

### **CARDIAC IMAGING: NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND CLINICAL APPLICATIONS.**

*M.N. Kotler, R.M. Steiner. Philadelphia: F.A. Davis Company, 1986, 454 pp, \$85.00*

The *Cardiovascular Clinics Series* combines some of the characteristics of a subscription series with the most advantageous attributes of publishing individual books. The series began in 1969 and publishes three volumes each year. Although the individual books are uniform in size and bindings, they vary in thickness and in price. Unlike most other series, they are available in book stores as individual numbers, and many previous issues remain available from the publisher. Some of the titles such as D.H. Spodick's *Pericardial Disease* (Vol. 7:3) and Fisch's two volume series on *Complex Electrocardiography* are classics in their field; overall the series has been excellent.

The most recent addition to the *Cardiovascular Clinics Series* (Vol 17:1) is entitled *Cardiac Imaging: New Technologies and Clinical Applications*, and it provides an overview of the state of the art for that subject. Because much of the information is so new, and because the subject matter is evolving so rapidly, many of the techniques described are difficult to place in proper clinical perspective. Therefore, Dr. Kotler and Steiner's book is probably unlikely to become a classic but nevertheless contains much useful information, and for the present, remains the most up-to-date resource in cardiac imaging. The book is divided into two parts: The first nine articles fall under the heading "Functional Assessment" and describe subjects such as the new applications of Doppler ultrasound in quantifying myocardial and valvular flow, contrast two-dimensional echocardiography, nuclear magnetic resonance, and emission tomography as they relate to the heart. Part II, subtitled "Clinical Assessment", contains 11 articles aimed more specifically at individual cardiac problems.

Much of the book describes new techniques to evaluate clinical entities that, at least in most centers, will continue to be evaluated by more conventional methods. Nevertheless, it is interesting to see what is in the forefront of the technological explosion in medicine today, and this book does a superb job in presenting that position. The individual articles are generally very well written. The text is beautifully illustrated, and where necessary, color plates are used. References are provided for the individual articles and are appropriate and helpful.

From the standpoint of my own clinical practice, I found the clinical assessment portion of the book the more interesting. Dr. Kotler et al.'s chapter on the noninvasive evaluation of cardiac valve prosthesis, Dr. McPherson et al.'s chapter on two-dimensional echocardiography and coronary artery disease, and Dr. Klein et al.'s chapter on the value of noninvasive techniques in assessing prognosis following myocardial infarction were especially relevant.

This book is not intended to be a multidisciplinary overview of noninvasive cardiac techniques for the general reader; other texts cover the more fundamental and traditional scope of noninvasive cardiology far better. The present group of highly specialized articles presents the views of the individual authors

who are eager to place the new technologies recently made available to clinical specialists in the proper perspective. I believe the authors have succeeded in that endeavor and trust that cardiologists especially interested in these newer noninvasive technologies and directors of nuclear and radiographical laboratories specializing in cardiac imaging techniques will find this well written and beautifully illustrated volume helpful. The less specialized reader may also come to appreciate it as an excellent reference and resource to answer specific questions in this new and exciting field.

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### **NUCLEAR MEDICINE IN UROLOGY AND NEPHROLOGY. Second Edition.**

*P.H. O'Reilly, R.A. Shields, H.J. Testa, Ed. London, Butterworth & Co., 1986, 291 pp, \$135.00*

This book on renal nuclear medicine attempts to cover the subject for urologists, nephrologists, nuclear medicine physicians, and biomathematicians. With such a broad scope, it is not surprising that it falls short in depth for each of the specialties. However, it brings insight from the various points of view that should help the participants in such studies better understand the indications, limitations, techniques, and analysis methods. For nuclear medicine practitioners the book provides a good discussion of the clinical problems that renal nuclear medicine techniques can address and the information that is being sought by the clinicians.

The book is divided into three major parts: Techniques, Clinical Applications, and Basic Principles. The first part contains seven chapters. These begin with a brief history of nuclear medicine, emphasizing renal nuclear medicine. The following chapters are concerned with OIH and DTPA renography, DMSA and gallium imaging, and flow studies. Reflux studies and clearance methodology are discussed in separate chapters. Bone scanning, particularly for metastatic prostate carcinoma is discussed in Chapter 6. The last chapter in this section is "Protocols of Procedures". Protocols are given for all common renal nuclear medicine procedures as well as protocols for clearance studies, radionuclide cystography, and bone scanning. These protocols are somewhat simplified, but certainly are adequate for showing the referring physicians approximately what will take place when a study is ordered. The protocols are based on those used at the Manchester Royal Infirmary and are quite specific. They do not indicate the variation in technique that is likely to be encountered between different nuclear medicine departments.

The clinical applications section includes chapters on obstructive uropathy, urological tumors, renal transplantation, pediatric problems, trauma, lower urinary tract problems, and "Nephrological Applications of Radionuclides". The chapter on obstruction contains an extensive discussion of the use of the furosimide renogram and contains numerous examples. The urological tumor chapter compares different methodol-