This textbook of nuclear medicine is a useful addition to the bookshelf of nuclear medicine technologists and nuclear medicine physicians. The editors state that this textbook is designed "for physicians who practice nuclear medicine and residents who intend to practice nuclear medicine." Due to its brevity in certain areas, it will probably have greater application for residents than for practitioners.

As intended, the book is clinically oriented and covers the major topics of interest in nuclear medicine. The majority of the authors who contributed to this volume are well known in the field and have a diversity of experience. The strengths of this book lie in the basic science chapters and those chapters devoted to cardiovascular nuclear medicine and pulmonary imaging.

Weaknesses are to be found in the areas of explanation of ROC curves, sensitivity and specificity, and a lack of emphasis on pediatric nuclear medicine. The usual number of typos are found. Insufficient background information is given with regard to adenosine application in the performance of myocardial perfusion studies. Some of the images are rather dated, especially those applying to transaxial tomography of the brain.

Lack of detailed protocols in some areas will limit the usefulness of this book for technologists. The appendices are useful, particularly Appendix 2, which focuses on pediatric radiopharmaceutical dosages. Additional information that might have been provided in the appendix, such as definition of nuclide abbreviations and recommended dosages for adults, is lacking.

The price of the book is reasonable and I will certainly recommend it as basic reading for the nuclear medicine residents in our physician training program.

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This publication consists of a collection of more than 200 interesting cases, including both SPECT and planar imaging. The book is divided into eight chapters corresponding to the different organ systems. Each chapter contains cases representing all of the different types of imaging examinations used for that organ system.

Each case presented in this book includes a brief history, an appropriate set of images, a short description of the findings, and the correct diagnosis. This is followed by detailed information about the imaging study (i.e., activity administered, collimation, acquisition protocol) and a discussion of the disease process. The authors provide the criteria used in interpreting studies as well as the rationale for performing procedures. All scans presented in the text are excellent reproductions of high quality images, representative of the chosen study. When applicable, the proper use of other imaging modalities is presented, with ultrasound images and radiographs provided to substantiate the diagnosis.

To complete this teaching file, cases are presented for less common non-imaging procedures in nuclear medicine; these include the Schilling's test, red blood cell volume and red blood cell survival with splenic sequestration.

Nuclear medicine residents and technology students will find this book useful and informative in their quest to understand the applications of nuclear medicine.

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