

JNMT Bookshelf

NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY AND TECHNIQUES

Donald L. Bernier, James K. Langan, and L. David Wells, eds, C.V. Mosby Co., 1981, 538 pp, \$34.50.

The editors, benefitting from the expertise of 36 contributors in the basic sciences and clinical nuclear medicine, have compiled an excellent comprehensive textbook that is enhanced by high quality anatomic illustrations, radiographs, scans, and tables.

The basic sciences section skillfully guides the student through the complexities of mathematics, statistics, and nuclear medicine physics into basic instrumentation and quality assurance. Basic laboratory science, which reviews the chemistry pertinent for a nuclear medicine technologist, further prepares the student for the principles and application of radiochemistry and radiopharmacology. Concise, informative chapters on computer sciences and radiation safety and protection round out the section. With an innovative approach, the clinical nuclear medicine section utilizes physician-technologist teams coauthoring chapters dealing with the major organ systems. Applicable anatomy, pathophysiology, and in vivo and in vitro techniques are covered in remarkable detail. Special attention is devoted to practical considerations in the clinical environment in those chapters covering patient care and pediatric imaging. Both the theoretical concepts and the practical aspects of radioimmunoassay are well presented.

Although some of the clinical chapters, most notably the one devoted to the endocrine system, appear to be threateningly detailed for the entry-level technologist, one cannot deny the overall excellence of the text. Not only have the editors succeeded in offering an outstanding and refreshing alternative to the student, but they have simultaneously supplied a much needed reference aid for the practicing technologist who must remain current in our rapidly expanding field.

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MOSBY'S MANUAL OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE PROCEDURES

D. Bruce Sodee and Paul J. Early, C.V. Mosby Co., 600 pp., \$35.95.

As the title infers, this text is truly a manual of nuclear medicine procedures.

The book is divided into two parts. Part one, consisting of approximately one-third of the book, discusses nuclear science. With frequent references to an earlier edition, this section covers most facets of the subject from physics to waste disposal of radionuclides used by nuclear medicine departments. It describes in some detail the operation of the various instruments we use and methods of quality control for them.

Part two gives step-by-step procedures for almost all studies done by nuclear medicine departments including both in vitro and imaging. It is interesting to note that all in vitro studies are described from pipetting to actual counting and all normal values are given in the text. Imaging studies are described in detail and examples are given of normal and abnormal studies. The new computer studies are fully presented including suggested parameters.

The book appears to be directed toward a student/instructor situation and I highly recommend it for this purpose.

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NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY EXAMINATION REVIEW

D.L. Gryniewicz, S. Spies, and D.R. Martin, Arco Publishing, Inc., New York, 1981, 155 pp, \$12.00.

I have long held the opinion that examination review books were of little use to the prospective examinee other than to familiarize him with multiple choice questions. After reading this book I see very little reason to change my opinion.

One wonders which certifying body the authors chose to disregard in the introductory statement, "At the time of this writing there are at least two well-recognized certification examinations for technologists in the field of nuclear medicine." At the time the introduction was written (July 1980) the NMTCB, ARRT, and Board of Registry, ASCP, all well-recognized certifying bodies, were in existence.

In constructing the questions, the authors failed to follow the basic principles of multiple-choice question development. I identified the following shortcomings:

1. The cognitive level of the majority of questions is simple recall or comprehension.
2. In several questions, a clue to the correct answer

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