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 JNMT *or by the Society of Nuclear Medicine.*

Nuclear Medicine Computer Systems

ADAC has introduced a new family of multiterminal nuclear medicine computer systems offering the latest technology in distributed processing.

ADAC systems I, II, III, and IV are highly cost-effective and capable of meeting the growing requirements of any clinic or hospital.

The concept of the new systems allows the acquisition and processing of nuclear medicine studies at different locations while centralizing all data in the main computer.

The system I is the most basic (a powerful central computer with a diagnostic acquisition/processing console) and can be easily expanded into a system II, III, or IV by adding more electronics and consoles.

ADAC is offering the advanced technology of the Winchester disk drive, which is five times faster than the previous flexible disk drives. Most of the features of the new systems may be added to ADAC systems already installed. *—ADAC Laboratories, 255 San Geronimo Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94086.*

Circle Reader Service No. 51

Automatic Film Loading for Video Imager

Matrix Instruments has an automatic film loader option for its Video Imager multiformat camera series that allows virtually continuous operation of the system without interruptions to change film cassettes.

The 50 film capacity Autoloader eliminates the manually loaded, two-sheet film holder and makes film or cassette handling during nuclear medicine computer procedures unnecessary. Autoloader also removes the need to transport bulky film cassettes constantly to and from the darkroom or to keep a ready supply of cassettes on hand.

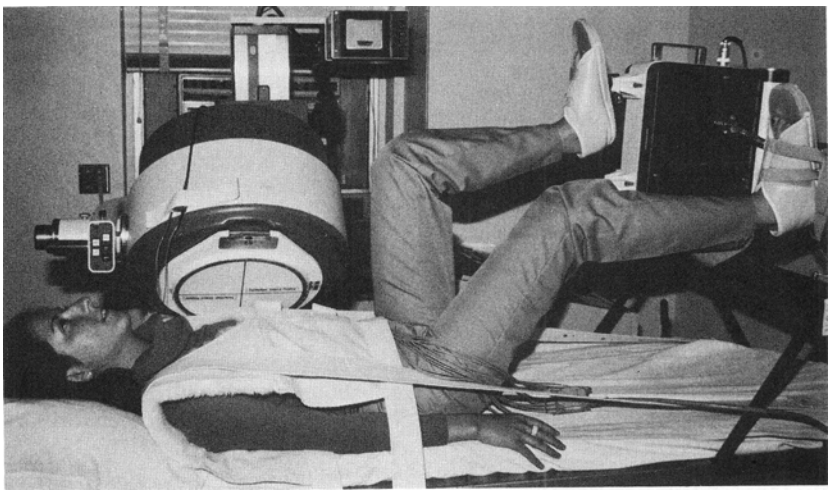
The autoloader utilizes a compact, removable supply magazine that can be bulk-loaded with 50 sheets of film. After the last image on each sheet of film is exposed, the autoloader automatically transfers the exposed film from the video imager to a take-up magazine, and places an unexposed film from the supply magazine into the video imager. The take-up magazine can be removed at any time, with one exposed film or as many as 50, and taken to the darkroom for processing.

A footswitch control enables the operator to run the system from the patient's side or from other remote locations.

Autoloader is especially useful in hospitals where the caseload or imaging requirements per patient are large.— *Matrix Instruments Inc., 230 Pegasus Ave., Northvale, NJ 07647.*

Circle Reader Service No. 52

Patient Chest Harness



For safety, accuracy, speed, and repeatability—along with ease of operation—the Patient Chest Harness eliminates motion during cardiac ventriculogram studies. The harness was designed primarily to place patients' chests as close to the camera as possible while eliminating longitudinal and transverse motion.

The harness is easily adapted to any hospital cart. It does not interfere with EKG leads, has a very low amount (if any) of radiation attenuation, and is made to fit comfortably over breasts. Made of synthetic wool and canvas, the harness is machine washable. It also features quick release buckles and velcro for size adjustments and fast access in case of emergencies.— *VJW Co., PO Box 182, Kalona, IA 52247.*

Circle Reader Service No. 53

Silver Adsorption System

The Rotex SAS is a line of wash water silver adsorption systems. These new systems feature a proprietary desilvering material that offers many advantages over existing wash water silver recovery systems.

The exclusive adsorbent used in the SAS is selective for silver and has a greater holding capacity than materials now in use. It allows one-step regeneration and on-site electrolytic system recovery from photographic wash water, giving the user the advantage of complete control of his silver recovery operation.

In addition, the SAS enables the user to combine all photographic wash waters and tailings from electrolytic silver recovery units for desilvering without the need to closely monotor pH values. Because the adsorbent is not easily fouled by other chemical contaminants, it lasts longer and collects more silver.

The minute proportion of heavy metals in the effluent going to the drain from the SAS conforms to proposed EPA guidelines for the industry.

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The SAS is available is a 6-, 12-, 18-, and 30-gal per minute configurations, with silver recovery capapcity sized to individual user requirements. Each system is self-contained and will fit into most existing processing labs. Depending on actual user volume, the Rotex SAS can pay for itself in as little as one year. *—Snook Corporation, 14600 Winchester Blvd., Los Gatos, CA 95030.*

Circle Reader Service No. 54

Gamma-Shielding Brick

A light-weight, gamma-shielding brick has been developed specifically for nuclear medicine. Bricks are composed of a homogeneous mixture of lead and polyethylene. A 2-in. thickness of this material is equivalent to 10 mm (0.4 in.) of lead.

The material meets a long-needed requirement for shielding that can be managed with safety. The weight (27 lbs) of standard lead bricks make them dangerous to handle; further, solid lead is not necessary for low energy radionuclides currently in use. The weight of a 2 × 4 × 8 in. polyethylene lead brick is only 7 lbs–one-fourth that of a solid lead brick. These new bricks can be handled without fear of damaged equipment or dirty hands.—*Reactor Experiments, Inc., 963 Terminal Way, San Carlos, CA 94070.*

Circle Reader Service No. 55

Neutron Flux Integrator Monitor

The Neutron Flux Integrator, also from Reactor Experiments, is a simple, convenient system that utilizes neutron detector foils to provide inexpensive monitoring for large areas. This passive monitor has no electronic parts and, therefore, it is not subject to high flux limitations or interferences from other types of radiation.

The NFI can be used as a long term monitor in the immediate vicinity of high-energy accelerators and reactors or as an off-site monitor for the protection of the general public. Detector foils can be exposed to the exceedingly short time, high intensity fluxes that are characteristic of pulsed accelerator operation. *—address same as above.*

Circle Reader Service No. 56

Second Market for Imaging Equipment

LINC Medical Equipment offers the means to trade in existing imaging systems for new equipment or to acquire recent model, second-user instrumentation.

The company is an affiliate of Least Investment Corp., a lessor of hospital equipment; it also leases nuclear medicine instrumentation with guaranteed future upgrade flexibility.—*LINC Medical Equipment, Inc., One IBM Plaza, Chicago, IL 60611.*

Circle Reader Service No. 57

Xenon Ventilation System

Radx's forced breathing xenon ventilation system allows ventilation studies to be performed on respirator patients. The modular unit is designed to field retrofit into Radx's Ventil-Con and Ventil-Con 2 or can be factory installed into the XenaCon.

The system, the Vent Al, when used in conjunction with either of Radx's xenon rebreathing devices, provides forced breathing of Xe-133 to equilibrium and then forced breathing washout.—*Radx Corp., PO Box 19164, Houston, TX 77024.*

Circle Reader Service No. 58

Magnetic Scheduling Boards' Catalog

Dozens of ways to organize and improve your entire operation with magnetic scheduling boards and visual planning systems plus hundreds of accessories are featured in Method Research's 1980 Catalog.

Applications that include scheduling projects, personnel, equipment, production, computers, maintenance, purchasing, finances, and inventory are illustrated.

A special section for multipurpose magnetic board kits for use in designing a system to suit your needs and a section describing the spin-file, open rotary file system, for maximum filing capacity in a minimum of space are also described.—*Methods Research Corp. Asbury Ave., Farmingdale, NJ 07727.*

Circle Reader Service No. 59

Disposable Filtering System

The Sterilet is a continuous, fully integrated porous filter system that is presterilized, pretested, and ready to use. It is available in 0.2 μm and 0.45 μm pore sizes. All particles, bacteria, and cells larger than pore size are effectively removed.

Possibility of contamination is eliminated by sterilet's hermetic "one piece" seal of the membrane. Because no membrane surfactant is used, sterilet ensures chemical purity of the effluent. Its single-use design means no contamination from carry-over and no cleaning up afterwards.—*Amicon Corp., Scientific Systems Div., 21 Hartwell Ave., Lexington, MA 02173.*

Circle Reader Service No. 60

What's New in RIA

RIA for Platelet Factor 4

The first commercial test for platelet factor 4—a protein that clinical studies show to be elevated in patients with various kinds of cardiovascular disease—is available from Abbott Laboratories.

The new test is PF4, an RIA that measures ongoing in vivo platelet activation. Excessive platelet activation is not a normal event in a healthy individual and signifies that a person may be at risk of more severe thrombotic complications. Determination of the PF4 level can identify patients experiencing ongoing coagulation in their vessels and thus aid in diagnosis and treatment of a variety of disorders including myocardial infarction and coronary artery disease.

The test is a liquid-phase RIA precipation requiring 2 hr of unattended incubation time.—*Abbott Laboratories, Diagnostic Div., Abbott Park, North Chicago, IL 60064.*

Circle Reader Service No. 61

Two New Liquid Scintillation Counters

The Iso Trac 400 is a microprocessor-controlled liquid scintillation counting system that allows the system to be tailored to present needs without sacrificing future modifications.

The user-oriented system incorporates a touch pad control panel with both visual and audible signals and 300 sample capacity.—*Tracor Analytic, Inc., 1842 Bummel Drive, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007.*

Circle Reader Service No. 62

From Packard, the Tri-Carb 300C is also capable of handling 300 samples. This instrument incorporates a Spectralyzer—a video display with sensor control panel and built-in data writer. Microprocessor controlled, Tri-Carb 300C includes data reduction of automatic background subtraction and averaging of repeat and replicate measurements—*Packard Instrument Co., 2200 Warrenville, Rd., Downers Grove, IL 60515.*

Circle Reader Service No. 63