

BOOK REVIEWS

step-by-step procedures for quality control of gamma cameras, scanners, radiopharmaceuticals, and in vitro assays. Fortunately, the authors also have thoroughly explained the importance of standards of quality for every component of medical practice: from scheduling of patient studies to final analysis of study data.

The text is readable, concise, and not oppressively technical. There are helpful illustrations, and chapters are usually supplemented by bibliographies. Two glossaries of technical terms and a comprehensive index permit ready reference. Because of its comprehensive and lucid coverage of the subject matter, this book provides an excellent review for anyone preparing to take a certification board examination in Nuclear Medicine, Nuclear Medicine Technology, or Nuclear Pharmacy.

On the negative side, there are several chapters in which quality control methods and procedures are described as "official" without clarifying that the designation applies only to the United States. There are some typographical errors in text, figures, and procedures, but the errors are generally not misleading to the reader.

The editor and the contributors are to be congratulated for a publication with information for everyone associated with nuclear medicine. There are few reference and text books that are essential for the effective practice of nuclear medicine, but this is one of those.

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INTERNAL RADIATION DOSE IN DIAGNOSTIC NUCLEAR MEDICINE. HD Roedler, A Kaul, GJ Hine. Berlin, Verlag H. Hoffmann, 1978. \$16.50. US distribution: Verlag H. Hoffmann, 961 Gapter Road, Boulder, CO 80303.

This pocket-sized book summarizes in 110 pages radiation dose estimates for 14 different radionuclides, representing 39 different radiopharmaceuticals. Dose estimates are provided for children and adults, for different patient states (e.g., eu-, hypo-,

and hyperthyroid patients for thyroid studies), for whole body, gonads, and investigated, or critical organs. In many, though not all cases, dose estimates also are provided for red bone marrow. Dose estimates are given in both conventional (mrad/ μ Ci) and SI (μ Gray/kBq) units. A brief discussion of the relationships between these units with a conversion table is provided, and a set of general references for the dosimetry estimates are presented at the end of the book. However, specific dose estimates are not keyed to these references.

This book is divided into eight subsections, representing different nuclear medicine subspecialties (e.g., endocrinology, neurology, etc.). Each section is preceded by a brief discussion of the radiopharmaceuticals used, indications for the studies, advantages and disadvantages, etc. These introductory remarks are too brief to be of interest to the nuclear medicine specialist; however, they may be useful for hospital physicists and nonspecialist physicians.

The book is a translation from German, and suffers occasionally from grammatical peculiarities (e.g., that nuclear brain studies have a "precising effect"). On the whole, however, it is quite readable and understandable.

This text is a welcome addition to the nuclear medicine literature, presenting in a concise and convenient format data that are otherwise scattered in many different publications. Practically all of the radiopharmaceuticals used in clinical nuclear medicine and dose estimates of clinical interest are included in the book. Individual reactions to the inclusions of both SI and conventional units may differ. Even as a general proponent of SI units, I found myself thumbing past those pages with data in SI units to find the "real" dose values in conventional units.

A basic short-coming with the book is its price—rather too high for a pocket-sized book that seems intended for personal use. The book will be a useful addition to the bookshelf in the nuclear medicine laboratory, and, considering the price, many will find the availability of a laboratory copy sufficient for their needs.

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BOOKS RECEIVED

Handbook of Clinical Ultrasound, Marinus de Vlieger, Joseph H. Holmes, Alfred Kratochwil, Ekkehard Kazner, Robert Kraus, George Kossoff, Jacques Poujol, D. E. Strandness, eds. 970 pp, illustrated. New York/Chichester/Brisbane/Toronto, John Wiley & Sons, 1978

Report on the National Seminar in Nuclear Medicine, December 27-30, 1976, Radiation Medicine Centre, B. A.R.C., Jerbai Wadia Road, Parel, Bombay 400 012. 103 pp, Department of Atomic Energy & World Health Organization.

Nuclear Medicine in Urology and Nephrology, P. H. O'Reilly, R. A. Shields, H. J. Testa, eds, 201 pp, illustrated. London-Boston, Butterworth Inc., 1979.

Data Supplement/Computerized Tomography in Clinical Medicine, Incidence of Visualized Organic Brain Lesions in Clinical Practice and Correlation of Incidence of Specific Brain Lesions with Presenting Symptoms and Signs, Patricia Davison Laffey, Wilbur W. Oaks, R. Kumar Swami, J. George Teplick, Marvin E. Haskin, 57 pp, Philadelphia, Medical Directions, Inc., 1978. \$16.00

CRC Handbook Series in Clinical Laboratory Science, Section A: Nuclear Medicine. vol 1, David Seligson, Editor-in-Chief; Richard P. Spencer, Section Editor. 609 pp, illustrated. Cleveland, Ohio, CRC Press, Inc., 1977. \$61.75, outside U.S. \$71.50.