

# **NMT Bookshelf**

## **XERORADIOGRAPHY: UNCALCIFIED BREAST MASSES**

John N. Wolfe, Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, IL, 1977, 187 pp.

John N. Wolfe, MD, is recognized as a leading authority on xeroradiography of the breast. His research, publications, courses, and lectures are voluminous; they are excellent and his experience makes him well qualified on this topic of uncalcified breast masses using xeroradiography.

Dr. Wolfe has designed the book to be of use to medical students, radiology residents, and radiologists to aid in the differential diagnosis of uncalcified breast masses using xeroradiography. Its use to medical students, I feel, would be minimal. Since the uncalcified breast mass often presents a difficult diagnostic problem, further elucidation fulfills a bona fide medical need.

There are 16 chapters in the book, beginning with an initial discussion of the malignancies of the breast and proceeding through the spectrum of benign entities that involve the breast. The last chapter is entitled "Differential Diagnosis: Benign vs Malignant" and lists in tabloid form the major diagnostic differences. Some 113 figures, predominantly xeroradiographic reproductions of good quality, are followed by examples of cases with radiographic observations, impressions, histopathology, and discussion of the entity under consideration.

Some of the pitfalls, limitations, and inabilities encountered in accurately diagnosing lesions of the breast are stressed. Information from history, physical findings, and radiographic observations must be correlated if the diagnosis is to be made or at least if a reasonable differential diagnosis is to be given. The pertinence of the environment for a lesion in question, e.g., a prominent ductal pattern, the re-examination at varying intervals, and the radiologist's responsibility in his interpretation are also discussed.

It should be kept in mind, as the author states in his preface, that "this book is not intended to discuss completely the field of mammography, but should be considered a supplement to standard textbooks on the

subject." The technical aspects of xeroradiography and comparisons of efficacy, accuracy, and radiation dosage with other diagnostic modalities for detecting breast disease are not found in this text.

Dr. Wolfe's stated purpose—assisting radiologists in the differential diagnosis of uncalcified breast masses using xeroradiography—is commendably achieved. This supplemental text on a very pertinent diagnostic problem will make an excellent aid for those using xeroradiography as a diagnostic modality in the diagnosis of breast disease.

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## **ROENTGENOLOGY OF THE GALLBLADDER AND BILIARY TRACT**

Benjamin Felson, ed., Grune and Stratton, New York, 1976, 145 pp.

This hard-bound volume consists of the 22 articles that appeared in the July and Oct., 1976, issues (Vol. XI, Nos. 3 and 4) of the quarterly journal *Seminars in Roentgenology*. It offers a current overview of radiologic methods for studying the biliary tract including cholecystography, iv cholangiography, infusion tomography, sonography, arteriography, and types of direct injection cholangiography. Six chapters deal with congenital and acquired diseases of the biliary system. The technique of nonoperative extraction of stones from the biliary tract is described.

The book serves the purpose of providing the reader with basic information regarding methodology and diseases of the biliary system. The references cited in each chapter provide an excellent bibliography for more complete coverage of the topics.

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