

NMT Bookshelf

NCRP REPORT NO. 56: RADIATION EXPOSURE FROM CONSUMER PRODUCTS AND MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES

National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements, Washington, DC, 1977, 80 pp.

This report compiles available information on radiation exposure to the general population from consumer products and miscellaneous sources. Specific sources of radiation exposure are identified and grouped together in a concise and rational system based on the originating source of radiation. It is apparent that the authors have spent considerable time researching available literature to determine those areas of radiation sources that significant portions of the general population are exposed to.

The report is divided into five chapters. This includes an introduction, which outlines the objective, scope, and mechanism the authors used to compile the presented information. Three chapters discuss those areas that are sources of radiation; these include electronic products, radioactive materials, and miscellaneous exposure sources. The last chapter is a summary offering the authors' conclusions regarding sources of exposure for the general population and means whereby the exposure levels may be reduced. A reference list is provided so that further investigation by the reader may be conducted.

This booklet might be of some interest to nuclear medicine technologists but it would be of more interest to physicists and those actively engaged in radiation safety.

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GALLIUM-67 IMAGING

Paul B. Hoffer, Carlos Bekerman, and Robert E. Henkin, eds, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1978, 174 pp, \$22.00.

The contributors to this text summarize what is known of gallium imaging primarily using Ga-67 citrate. The book is divided into three parts, the first of which is titled "Fundamentals." This section will have the greatest appeal to technologists; it includes presentations on the mechanisms and normal patterns of gallium localization as well as the technical factors of imaging using this radionuclide.

The remaining three-quarters of the book consist of two parts devoted to clinical material, which will be of

greater value to physicians. Essentially, it is a review of the literature on inflammatory and neoplastic diseases. The former is complemented by a section on the diagnosis of intra-abdominal abscesses by radiographic, ultrasonic, and computerized tomographic scanning. In addition, a chapter on the anatomy and pathology of abdominal abscesses serves as a valuable aid in the interpretation of gallium scans performed to diagnose those entities.

The last part is devoted to neoplasia, consisting of reviews of gallium imaging of various tumors including those of lung, testicle, liver, thyroid, and reticulo-endothelial system as well as childhood malignancies.

The illustrations are of good quality. However, in spite of the encouragement to use gamma cameras in gallium imaging, the photos are largely those of rectilinear scanners. The legends of some illustrations in certain chapters are redundant after reading the text. A typographical error of significance is noted in the dosage of Ga-67 administered to malignant lymphomas (p 99).

This book is a worthwhile addition to the nuclear medicine department's library, for the technologist to consult as he needs to.

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NCRP REPORT NO. 54: MEDICAL RADIATION EXPOSURE OF PREGNANT AND POTENTIALLY PREGNANT WOMEN

National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements, Washington, DC, 1977, 32 pp.

In an effort to update its recommendations relative to embryo-fetus exposure during radiological examinations, the NCRP has issued this report to clarify its findings. The revised recommendations state that elective examinations of the lower abdomen and pelvis of fertile women should be restricted to the early part of the menstrual cycle. Data relative to this recommendation are discussed in detail. An interesting decision guide for scheduling or postponing such examinations is provided.

For pregnancy discovered after exposure, statistics and references are included for information concerning the problems of therapeutic abortion. An appendix explains methods for estimating dose to the fetus from a radiographic examination.

Nuclear medicine technologists and particularly x-ray technologists would find this pamphlet of interest. Since they are often the individuals that the patient questions, it would be useful to be aware of any associated problems and precautions.

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