do bring to our attention the role of other modalities in evaluating patients with neurologic findings. There is no doubt that this work has some valuable information for those interested in neuroimaging. However, the overall impact of the papers in terms of providing new information is limited. While cost should not be a significant factor in evaluating a work, the expense of this book far exceeds the value of its content. In its favor is the presentation of work with other modalities such as ultrasound that can ultimately add to the general development of the field of neuroimaging.

Ronald S. Tikofsky
Medical College of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, Wisconsin


This is the publication of the papers presented at the 2nd International rCBF Workshop, 1986. The work can be considered to be made up of two sections, the first examines the basic principles of functional neuroimaging, and the second its clinical applications.

The first paper is an essay devoted to a philosophical discussion of disease, and whether it should be viewed from an anatomic or functional perspective. It, more than any of the other papers, compels us to examine carefully what we are trying to achieve with functional neuroimaging in clinical neurology and psychiatry. The six short papers that make up the remainder of the first section describe the basic principles underlying functional brain imaging. Topics covered include the early work with xenon and move to more recent developments in both SPECT and PET. The level of sophistication varies greatly from paper to paper. While it is not possible to discuss every paper in this review, some papers do warrant comment. Ell et al. present a relatively unbiased and excellent review of the radiotracers available for brain imaging (paper 6). The paper gives the reader new to brain imaging a good basis for making decisions regarding choice of tracer. A somewhat more biased approach to tracer selection is given by Lassen et al. in their paper on cerebral blood flow tomography using gamma-emitting radiotopes. They note that image resolution of HMPAO is superior to that of xenon-133, but consider "iodinated compounds to be obsolete as CBF tracers using SPECT" (p. 51). However, they suggest that if appropriate ligands are developed, then tracers such as IMP may be useful for receptor imaging. Many investigators would take issue with their assertion that IMP is obsolete as a viable brain imaging agent. Papers 2-5 present brief descriptions of various imaging procedures and short statements as to their clinical application. The section ends with a paper discussing PET’s application in neurologic disorders and serves as a transition to the second section where the emphasis is on clinical issues.

The nine papers in the clinical section address specific neurologic or psychiatric problems. Topics range from the more common disease states such as stroke and Alzheimer’s disease to esoteric applications. The latter includes, for example, consideration of migraine and the mapping of cerebral blood flow during cardiopulmonary by-pass surgery.

The general format is similar across all the presentations: an introduction and brief discussion of the utility of the various imaging techniques, i.e., SPECT, PET, MR, etc. in elucidating the clinical syndromes discussed. Some papers present data based on the authors’ own work, but most are reviews of what was then the current status of work for a given clinical problem. The quality of these presentations varies greatly, ranging from outstanding to being at best average. This section offers the relative newcomer to functional brain imaging an uneven introduction to its potential application to neurology and psychiatry. The more sophisticated readers, particularly those from nuclear medicine who have been active in functional brain imaging, will come away from the book feeling a bit let down.

A strong summary article, bringing the major points of the papers together and suggesting further directions, would have been a valuable addition. For all of its shortcomings, this volume adds to the growing body of published symposia on functional brain imaging. The first group of papers best serves those in nuclear medicine who are just beginning to work in brain imaging. The second set shows nuclear medicine’s contributions to neurology and psychiatry.

Ronald S. Tikofsky
Medical College of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Edeiken’s Roentgen Diagnosis of Diseases of Bone, 4th Edition

This is the fourth edition of this classic text, whose earlier editions have established it as one of the standard textbooks of skeletal radiology. The update is timely, following by nine years the publication of the third edition. During this interval much has changed in the field of skeletal radiology. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computed tomography (CT) have become standard components of the orthopedic imaging workup and clinical advances in the classification and treatment of bone tumors, arthritides and metabolic bone disease have necessitated a revised treatment of these topics.

This two-volume work stands in the intermediate size-range of skeletal radiology textbooks, smaller than the massive six-volume tome by Resnick and Niwayama and larger than the text by Greenfield. The coverage is broad, but not exhaustive. Bone and soft-tissue tumors receive the most extensive treatment, followed by the arthritides, metabolic bone disease and osteomyelitis. Sports medicine and general orthopedic trauma are not covered.

The book is an excellent reference source for both the radiographic and medical-surgical aspects of bone radiology. The reproductions are of good quality and the discussions are excellent, generally inclusive of knowledge through 1986-1987. A foldout chart of epiphysial ossification centers will prove useful to nuclear medicine practitioners interpreting pediatric studies. MRI and CT applications are well represented and knowledgeably discussed. Perhaps the weakest point of the text is the treatment of the integration of radionuclide studies in the diagnostic evaluation. Few radionuclide images are presented and the discussions of