

BOOK REVIEWS

CLINICAL ULTRASOUND REVIEWS. F. Winsberg, Ed., J. Stewart, Assoc. Ed., New York, John Wiley & Sons, 1982, 474 pp, \$65.00

The volume of the world literature continues to increase out of proportion to the amount of new discoveries. As a result, a few original gems are lost in a morass of repetitive paper. *Clinical Ultrasound Reviews* attempts to simplify the daunting problem for the discerning physician by concentrating abstracts of the most significant papers into a single volume. For all of us who have neither the time nor the inclination to search the seemingly endless list of journals now publishing ultrasound articles, this book can be a godsend to bring to our attention the real advances in pertinent literature for the past year. As for other similar review books, the editor has added their comments to a number of papers, but I would have liked to have seen more of their comments. Of course, the selectivity of the editors has already been wonderfully exercised by reducing a vast pile of papers to a mere 500 pages.

Although the abstract is not as helpful as the real article, as the editors point out; however, it is often much shorter and contains virtually the same material. It is a luxury to buy all those abstracts again when the originals lie somewhere in our files, but as with many luxuries, the saving in time and effort is well worth the price.

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CLINICAL NUCLEAR MEDICINE. Philip Matin. New York, New Hyde Park, Medical Examination Publishing Co.; 1981; 346 pp, \$25.00 (PB), \$34.00 (HC)

This text, available in both hard cover and paper back, is a sequel to the author's original book, *Handbook of Clinical Nuclear Medicine*. The primary goal is to produce an inexpensive basic primer on clinical nuclear medicine imaging useful to a broad range of readers. This goal is largely achieved by the use of a standardized chapter format and an impressive list of established contributors.

The strength of the book as a basic primer is in its standardized format of all chapters. Each chapter includes a basic introduction, clinical indications, discussion of physiological principles, examples of normal and abnormal imaging, and concludes with a discussion of possible sources of misinterpretation and the relative advantages and disadvantages of the nuclear imaging procedure. The author recognizes the difficulties posed by the rapid advances in nuclear medicine and attempts to present relevant information from established contributors. The presentation of CNS scintigraphy, while somewhat dated, is factual and well referenced. Similarly, myocardial imaging and cardiovascular studies are well presented including delineation of the principal disadvantages of current methods. Biliary tract imaging could be improved with the inclusion of illustrations of the more accepted IDA compounds. Similarly, a discussion of disadvantages and sources of misinterpretation would include the effects of prolonged fasting and hyperalimentation on gallbladder visualization. The review of genitourinary scintigraphy could benefit from a discussion of diuresis renograms. While most areas of nuclear medicine imaging are included in the text, a review of agents used in the diagnosis of GI bleeding and applications of indium-111 labeled blood products might also have been added.

Since its release in 1981, this text has been used in our Nuclear Medicine Department by medical students, residents, and technicians in training. The "dog-eared", "marked-up" copy in our department library is a testimonial to the utility of this text. In our hands it has achieved the author's stated goal—it is a basic primer on clinical nuclear medicine useful to a broad range of readers and should be included in department libraries.

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RECENT ADVANCES IN UROLOGIC CANCER (from International Perspectives in Urology. Vol. II, John A. Libertino, Series Ed.) Nasser Javadpour, Ed. Baltimore and London, Williams and Wilkins, 1982, 320 pp, \$44.00

This book, a part of the series *International Perspectives in Urology*, serves as an overview of many of the recent developments in the field of urologic oncology. Portions of this text are of interest to the clinical urologist in that descriptions of newer modalities are presented for diagnostic evaluation and therapy of urologic cancers. Special emphasis is placed on the newer uses of transmission computed tomography in the evaluation of various urologic malignancies. The value of fine-needle-aspiration biopsies, percutaneous nephrostomy, and transangiographic vascular occlusion techniques are emphasized. Although this text does not discuss the mechanical aspects of interventional radiology in detail, abundant references to these techniques are provided. For the clinician, there are descriptions of the advances in chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and immunotherapy, emphasizing not only the current usefulness of these modalities, but also the potential areas for further research.

This text is also useful for the urologist in training or the young investigator. For example, a review of statistical techniques particularly useful in the evaluation of cancer protocols is provided. In addition, the salient accomplishments in the fields of cytogenetics, tumor markers, steroid receptors, immunology, and the use of the electron microscope in genitourinary malignancies are reviewed. Of particular interest to the young investigator is a chapter on experimental cancer models, which describes these models and their pathophysiologic characteristics.

In summary this book offers a review of recent advances in urology. It is very broadbased and not particularly detailed in describing techniques of either clinical or experimental usefulness, but it does, however, provide ample references in the literature concerning these techniques.

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"PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL RADIO-PHARMACEUTICAL DOSIMETRY SYMPOSIUM." E. E. Watson, A. T. Schlafke-Stelson, J. L. Coffey, R. J. Coutier, Eds. Superintendent of Documents (HHS Publication FDA 81-8166). Rockville, Md., Bureau of Radiological Health, 1981, 669 pp, \$11.00, Foreign \$22.00

This is a collection of 48 papers that were state of the art in in-

ternal dosimetry at their presentation in 1980. Though their value as state of the art has no doubt depreciated by the time of publication, they still represent a valuable coverage of several very important areas of internal dosimetry. The three-day conference presented work on human and animal biodistributions, data handling, dose estimation and extrapolation, kinetics, mathematical models, and discussions of dose equivalent concepts. The papers are well presented, uniform in content, format, and readability and of considerable interest to professionals in nuclear medicine. Though much of the information can now be found in the literature since this conference, the discussions among the participants and the summaries by Dr. Subramanian provide valuable insight into many of the areas of current investigation and future needs. These symposium proceedings are a necessary and useful part of any nuclear medicine library.

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NUTRITIONAL FACTORS INVOLVED IN THE GOITROGENIC ACTION OF CASSAVA. P. Hennert, P. Bourdoux, R. Lagasse, C. Thilly, G. Putzeys, P. Courtois, H. L. Vis, Y. Yunga, P. Seghers, F. DeLange, F. DeLange, F. B. Iteke, A. M. Ermans, Eds.

This monograph presents, in well organized form, a seven-year study by a group of Belgian and Zairian scientists, directed to the impact of dietary cassava on thyroid function. It has already been established that cassava (a plant with high content of HCN, converted in the body to SCN) when a dietary staple, is associated with endemic goiter. In this work the authors directed studies to the

impact of the relative intakes of iodide and of SCN (I/SCN ratio), and of protein-calorie malnutrition, with special concern for impact on endemic cretinism.

These studies confirm the high incidence of endemic goiter and cretinism in populations in whom cassava is a dietary staple, but show that cretinism is a problem only when iodine ingestion is low. The I/SCN ratio is the critical factor, and must be below three for a major induction of cretinism from endemic goiter. Ample iodine intake (over 60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{day}$) protects against even high cassava intake. In severe protein-calorie malnutrition, cretinism was seen when the I/SCN ratio was low, but in the absence of goiter. Even malnourished patients converted HCN to SCN.

Several chapters relate studies in pregnant women, in newborns, and in children. Thyroid sensitivity to SCN is greatest in the newborn and fetus and remains high in childhood. SCN crosses the placenta freely. Based on a study in rats, the authors conclude that SCN itself is not toxic to the brain, but only through induction of hypothyroidism.

While proper processing of cassava can reduce its SCN content, the authors found that education in these techniques is impractical as a public health measure. Their work indicates that the more fruitful approach to this serious public health problem will be through correction of iodine deficiency.

This monograph is a scholarly work directed to understanding the etiology of a disease affecting many people. It is fascinating reading and makes a major contribution to resolving an important problem.

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BOOKS RECEIVED

Computed Tomography in the Evaluation of Trauma. M.P. Federle, M. Brant-Zawadzki, Eds. Baltimore, MD, Williams & Wilkins, 1982, 264 pp, \$39.95

Head Injury. P.R. Cooper, Ed. Baltimore, MD, Williams & Wilkins, 1982, 412 pp, \$49.00

Pharmacangiography in the Diagnosis of Tumors. Gy. Vargha, Budapest, Akadémiai Kiadó, 1981, 240 pp, \$37.00

Radionuclide Brain Imaging (Series-Current Practice in Nuclear Medicine). D. Front. Norwalk, CT, Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1982, 141 pp, \$32.50

Radioimmunoassay of Gut Regulatory Peptides. S.R. Bloom, R.G. Long, Eds. New York, NY, Praeger, 1982, 194 pp, \$24.95

Critical Diagnostic Pathways in Radiology, An Algorithmic Approach. R.L. Eisenberg, J.R. Amberg. Philadelphia, PA, J.B. Lippincott Company, 1981, 488 pp, \$52.00

CRC Handbook Series in Clinical Laboratory Science. D. Seligson, Editor-in-chief. *Section A: Nuclear Medicine Volume II.* R.P. Spencer, Section Ed. Boca Raton, FL, CRC Press, Inc., 1982, 576 pp, \$84.50 U.S., \$95.00, outside U.S.

CRC Handbook of Medical Physics Volume I. R.G. Waggener, J.G. Kereiakes, R.J. Shalek, Boca Raton, FL, CRC Press, Inc., 1982, 327 pp, \$64.00 U.S., \$74.00, outside U.S.

CRC Handbook of Radiation Measurement and Protection, Section A, Volume II: Biological and Mathematical Information. A. Brodsky, Ed. Boca Raton, FL, CRC Press, Inc., 1982, 720 pp, \$94.00 U.S., \$105.00, outside U.S.