

RADIOPHARMACY & RADIOPHARMACOLOGY YEARBOOK

P. H. Cox, Ed. New York, Gordon and Breach Science Publishers, 1988, 347 pp, \$145.00 (SAS price: \$74.00)

This book is divided into three sections. The first section consists of five chapters covering adverse reactions, radiation absorbed doses, drug effects on biodistribution, trimethyl IDA derivatives, and monoclonal antibodies.

The first and third chapters on adverse reactions and drug effects on biodistribution are of great value as a quick reference to those subjects. The reports for these chapters are summarized in tabular form for easy reference. Physicians, technologists and scientists alike would have use for the information that is provided by these chapters. The chapter (5) on monoclonal antibodies is a very good summary of work that is currently being done as well as a guide to future work.

The second section of the yearbook is a rather comprehensive listing of short abstracts on 21 different topics. Each subject has been reviewed and current articles are referenced for easy access by the reader.

The third section is a listing of newer radiopharmaceuticals, current manufacturers and books available.

Overall, this book is well put together and easy to read. Most of the sections would be useful mainly to scientists or physicians working in the field as a quick reference to the literature. Because of the price, the book is best suited for libraries rather than personal use.

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CORONARY ANGIOPLASTY

D. A. Clark, M.D., Ed. New York, Alan R. Liss, Inc., 1987, 198 pp, \$49.50

At first glance one may wonder how a book with a thickness of only 3/8" could possibly fit into the category of standard textbooks on a topic as broad as percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA). Yet this volume does cover the subject in a remarkably clear, concise, and exhaustive manner.

The book opens with a history of cardiac catheterization, which Dr. Frank J. Hildner presents in an admirable style, taking the reader from Werner Forssman's famous "self-catheterization" of the right heart in 1929, through the early balloon dilatation procedures performed by Andreas Gruentzig and his relationship with Richard Myler, in 1976. A concluding postscript reminds us of the tremendous loss suffered in 1985, to all who practice invasive cardiology: the deaths of Drs. Charles Dotter, Melvin Judkins, F. Mason Sones, and Andreas Gruentzig all occurred in this year.

In the following chapter, Dr. Benito O. Hidalgo, who has been integrally involved in the evolution of coronary angioplasty, provides the basic considerations regarding the use of guiding systems, balloon catheters, and guidewires.

As is true of every other textbook of coronary angioplasty, however, the technical descriptions are provided for equipment that is regrettably quite obsolete. Judging the time involved from initial manuscript to final publication of a textbook, authors of future volumes may find it worthwhile to simply omit descriptions of "current equipment" since it will no longer be current six months later!

A description of optimal use of the coronary angiography in PTCA is presented by Ralph Boucher and Richard Myler. Their later expanded version of this chapter (Catheterization and cardiovascular diagnosis 1988; 14:269-285) has become a classic monograph and should be required reading for any physician entering the fields of invasive or interventional cardiology.

A detailed examination of the use of PTCA in acute myocardial infarction, written by Donald Spring, is particularly timely in the era of thrombolysis. Which therapy is best remains in question. At this juncture, however, Dr. Spring's summarizing statement seems rational:

Immediate coronary angioplasty or angioplasty performed with adjunctive thrombolysis appears to be superior to the use of thrombolytic agents alone in terms of relief of stenosis, primary success rate, and reduced rates of morbidity.

Specific chapters are devoted to the topics of initial angiography, patient selection, and treatment strategy. Finally, discussions of complex angioplasty, recurrent stenosis, procedural and postangioplasty complications, and patient care aspects of PTCA are included to make this a comprehensive treatise. The book is well referenced and also contains appendices of numerous PTCA case presentations. I believe it will benefit both beginning and advanced interventional cardiologists. Dr. Clark is to be commended for his contribution to the literature on coronary angioplasty.

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BONE MINERAL MEASUREMENTS BY PHOTON ABSORPTIOMETRY: METHODOLOGICAL PROBLEMS

J. V. Dequeker, P. Guesens, H. W. Wahner, Eds. Belgium, Leuven University Press, 1988, 490 pp, 1.700 BF

This book is the proceedings of the Second International Workshop on noninvasive bone measurements held in Leuven, Belgium, September 24-25, 1987. The book is comprised of three to four page summaries, including references, of the oral and poster presentations from this meeting. The book is divided into seven sections dealing with different aspects of bone absorptiometry. Contrary to what the title of the book might suggest, a wide range of topics are covered in addition