SPEAK TO ME IN NUCLEAR MEDICINE. Philip Shtasel. Hagerstown, Md., Harper & Row, 1976, 223 pp, $22.50.

As stated in the Preface and Foreword, this book is not a comprehensive text but rather a small volume containing all the essential information for nonspecialist clinicians who order nuclear medicine procedures and want to converse with a nuclear medicine specialist intelligently. The general aims behind this book are excellent and the author has accomplished this purpose very well. The systematic topics, dealt with in eight chapters, are entirely devoted to the clinical aspects of nuclear medicine.

Speak to Me in Nuclear Medicine is written in a light conversational style that results in a very instructive work. The illustrations are of excellent quality and are presented with appropriate discussion. The references presented at the end of each chapter are conveniently catalogued according to their related topics. This stimulating volume should appeal to all those who want to learn the "language of nuclear medicine."

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GYNECOLOGIC ONCOLOGY. Felix Rutledge, Richard C. Boronow, and J. Taylor Wharton. New York, Wiley, 1976, 272 pp, $22.50.

This book is written primarily to provide an overall view of the management of most forms of gynecologic cancer. The multiple authorship is reflected in a natural variation in style from chapter to chapter. Noteworthy is the absence of a discussion of the fallopian tube. As indicated in the Preface, the text does not pretend to be a compendium of prevailing treatment modalities or to encompass a plethora of pathologic variants. Instead, the discussion closely reflects procedures in use at the M.D. Anderson Hospital. The contents are particularly dedicated to carcinoma of the cervix, endometrium, ovary, vulva, and vagina. Pathology, staging, and treatment are discussed for each neoplasm, with a general weighting in favor of treatment. The reader will benefit thoroughly from the frank discussion on complications of therapy and their management. Treatment by radiation, surgery, and chemotherapy are described, with good documentary evidence to support a particular modality of choice. It is particularly refreshing to note that the prognosis of mixed mesodermal sarcoma of the uterus has been analyzed in relationship to the stage of the disease; this is, in actuality, a not too disheartening process if diagnosed early. The book is well illustrated with crisp black and white photographs, all excellently reproduced, in keeping with the stature of the authors.

The reviewer believes that the standard flow sheet for evaluation of the patient with abnormal cervical cytology (Fig. 9, p. 11) is now becoming outdated, particularly in view of the significant emergence of colposcopy as a close partner with cytologic diagnosis. In addition, I do not agree that "no satisfactory screening method for endometrial cancer in the asymptomatic patient has been identified." Cytology can, and has, played a definite role in early diagnosis of endometrial hyperplasias and early endometrial cancers.

Notwithstanding these minor disagreements, *Gynecologic Oncology* is indeed an excellent work, particularly suited for the serious student of gynecologic cancer.

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COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY OF THE BRAIN AND ORBIT (EMI SCANNING). P. F. J. New and William R. Scott. Baltimore, Md., Williams & Wilkins, 1975, 485 pp, $39.50.

This book provides the first extensive documentation of the value of computerized tomographic scanning of the head. As the initial entry into this most promising and exciting field, the authors present detailed data on the theory, equipment, procedural data, and anatomic correlations. The first chapter briefly sketches the historical background. The discussion appears to be completely oriented towards contemporary CT practice and omits one of the most important events in the development of computerized tomography, namely, the work of William Oldendorf, who published the original principles and proved the feasibility of transmission section scanning in 1961. Although the initial section seems somewhat simplistic in some instances, such simplification is probably necessary for those not familiar with the physics of reconstruction computerized tomography and the problems encountered prior to, during, and after patient examination.

The section on technique provides considerable detail. As with any new mode of this type, such detail is invaluable to the department and personnel installing a unit for the first time. The section on anatomic correlations is particularly good. Computerized tomography of the head presents anatomic and pathologic information from a viewpoint completely different from that to which clinicians are usually accustomed. This section is particularly helpful for orienting the examiner to the anatomic landmarks and the computerized tomographic images as developed from the scans.

The second section of the text is composed of 23 chapters that provide CT results on neoplasms, various types of vascular problems, inflammatory diseases, hydrocephalus, developmental anomalies, trauma, orbit scanning, and intravascular contrast medium. The authors have employed the technique of case presentation, providing information on the chemical, surgical, autopsy, and diagnostic procedures and correlating these findings with the CT images. The section on the use of contrast medium in computerized tomographic scanning is relatively short, but in view of the short interval between the development of this text and the very rapid advances in the field, this deficiency is understandable.

In the chapters on pathology, the authors present a number of tables that compare the results of computerized tomographic scans with several other diagnostic modalities. From their findings, it would appear that CT imaging was quite superior to the other modalities employed. One would

wonder if a degree of overenthusiasm had not contributed to their interpretation of the statistics. Nevertheless, *Computed Tomography of the Brain and Orbit* is an excellent introductory text on computerized tomography of the head and the authors must be commended for assembling this volume of information from the correlative data.

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION. NO. 23. REPORT OF THE TASK GROUP ON REFERENCE MAN. W. S. Synder, M. J. Cook, L. R. Karhausen, E. S. Nassct, G. Perry/Howalles, and I. H. Tipton, eds. Oxford, Pergamon, 1975, 480 pp, $50.00.

This book is one in a series of reports prepared by a task group of Committee II of the International Commission on Radiological Protection. The purpose of the work was to develop human references in order to better estimate radiation dose to the human body, whether from external or internal sources. In order to calculate radiation exposure in different situations, it was necessary to compile information on intakes of substances, excretions, and elimination rates and also data on size and composition of the body relative to sex, age, and weight.

The book is organized into three sections: (A) anatomic values for reference man; (B) gross and elemental content of reference man; and (C) physiologic data for reference man. The first section, which provides information on anatomic values, is subdivided into total body, the various organ systems, and a section on pregnancy. In each subdivision of the anatomic section, each organ system is further subdivided; for example, under the integumentary system, skin, hair, and nails are listed separately. In each of the anatomic sections the data on individual organs are tabulated with respect to the applicable parameters and include information on both the newborn and the adult. The tables provide a complete comparison for those organ systems in which sex may involve differences in values. In many instances, the variations of organ parameters are analyzed with respect to the different periods of life. This portion of the book, which is well referenced, appears to furnish most of the relevant data currently available in the literature.

The second section, on growth and elemental content, has numerous tables that provide values for the physical properties, growth content, blood content, and elemental content of the total body and of the various organs and tissues of man. The values reported were those considered to be normal and not pathologic. These tables are again most extensive and in many instances include information on trace elements.

The third section presents those characteristics of man that relate directly or indirectly to intake, metabolism, and excretion of stable elements in man's environment. Data are first provided for the physiologic model of reference man, and then the metabolic balance of the individual stable elements is discussed.

This reference book provides very extensive information that should be of great help to those interested both in research and physiology. It should be of great assistance in structuring research programs and analyzing data.

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PRACTICAL RADIOIMMUNOASSAY. A. J. Moss, Jr., G. D. Dalrymple, and C. M. Boyd. St. Louis, C. V. Mosby, 1976, 1,558 pp, $11.95.

The title of this short work reflects accurately the purpose of the book, namely, to provide an elementary introduction to radioimmunoassay and radioassay procedures. The first three chapters deal adequately with the immunologic principles that relate to radioimmunoassay, the chemical principles that support radioimmunoassay technology, and the critical problem of the separation methods used in these methods. The overall concept of radioimmunoassay is developed in terms that are relatively easy to understand, and this provides a base from which to build. The fourth chapter discusses the measurement of radiation, particularly as used in radioimmunoassay procedures, and the authors successfully explain this information to the uninitiated. The fifth chapter, "Numerical Procedures Needed for Radioimmunoassay," is in essence a short treatise on the mathematics of radiation counting and radioimmunoassay. The last three chapters discuss quality control, ranges, variation of radioimmunoassays, and safety principles. In addition, two appendices discuss radioimmunoassay kits and phlebotomy techniques. Although this text is not large, it provides extensive information for the beginner in radioimmunoassay and, which is of paramount importance, provides it in a manner that is easily understood. I would recommend *Practical Radioimmunoassay*, not only for the beginner in radioimmunoassay, but also for those not deeply involved in the subject and whose knowledge of radiation physics and statistical mathematics lacks depth.

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