

Introduction to Radiobiology, Maurice Tubiana, Jean Dutreix, Andre Wambersie, Translated by D. R. Bewley, Taylor and Francis Group, Bristol PA, 1990, 371 pp, \$42.00 (soft), \$110.00 (hard).

This book is a translation and update of the French "Radiobiologie," published in 1986. Although intended primarily for radiotherapists, much of the book remains relevant for the nuclear medicine physician. The references are current to 1988-1989, and the text discusses topics as recent as the 1988 UNSCEAR report and the BEIR IV report.

The book reads well and lacks the rough edges that often characterize translations. It treats the subject with sufficient detail and sophistication to meet the needs of almost any practicing nuclear physician.

Some chapters, as in any radiobiology text, will be of relatively less immediate relevance to nuclear medicine practice. This is most likely to apply to descriptions

of factors modifying radiation response, such as oxygenation, mitotic rate, temperature, chemicals, and dose fractionation. The first five chapters, comprising about half the text, are of practical value to the nuclear medicine physician. These sections include discussions of the physical effects of radiation, radiation chemistry, cell-tissue effects, and radiopathology. The discussion of low-dose radiation is adequate for most practitioners.

The softcover edition of this book provides a reasonably priced alternative to other excellent radiobiology texts. It will not replace standard texts on radiation protection or dosimetric calculations. Also, not all clinical nuclear medicine physicians will require detailed familiarity with many of the topics discussed. As a reference book, however, *Radiobiology* inexpensively updates many older texts we refer to in this constantly evolving field.

James A. Scott

*Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts*

Books Received

An Era in Cardiovascular Medicine. Suzanne B. Knoebel, MD and Simon Dack, MD, New York, Elsevier, 1991, 330 pp, \$59.50.

Guidelines for the Evaluation of Radiological Technologies.

M. N. Maisey and J. Hutton, London, The British Institute of Radiology, 1991, 27 pp, \$13.50.

Principles and Practice of Cardiovascular Imaging

Gerald M. Pohost, MD and Robert A. O'Rourke, MD, Boston, Little, Brown and Company, 1990, 880 pp, \$175.00

Immunoscintigraphy—Facts and Fiction.

Dr. D. L. Munz and Dr. D. Emrich, Amsterdam, Elsevier Science Publishers, 185 pp, (price not given).

Implementation of the Principle of As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA) for Medical and Dental Personnel (NCRP Report No. 107). National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements, Bethesda, 126 pp, \$15.00.

Radiation and the Thyroid.

Shigenobu Nagataki, Excerpta Medica, 93 pp.