

# JNMT Bookshelf

## **ATLAS OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE ARTIFACTS AND VARIANTS**

Ung Y. Ryo, Carlos Bekerman and Steven M. Pinsky, Year Book Medical Publishers, Chicago, 1985, 214 pp, \$59.95.

A compendium of artifacts and normal variants will be a valuable teaching tool as well as reference text for technologists and physicians. Quite often while teaching, one may describe an artifact or variant but cannot readily produce a specific example. The ability to demonstrate not only artifact and its cause, but normal variant, which may have a similar appearance, will be uniquely helpful to all. The amount of information contained within these 214 pages is vast.

Chapter one contains a collection of purely technical artifacts. The remainder of the text is organized into 10 chapters of normal variant and various artifacts classified according to organ system. Included are chapters on the brain, thyroid, lungs, heart, liver/spleen, hepatobiliary system, kidneys, vascular system, skeletal system, as well as gallium scans. Each chapter consists of numerous illustrations presented as case reports including pertinent clinical information, the description of the image appearance, and an explanation of the variant or artifact. Methodologies for artifact correction or further imaging techniques are often included. Pertinent references are also provided. Relevant images from other modalities are used to further clarify an explanation of the variant demonstrated. The importance of good imaging technique and multiple view imaging is stressed throughout the book. Furthermore, SPECT imaging artifacts are included in chapter one.

The *Atlas of Nuclear Medicine and Variants* is an excellent teaching resource for every nuclear medicine training program. It is hoped that the authors will continue to update the compendium. A second edition that includes additional chapters on SPECT artifacts and that has references organized at the end of each chapter would be welcomed.

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## **DRGS FOR THE RADIOLOGIST— THEIR MEANING AND IMPACT**

Rosemary T. Weiner and Russell P. Caterinicchio, Slack Book Division, Thorofare, New Jersey, 1985, 123 pp, \$19.50.

This handbook was developed with the intent of addressing

issues that are anticipated to impact on diagnostic and therapeutic services provided by radiology, nuclear medicine, ultrasound, and other diagnostic modalities within the hospital.

Although the text contains only six chapters, it is concise, and thoroughly explains the history and basics of the DRG system. In addition, strategies and roles for the radiologist are outlined. Other topics include "outliers," DRG assignment protocols, weaknesses in DRGs, institution-physician relationships, and 23 additional subsections. Each chapter is concluded with a summary, and the text lists 90 references in its bibliography.

Although this text is written for the radiologist, other physician specialties can benefit from this publication.

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## **DIAGNOSTIC INTERVENTIONS IN NUCLEAR MEDICINE**

James H. Thrall and Dennis P. Swanson, eds, Year Book Medical Publishers, Chicago, 1985, 276 pp, \$39.95.

This textbook utilizes a broad definition of interventions that include the use of nuclear medicine techniques to evaluate the change in organ physiology or metabolism resulting from an intervention and the use of nuclear scintigraphy to evaluate the efficacy of a drug or medical procedure. Specific chapters are devoted to physiologic stress and pharmacologic interventions in nuclear cardiology, diuresis renography, adrenal scintigraphy and dexamethasone suppression, thyroid suppression and stimulation tests, pharmacologic interventions in gastrointestinal bleeding, the role of hepatic artery perfusion imaging, evaluation of peripheral vascular disease, studies of the gastrointestinal tract, PET and SPECT in the evaluation of central nervous system function, and interventional hepatobiliary imaging. The book is well referenced and includes additional chapters on drug-radiopharmaceutical interactions and an appreciated formulary that briefly describes the biochemistry, pharmacokinetics, precautions, and dosage of the pharmaceuticals most commonly used in interventional studies.

The chapters present a brief statement of the clinical problem, a succinct review of the relevant anatomy and physiology, and a discussion of the applicable techniques, interventions, applications, and pitfalls. The chapters are clearly formatted and most of the chapters have multiple subheadings which allow the reader with a specific question

to quickly locate the relevant material. The information contained in the book will often enhance understanding and performance of interventional studies that have already been instituted, and the book will serve as a valuable reference for introducing new procedures.

The editors state that their purposes are to: develop the concept of diagnostic interventions, provide summaries of current interventional procedures, and suggest potential avenues for future development. In this endeavor they have succeeded. Interventional procedures have accounted for much of the recent growth in nuclear medicine. An understanding of these procedures is important for everyone actively engaged in the practice of nuclear medicine.

In summary, this text is a well written review of the major interventional applications to nuclear medicine and will be a useful addition to an active nuclear medicine service.

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#### **TEXTBOOKS OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE, VOLUMES I AND II**

John Harbert and Antonio Fernando Gonçalves da Rocha, eds, Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia, 1984. Volume I, 526 pp, \$80.00; Volume II, 724 pp, \$95.00. Complete set, \$155.00.

The first edition of these books were favorites of mine, and I am glad to see that they have been revised and updated. Both texts have been expanded in size and several new chapters have been added. Moreover, each chapter has been written by experts in the field. The writing, in general, is very clear. The

chapters are detailed without being encyclopedic. Tables and illustrations are numerous and well chosen.

Volume I is a review of the physics, chemistry, and radiobiology of nuclear medicine. An overview of radioimmunoassay is also included. In addition to chapters on the relationship of x-ray computed tomography and ultrasound to nuclear medicine, which were present in the first edition, new chapters on magnetic resonance imaging and digital radiography have been added. Some specific nuclear medicine studies that are covered in more detail such as labeled carbon breath tests, in vivo neutron activation analysis, and cerebral blood flow with xenon-133 make this text very complete.

Volume II discusses the clinical aspects of nuclear medicine. Following the structure of most nuclear medicine textbooks, it is organized by organ systems. Topics discussed include: the endocrine system, central nervous system, gastrointestinal system, cardiovascular system, genitourinary system, hematopoietic system, lymphatic system, tumor imaging, and guidelines for evaluating new tests. In addition, the new edition has added specific chapters on parathyroid and adrenal imaging, special brain imaging techniques, and nuclear medicine studies of the eye.

Volume I is an excellent review and reference for technologists as well as residents and practicing physicians. Volume II is aimed more exclusively at physicians. However, it would be a good reference for technologists.

The editors have succeeded in producing an excellent update of their fine textbooks. These books are a welcome addition to any nuclear medicine department library.

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