GAMUTS IN NUCLEAR MEDICINE.
Frederick L. Datz. Appleton & Lange, 1987, 390 pp, $34.95

This second edition of *Gamuts in Nuclear Medicine* represents a substantial expansion in the number of pages over the prior (1983) version. The change is accomplished in part by changes in format and type as well as by additions to the content of the work. There are relatively minor increases in the lengths of existing gamut lists and a moderate increase of new gamuts in categories previously covered, particularly in the pulmonary and renal sections. The greatest increase, however, is due to the addition of entirely new segments such as parathyroid and MIBG imaging, GI functional imaging, and imaging and nonimaging hematologic procedures. These help to correct some deficiencies in the first edition and incorporate newer procedures as well.

References for old gamuts are only slightly expanded by the addition of interval articles. These references are now numbered in each section, but these numbers are not indicated as specific references in the gamuts themselves. This would be a useful addition to this type of text.

Overall, this is a useful text. It should be considered for library or personal purchase, and its relatively low price makes it affordable for trainees.

WARREN H. MOORE
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas

THE CLINICIAN'S GUIDE TO DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING.
Cost Effective Pathways. Second Edition. *Z.D. Grossman, F.S. Chew, D.A. Ellis, S.C. Brigham. New York, NY. Raven Press, 271 pp, $21.50*

This is the second edition of a concise manual written by practitioners of diagnostic radiology and nuclear medicine, with the intent of providing referring physicians with practical information about selection of imaging tests which might have the highest yield and provide the most useful information in evaluation of specific clinical situations. The rapid advances in radiology and nuclear medicine have resulted in highly sophisticated examinations which may be bewildering if not confusing to practicing clinicians. This is compounded by the apparent if not superficial overlapping of the many diagnostic studies available. How many ways can the brain be imaged? I can think of at least eight: CT; MRI; radionuclide imaging with agents not normally crossing the blood-brain barrier (e.g., DTPA); radionuclide SPECT imaging with agents crossing the blood/brain barrier (e.g., IMP); PET; arteriography; pneumoencephalography; and ultrasonography. The question practicing clinicians frequently ask is "Which test do I order?" It is economically infeasible, intellectually undesirable, and from the patient's viewpoint, unacceptable to perform an excessive number of studies which may either overlap or not provide information relevant to a current clinical situation.

Like its predecessor, this book is organized into an Introduction followed by seven Clinical Sections, with the latter now containing 47 instead of 42 clinical situations. The authors attempt to analyze each clinical problem in light of which imaging studies would be most useful. This is a difficult task since individual patients may present unique situations, not easily assessed in an abstract manner and furthermore unanimity of opinion may not always exist when trying to prospectively outline the "best" way to organize a clinical workup. However, the authors have a realistic approach and their suggestions regarding which test or sequence of tests will probably satisfy most situations. The discussion is entirely didactic and there are no confusing flow charts. References are kept to a minimum but are pertinent.

The work assumes, by implication, that most all diagnostic tests will be available to the referring clinician who is thinking about his patient. This may not be the case in smaller institutions, but the work is still valuable since the authors try to stay in the mainline of available examinations and avoid less accessible procedures. The discussions also include costs of each suggested test. Prices may vary from one region to another, but the examples are useful for comparisons of relative cost rather than absolute determinations.

The work concludes with an excellent glossary defining many terms, the meaning of which are assumed by those performing diagnostic imaging examinations, but which may be confusing to a referring physician (what are the subtleties when speaking of "IVP's" vs. "IVU's"?). The subject index is also good.

This modestly priced book is not intended as a text for radiologists or nuclear medicine physicians. It is intended for our referring clinicians and tries to help them in making intelligent decisions regarding the choice of diagnostic imaging studies useful when evaluating their patients. It is not a substitute for close consultation with imaging experts, however, since the strength and weaknesses of various imaging modalities may vary within individual institutions. Consequently, as the authors point out, close professional contact between physicians is essential to a productive diagnostic evaluation. This is a good book to have on one's shelf in order to be prepared for the question: "Which test do I order?".

GARY F. GATES
St. Vincent Hospital & Medical Center
Portland, Oregon

Books Received

Physics at Lear with Low Energy Antiprotons. Nuclear Science Research Conference Series, Volume 14. *C. Amsler, G. Backenstoss, R. Klapisch, C. Leluc, D. Simon, and L. Tauscher, Eds. Harwood Academic Publishers, Chur, Switzerland, 1988, 827 pp*

Diagnostic and Investigational Uses of Radiolabeled Blood Elements. *M. E. Wallace,* Ed. *American Association of Blood Banks, Arlington, Virginia, 1987, 118 pp, $22.00*

Practical Nuclear Pharmacy. Third Edition. *T. Phan, M. Ling, R. Wasnich. Banyan Press, Honolulu, Hawaii, 1987, 146 pp, $14.95*

Intermediate Physics for Medicine and Biology. Second Edition. *R. K. Hobbie, John Wiley & Sons, New York, New York, 1988, 623 pp, $54.60*