

Book Reviews

Radiology of the Stomach. By Richard H. Marshak, Arthur E. Lindner, and Daniel Maklansky. W.B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, Toronto, 1983. 634 pp. Hardcover. US \$80.00.

This book is the third of a series by Marshak, Lindner and Maklansky devoted to gastrointestinal tract roentgenology. Even though writing a book on the radiology of the stomach may seem to be a challenge in 1983, it is important to give the proper degree of importance to radiology in comparison with other investigations of the stomach, especially fibroscopy. The authors did it.

This book could be entitled: *Radiology of the Stomach. The Old and the New*. It remains a classic, if by a classic we mean that it deals with what is routinely done in a Department of Radiology. It is now obvious that double-contrast technique will demonstrate tiny lesions better than will barium studies; the technical chapter by Laufer illustrates that point. However, the biphasic examination with compression, as shown in the chapter by Margulis and Ominsky, may better demonstrate larger lesions. The chapters on gastric carcinoma, polyps, and ulcers, are illustrated by pictures of both double contrast and single contrast examinations.

A subtly written chapter is devoted to gastritis and shows what the clinician may expect from the radiologist in handling gastritis.

A brilliant and beautifully illustrated chapter on early gastric carcinoma is written by Shirakabe.

A chapter on CT provides the more recent data on this subject, which is an expanding field.

A well put together chapter on Zollinger-Ellison Syndrome explains with drawings, tables, and histological figures the chemical and anatomical disorders of the disease.

At a time when radiology of the stomach is challenged by fibroscopy, at a time when some people ask "Is radiological examination really useful? Isn't it nowadays an obsolete investigation?" this book, the latest by Richard Marshak, combines both classical and recent knowledge on the subject. It will probably be usable as a reference for many years.

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Radiology of the Pancreas. By Patrick C. Freeny, M.D. and Thomas L. Lawson, M.D. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1982. 624 pp. Hardcover. US \$125.00.

Radiology of the Pancreas is a significant contribution to the radiologic literature, comprehensively covering, in 624 pages, radiology of the pancreas. The text is well-written and balanced. Appropriately emphasized are the newer imaging modalities of ultrasonography, computed tomography, and pancreatic angiography. Conventional roentgenograms, barium gastrointestinal studies, cholangiography, pancreatography, and duodenography are discussed and their relative values are compared to those of the newer modalities.

Since technological advances in imaging equipment occur so rapidly, any text runs the risk of being paired with out-dated images. Fortunately, the 1268 figures are of exceptionally high quality, reflecting state-of-the-art equipment, and are reproduced well.

The book is divided into 2 major sections. Section I is composed of 4 chapters that review the imaging techniques of computed tomography, ultrasonography, angiography, pancreatography, cholangiography, and duodenography. Technical details as well as normal appearances are discussed for each modality. The embryology and anatomy of the pancreas and related ducts are also included in this section.

Section II, 9 chapters long, covers specific diseases of the pancreas including congenital and developmental ones, acute pancreatitis, chronic pancreatitis, complications of pancreatitis, adenocarcinoma, cystic neoplasms, endocrine tumors, and rare neoplasms. A single chapter is devoted to integrated (algorithmic) diagnosis of pancreatic carcinoma. Radiologic overviews, summarizing the authors' recommendations for optimal radiologic evaluation, generally follow the discussions of the major pancreatic diseases. These are thoughtful and objective concerning strengths and weaknesses of the various modalities.

My criticisms are quite minor. In the introductory section on CT scanning, more illustrations and discussion of normal variants of pancreatic morphology could have been provided, particularly in view of the authors' repeated warnings that these variants can mimic disease. Also, in this section a more comprehensive analysis of normal pancreatic parenchymal enhancement after intravenous contrast would be useful. A more com-

plete discussion of the significance and etiology of pancreatic gas would be of value in the section on pancreatic abscess. Finally, in the section on pancreatic adenocarcinoma, focal loss of glandular lobularity as a CT sign of a mass should have been mentioned. In my experience, loss of normal lobularity without a contour abnormality may be the most subtle sign of pancreatic carcinoma.

In summary, this book is an outstanding contribution by two authorities on pancreatic imaging. It should serve as the standard reference for those interested in radiologic evaluation of the pancreas.

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Ultrasound Imaging – Liver – Spleen – Pancreas. By David O. Cosgrove and V. Ralph McCready. John Wiley & Sons, New York, Chichester, Brisbane, Toronto, Singapore, 1982. 368 pp. Hardcover. US \$75.00.

This book is a worthwhile addition to the existing collection of ultrasound atlases. It differs from others in its scope, which is limited to a detailed examination of the liver, biliary system, pancreas and spleen.

The first section of the book is an overview of surface and cross-sectional anatomy basic to ultrasound. The transverse and sagittal sections are represented by line drawings which are of particularly fine quality. Sections 2–4 discuss normal ultrasound liver anatomy and focal and diffuse liver disease. Each section is prefaced by a written discussion which is followed by numerous ultrasound scans illustrating the diversified appearance of each disease. Line drawings that identify the normal and abnormal findings accompany each sonogram. Sections 5–7 follow a similar format for the biliary system, pancreas and spleen.

The authors' extensive experience is evidenced by the numerous sonograms showing the diversified ultrasound patterns of each disease. However, a number of the reproduced sonograms are of poor quality, making it difficult for the reader to appreciate the findings without the accompanying drawings. The written discussions are to the point and provide relevant information regarding normal anatomy (and variants), pathophysiology and the ultrasound findings. Unfortunately, the book lacks a detailed bibliography.

Ultrasound Imaging will appeal mainly to physicians with a major interest in ultrasound. Radiology residents learning ultrasound will also find this book useful because of its concise style and the many illustrations.

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Atlas of Radionuclide Hepatobiliary Imaging. By Christopher C. Kuni and William C. Klingensmith III. G.K. Hall Medical Publishers, Boston, 1982. 272 pp. Hardcover. US \$41.95.

This very comprehensive book includes examples of normal variants and common pathological conditions as well as rare diseases and the scan patterns of liver transplants. The wide variety of pathological conditions presented in the atlas (which

are drawn mostly from the authors' own experience) may give a false impression of the clinical indications of hepatobiliary imaging with radionuclides. The presentations of non-pathomonic scintigraphic patterns may be mistaken for the indications for hepatobiliary scintigraphy. In actuality, scintigraphic patterns are quite limited in number as is evidenced by comparing the diseases listed in the table of contents to the scans presented. Although the book is called an "atlas", it also includes chapters related to radiopharmaceutical selection including a "historical note" as well as sections on "comparative pharmacokinetics", "prospects for future improvements" and "technical considerations". The technique recommended by Kuni and Klingensmith employs acquisition of static analog images rather than computer assisted analysis (Kempi V. et al: *Eur J Nucl Med* 7:542–544, 1982) and repeated reference is made to "leading edge transit time", "hepatic clearance index" and "hepatic to cardiac blood pool radioactivity ratio" which are not very well defined. It is not clear why this "eyeballing technique" was preferred to the use of the computer, which is now available in most nuclear medicine laboratories.

There is not enough emphasis on such common occurrences as non-filling of the gallbladder. Since most referrals for hepatobiliary scintigraphy are for biliary obstruction in general and acute cholecystitis in particular, these conditions clearly deserve more ample space in the book. The strategy recommended by the authors in this situation is of repeat delayed imaging. However, the clinician may need the answer urgently. No mention is made of Freeman et al's recommendations (*Semin Nucl Med* 11:186–193, 1981) to administer CCK in patients with non-visualized gallbladders, followed by a repeat injection of HIDA. The distinction between the effect of fasting and non-related pathology can then be made.

As mentioned, the chapters are well organized and most illustrations are of good quality, although some were duplicated. Each chapter is referenced by publications mostly by the authors themselves, some of which are still "in press".

The terminology coined by the authors which is interpretative rather than descriptive, seems lengthy and cumbersome, e.g. "leading edge parenchymal transit time" which is defined as "the time from injection until the appearance of tracer in extrahepatic structures", could easily be shortened to "CBD or duodenal arrival time". Some inaccuracies were noted: focal nodular hyperplasia is shown on pp. 56–57 as increased activity in both the hepatobiliary and sulfur-colloid scans, creating the false impression that this is always the case. However, this combination occurs in only 50% of cases and in 35% the sulfur colloid scan shows a photopenic area (Rogers, *AJR* 137:983–989, 1981). On page 84 (Fig. 6.1) an image is shown with the caption "... accumulation of tracer in dilated intrahepatic and extrahepatic biliary tract". Sizing of structures with a caliber as small as the biliary ducts is virtually impossible because of the limited resolution of the gamma-camera. The graphic design of the book is worth mentioning, in particular the simple yet highly effective diagrams of bile flow in various physiological and pathological conditions.

It seems, therefore, that this book should have a place in the radiology and nuclear medicine libraries, and it is hoped that the next edition will be improved by the authors' polishing up the language and captions as well as including chapters on quantitative imaging and the role of CCK, and by giving more emphasis to commonly occurring situations.

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