Imaging of the Newborn, Infant and Young Child, Third Edition
Leonard E. Swischuk, MD, Williams and Wilkins, 1989, 1,053 pp, $16.00

The third edition of Imaging of the Newborn, Infant and Young Child is a very readable textbook directed primarily toward practicing general radiologists and radiology residents. As with previous editions, clinically oriented material is presented in an easy-to-follow format. The text is well referenced and illustrated with radiographs of excellent quality. This edition attempts to integrate newer imaging modalities, including magnetic resonance imaging with more traditional radiographic imaging in pediatrics. The text, references and images remain largely the same as in the second edition, although many sections of the text have been expanded and include updated references.

There is a paucity of nuclear medicine throughout the text, limiting the usefulness of Swischuk's new book for those primarily interested in radionuclide techniques. For example, the chapter on the respiratory system (206 pages) contains only a single rectilinear scan of the lung, with no mention of ventilation imaging or newer perfusion imaging techniques. Despite these limitations, the text's clear presentation of pediatric disease and radiographic images in disorders not frequently encountered by many nuclear medicine professionals makes this a worthwhile reference. This book is quite fairly priced at $136.00 for its 1,053 page length containing hundreds of radiographs.

Margaret A. Gainey
St. Christopher's Hospital
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Advances in Cerebral SPECT
Imaging: An Atlas and Guideline for Practitioners
Ronald L. Van Heertum, MD and
Ronald S. Tikosky, PhD, editors, Trivium Publishing Company, 1989, 129 pp, $38.00

This paperback text makes a significant and useful contribution to the nuclear medicine literature, which will be relevant to anyone involved in clinical neuroimaging. Although nuclear neurology, particularly with SPECT, is still a fairly new and evolving technology (since ca 1980), the editors have done a commendable job in clearly outlining the four major and minor clinical indications for cerebral SPECT imaging: cerebrovascular disease; seizure disorders; dementias; psychiatric disorders, trauma, and tumors. This text is very readable, succinct and accessible. The cases presented are generally of high technical quality and the images give a representative comparison of the capabilities of different vendors' hardware.

The editors acknowledge use of only IMP (Spectamine, Roche) since the time only this agent has received FDA approval. In fairness to some of the newer technetium-based cerebral perfusion agents (Neurolite, Dupont; and Ceretec, Amersham), future editions will include these newer agents as well.

The text is divided into three sections with clinical indications and case examples: general imaging technique, including cerebral anatomy cross-correlated with CT and MRI; patient preparation, image processing and display; disease states, with case examples cross-correlated with CT and MRI; appendices, including quality control of tracer and equipment, and imaging procedural specifics.

In summary, I can enthusiastically endorse this text that admirably fulfills its stated aim of introducing functional brain imaging to imaging clinicians (in nuclear medicine and radiology) and nonimaging clinicians (neurologists, neurosurgeons, and psychiatrists) and showing how to perform and interpret the studies. At a very reasonable price, it belongs in every nuclear medicine reading room, particularly since the role of clinical nuclear neurology will undoubtedly continue to grow.

Robert M. Davidson
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas

A Textbook of Radiology and Imaging
David Sutton, ed, New York: Churchill Livingstone, 1987, 1,857 pp, $250.00

This compendious, two-volume book is the fourth edition of one of the standard textbooks of general radiology. According to the book's editor, the major innovation in the most recent edition is the incorporation of newer imaging techniques, especially magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), into the general text whenever possible. When that has proved unwieldy, it is the author's intention to provide a comprehensive review of these imaging modalities in individual chapters devoted to computed tomography, ultrasound, and MRI at the end of the book.

The text is divided into eight parts, four in each volume, with seven parts each dedicated to a different organ system and the final part assigned to imaging techniques. Some, but not all, of the parts begin with introductory chapters of a general nature, emphasizing normal anatomy and different standard methods of examination. These are valuable summaries of the basic information which would be of interest to medical students, nonradiologists, and those in the early stages of radiology training. The remainder of each part is divided into chapters according to disease entities or according to anatomic considerations.

The book is printed on high quality paper and there are a large number of images, which usually clearly demonstrate the relevant radiographic findings, and which are accompanied by succinct and well-written captions. In a few sections, e.g., that on congenital heart disease, there are a number of very informative diagrams. However, despite the written claims of the editor, the emphasis in this book appears to be on plain film radiography, and this is reflected in excellent plain film images. Unfortunately, the computed tomographic images are, in many sections, limited in number and often barely adequate, with many seemingly obtained from early generation scanners. Similarly, the nuclear medicine scan images are relatively few in number, and there are no images to illustrate some of the clinical scena-