Diagnostics, 115 Fourth Ave., Needham Heights, MA 02194.*

Circle Reader Service No. 61

Coated-Tube Insulin RIA

Clinical Assays has introduced the Gammacoat™ insulin radioimmunoassay kit, a convenient coated-tube assay that saves procedural steps. Because of its solid-phase, coated-tube separation, the assay calls for only two pipettings and may be easily automated for speed and labor savings. No centrifugation is necessary.

In addition, all reagents except the tracer come in ready-to-use liquid form, requiring no reconstitutions or dilutions. Incubation is at room temperature. Bottled reagents are stored conveniently at 2–8° C, and antibody-coated tubes may be stored at room temperature.—*Marketing Communications, Clinical Assays, Div. of Travenol Laboratories, Inc., 620 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA 02139.*

Circle Reader Service No. 60