
JNMT Bookshelf

NUCLEAR MEDICINE: FOCUS ON CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS

R.P. Spencer, Medical Examination Publishing Co., Inc., 1980, 279 pp, \$18.50 (softcover).

This second edition text consists of ten chapters of in-vivo applications of nuclear medicine and two chapters on basic concepts, patient flow, record keeping, and procedural protocols. Each chapter presents a brief synopsis of the anatomy, physiology, and pathology of each system as well as clinical indications.

The only revisions from the first edition are in the discussions of the central nervous system, and the cardiovascular and urinary systems. Although this edition contains some misspellings and publishing errors, it is a good reference source for referring physicians and technologists. Nuclear medicine technology students may also find it helpful as a registry review guide, but it is not in-depth enough for serious teaching purposes.

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YEAR BOOK OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE

James L. Quinn, ed, Year Book Medical Publishers, Chicago, 1980, 335 pp.

This text consists of abstracts of articles selected by the editor; the abstracts are categorized by subject matter into such broad areas as "Health Physics and Radiation Biology," "The Endocrine System," and "Radiation Physics and Instrumentation."

Frequently after each abstract, a brief editorial comment is included. This comment may be complimentary, patronizing, obscure, sarcastic, or impudent. I find these inclusions annoying and would prefer if they were omitted. Presumably an abstract is included because of its value to the nuclear medicine community; if this is the case, I do not understand why abstracts are then followed by deprecatory editorial remarks.

The prime value of this text is its concise presentation and subject categorization of a large body of literature. When used as a reference, it should be a useful guide.

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COMPUTER-ASSISTED CARDIAC NUCLEAR MEDICINE

B. Leonard Holman and J. Anthony Parker, Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1981, 546 pp, \$45.00.

This book is divided into four parts. Following the introduction are sections on hardware, software, and the computer in cardiac nuclear medicine. The introduction includes the basics of numbering systems and Boolean algebra. It will require more than a superficial reading by those who are not familiar with these concepts. In the section on hardware are excellent descriptions of the composition and function of various components of a nuclear medicine computer system, as well as a description of imaging instrumentation. The section on software contains introductions to programming, file structure, and operating systems. Two examples of higher level languages—BASIC and FORTRAN—are included. The final section covers both the rationale and execution of an extensive range of nuclear cardiac procedures and analyses.

The material included in this book is presented clearly and will be useful both to those currently using medical computer systems and those contemplating it.

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DORLAND'S ILLUSTRATED MEDICAL DICTIONARY, 26th edition

W.B. Saunders Co., Philadelphia, 1981, 1,485 pp, \$37.50.

This well-illustrated medical dictionary contains revised information, new terminology, and updated tests for the reader's easy reference. Since existing material had been computer coded, text alteration was subsequently less time-consuming for this edition. As a result, updating could continue while publication processes were begun. This edition should therefore remain current longer.

Most nuclear medicine topics are covered in a general, nonspecific way. However, one would not expect an in-depth examination in this medium.

A medical dictionary is an indispensable tool for a department or teaching program. I recommend including it as an on-site reference.

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