

CANCER RELATED ANTIGENS. Edited by P. Franchimont. New York, Elsevier, 1976. 266 pp, illustrated, \$25.75.

This text is the complete proceedings of the European Economic Communities Symposium, "Cancer Related Antigens" held at Liege, Belgium on May 3-4, 1976. Almost all of the participants are from Europe; none are from the United States. The book has ample, good quality illustrations, a subject index, a bibliography at the end of each proceeding, and a list of all participants with addresses.

The book is divided into four sections: (1) Heterogeneity and Specificity of Embryonic Markers, (2) Casein: Extraction, Characterization, and Clinical Applications, (3) Identification and Clinical Usefulness of New Antigens such as Isoenzymes or compounds isolated from cell membranes, and (4) Results of simultaneous assays of several tumor markers in the early detection, diagnosis, and therapeutic follow-up of cancer.

The proceedings provide a thorough discussion of the several categories of cancer related antigens. The proceedings which discuss laboratory techniques describe the sophisticated methods used to isolate and characterize cancer related antigens. These presentations are aimed mainly at the researcher who has access to these specialized research tools. The proceedings which discuss the clinical uses of cancer related antigens are of interest to anyone in the medical field who is involved in the care and management of cancer patients. These papers reveal how different antigens used singly or in combination can assist the clinician in detecting cancer at an early stage, to determine if metastases are present, and to follow the effects of different therapies on cancer management.

Cancer Related Antigens is aimed mainly at the cancer researcher and practicing oncologist. Physicians specializing in nuclear medicine, however, should be very interested in this text because tagging of these antigens with various nuclides could result in the development of new imaging agents. These imaging agents could be used: (A) to screen patients suspected of harboring a malignancy, (B) to detect metastases which are suspected by elevated levels of antigen, but which cannot be seen by other imaging modalities, and (C) to follow the effects of therapy in the management of a cancer patient.

LARRY D. GREENFIELD, M.D.
City of Hope National Medical Center
Duarte, California

RADIOPHARMACEUTICAL DOSIMETRY SYMPOSIUM. Edited by R. J. Cloutier, J. L. Coffey, W. S. Snyder, and E. E. Watson. HEW Publication (FDA) 76-8044, 1976. 518 pp, \$6.20.

This volume contains the proceedings of an international forum held at Oak Ridge in April, 1976, for discussion of current views on radiopharmaceutical selection, biologic distribution and retention, and the physics and mathematics

of dose calculations. The 43 presentations in the volume are quite variable in the level of presentation and complexity. A variety of subjects are covered from the basic concepts of internal dose calculation to complicated kinetics and computer applications. Evidently, the editors worked very diligently to make the publication available as soon as possible. In spite of this, the volume is relatively free of distracting errors in production. This commendable effort to publish these proceedings quickly has, however, resulted in a problem. The papers are grouped according to the day of presentation (perhaps this is logical for a proceedings) but headings such as "Wednesday morning session" are not as helpful as would be rearranging the order and subdividing them according to topic (methods of calculation of radiation dose, acquisition and use of biologic data, computer programs for dose calculation, etc.). This arrangement makes it quite difficult to locate information on a specific item of interest which is further compounded by the lack of even a rudimentary index.

In the abstract of the book the editors state: "An important goal is to provide a reference volume that will serve as a resource for nuclear medicine practitioners and clinical investigators." There is much useful material in this reference volume, and it is a bargain. It is particularly recommended to clinical investigators and scientists working in the field of internal dosimetry, but its utility for clinical practitioners is diminished by the lack of organization and the quantity of very technical information.

RICHARD L. WITCOFSKI, Ph.D.
Bowman Gray School of Medicine
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

FINANCIAL OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS IN NUCLEAR MEDICINE. J. L. Bennington, H. Handmaker, and G. S. Freedman. Baltimore, University Park Press, 1977. 232 pp, \$16.50.

This book of 19 chapters is based on a symposium with the same name, held in New York City on October 9-11, 1975. Many topics are discussed, including economics (cost analysis), accounting (budgeting), space design (facilities planning), organization (central radiopharmacy), legal matters (professional liability), politics (influence of governmental agencies), and philosophy (value measurements of procedures). There are 17 authors from the disciplines of nuclear medicine, radiology, business administration, business, and the law.

Individual chapters will be of interest to many physicians and administrators but the cost/benefit ratio of the entire book will probably be low for most nuclear medicine physicians. Readers interested in efficacy studies will find the chapters on value measurements and social economic factors of interest; those interested in management will find the chapters on cost concepts and cost analysis, break-even analysis, and budgeting of value; administrative physicians