

## *New Primers Cover Fundamental Concepts and Methodology*

# SNM PUBLISHES BOOKS ON SPECT AND MIRD

**T**he Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) is publishing two new books, one on single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) and another on medical internal radiation dose (MIRD), which will be displayed at the 33rd Annual Meeting this month in Washington, DC.

*Single-Photon Emission Computed Tomography: A Primer* can serve as a fundamental text on SPECT as well as an extension of a manufacturer's operating manual. The idea originated in the Academic Affairs Committee of the SNM Technologist Section about three years ago.

"There is a tremendous amount of material on SPECT in the literature, but predominantly from the physician's or scientist's viewpoint," said Robert J. English, CNMT, one of the authors. "There was no comprehensive work dedicated to the technology," he noted, and the primer is designed to answer all the fundamental questions a nuclear medicine technologist might have about SPECT.

Nuclear physicians and scientists who at present do not work extensively with SPECT will also find the book very helpful, said Mr. English. "Radiologists at community hospitals can use it to familiarize themselves with the key points and terminology of SPECT," he added.

The book includes study questions, a glossary, and reading lists. "It is meant to complement an instrumentation manufacturer's operating manual. When the manual instructs the technologist to push a certain button, for example, that technologist can learn from our book exactly what is happening within the system when the button is pushed," explained Mr. English.

Susan E. Brown, CNMT, the other coauthor of the SPECT primer, said that this book, "written by technologists for technologists, provides extensive material on SPECT in a concise format so that readers will not have to sift through a mountain of papers to get the essential facts and ideas."

In addition, the book provides another mechanism for the continuing education of nuclear medicine technologists, noted Ms. Brown, who is chairman of the SNM Technologist Section's Committee on Continuing Education.

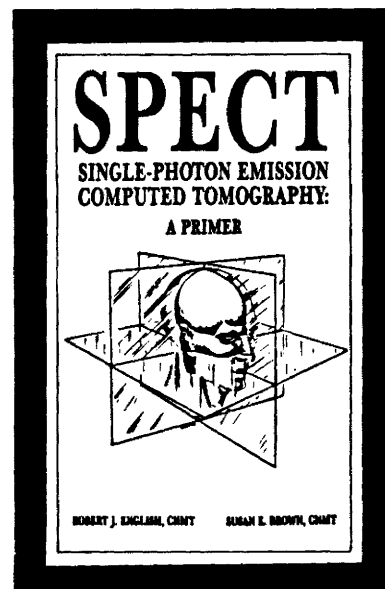
### Medical Internal Radiation Dose

The *MIRD Primer for Absorbed Dose Calculations*, written by members of the SNM MIRD Committee, includes previous MIRD dose estimate publications that have gone out of print and all the MIRD reports published in *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*, as well as new sections that explain the MIRD method with illustrative examples.

"I think people for a long time have wanted something to make it easier for the person who is not a dosimetry expert to calculate absorbed dose estimates," said Evelyn E. Watson, one of the authors.

The book also contains very clear definitions of the various terms, and it follows a pattern so that the reader can understand why each of the different parts is used in the dose estimates, explained Ms. Watson, who is also program manager of the Radio-pharmaceutical Internal Dose Information Center in Oak Ridge, TN.

A republication of the MIRD Pamphlets #1 and #12 are included, which give a more formal presentation of some aspects of the MIRD



method. "These pamphlets form the basis for the whole procedure," said Ms. Watson.

The examples in the MIRD book include many situations that nuclear medicine professionals might encounter when making these estimates, she added.

"This book is useful to everyone who is involved in nuclear medicine research and practice," said James S. Robertson, MD, PhD, chairman of the MIRD Committee.

[The SPECT book is priced at \$15 for SNM members, \$17 for non-members; the MIRD book is \$25 for members, \$28 for non-members. There is a \$2.50 charge for postage and handling. For more information, contact: Publications Dept., The Society of Nuclear Medicine, 136 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016 (212) 889-0717, or inquire at the SNM publications booth during the Annual Meeting, June 22-25, Washington Convention Center.] ■