

Book Reviews

Gastrointestinal Radiology – A Pattern Approach. by Ronald L. Eisenberg, M.D. J.B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 1983. 1042 pp. Hardcover. US \$ 95.00.

Gastrointestinal Radiology – A Pattern Approach is a worthy and painstaking work put together in a well organized fashion. This pattern approach to gastrointestinal radiology represents an attempt to combine the standard gamut approach and relevant disease-oriented textual material.

This book is divided into 9 parts: esophagus, diaphragm, stomach, duodenum, small bowel, ileocecal valve and cecum, colon, biliary system, and miscellaneous. Each part is subdivided into sections denoting specific radiographic findings or pattern. For each radiographic pattern, first a gamut is outlined, followed by relevant textual material and a wealth of carefully selected, well organized illustrations from the author's personal and borrowed material, as well as previously published cases from the literature, to aid in arriving at a reasonable differential diagnosis. Each subsection is further enriched by relevant bibliography.

The text is concise and well written. The style is consistent throughout the book. Redundancy and repetition of statements in a gamut-pattern approach discussion are understandably unavoidable. The statements are generally correct and controversial points are carefully avoided.

This book provides a practical reference for those faced with the daily challenge of interpreting gastrointestinal roentgenograms. It is a welcome addition to radiology libraries and is recommended to radiology residents, practicing radiologists, and gastroenterologists.

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Sectional Imaging Methods: A Comparison. Edit. by Jesse L. Littleton, M.D. and Mary Lou Durizch, R.T. University Park Press, Baltimore, 1983. 402 pp. Hardcover. U.S. \$65.00.

In February 1982, an international symposium entitled "A Comparison of Computed and Conventional Tomography: Conflictual or Complementary?" was held in New Orleans under the sponsorship of the University of South Alabama. The expanded and edited version of articles presented at that meeting has been made into this 400 page volume.

Part 1 consists of 7 chapters dealing with the physical principles of image formation in linear and pleuridirectional tomography, computed transmission and emission tomography, as well as nuclear magnetic resonance scanning. Part 2 is an informative review of the socioeconomic aspects of conventional and computed tomography. Part 3 includes separate chapters comparing various sectional imaging methods used for evaluation of the hepatobiliary system, retroperitoneal organs and the pelvis. However, the bulk of this volume is devoted to diagnostic imaging of the chest, spine, skull and face.

The quality of printed text is highly satisfactory as are the reproductions of several hundred tables and illustrations. This publication is not intended to serve as a textbook of conventional or computerized tomography. Nevertheless, it provides a significant volume of clinically useful information which should make it a unique source for reference about the comparative value and limitations of various sectional imaging techniques.

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Radiology of the Small Bowel. Modern Enteroclysis Technique and Atlas. By Johan L. Sellink, M.D. and Roscoe E. Miller, M.D. Martinus Nijhoff, The Hague, 1982. 485 pp. Hardcover. Dfl. 250 (approx. US \$ 98.00)

This second, revised edition of the well-known monograph first published in 1976 under the title *Radiological Atlas of Common Diseases of the Small Bowel*, represents a comprehensive review of the radiographic examination of the small bowel using the enteroclysis technique.

This new, larger volume is organized into 16 chapters. The first part of the book (chapters 1-8) gives a very detailed description of the various barium preparations, the methods of examination, the anatomy and physiology of the small bowel and the radiographic signs of abnormalities. Chapters 9-14 discuss the pathologic states including inflammatory, neoplastic, and vascular diseases. Drug-induced atony, sprue and collagen diseases as well as amyloidosis are presented in a separate chapter on motility disturbances. Congenital anomalies and various causes of obstruction such as adhesions, bands, herniations, and intussusception are excellently described. A welcome addition is the special chapter on the techniques used for exam-

ining infants. The book is concluded by a list of pitfalls in interpretation and technical errors in performing enteroclysis.

Drawing from a wealth of clinical material, the authors have compiled a remarkable number of fascinating cases. The many illustrations are well integrated into a text which is easily readable but tends sometimes to be lengthy. However the terminology for classification of lymphomas is not the most recent and the literature references could be more complete.

Apart from these minor shortcomings *Radiology of the Small Bowel* is an excellent book on enteroclysis and is highly recommended to all practicing radiologists. It is a "must" for gastroenterologists and GI radiologists.

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Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Experience and Controversy. Edit. by Burton I. Korelitz, M.D. Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, The Hague, Boston, London, 1982. 237 pp. Hardcover. US \$ 66.00.

This informative, concise monograph is the product of a teaching seminar on inflammatory bowel disease, sponsored by Lenox Hill Hospital (New York) and the American College of Gastroenterology, at which a distinguished group of authorities presented their reviews and views on an extensive group of topics of significant interest to anyone dealing with this disease.

The book is divided into 6 parts, each consisting of a group of presentations surrounding a common theme. Each part is then followed by a discussion of selected questions. Areas discussed include epidemiology and etiology, medical therapy and management of complications, the use of various diagnostic techniques, and surgical therapy. The individual presentations are organized around a highly pertinent group of questions, many of which bring the reader up-to-date on the most current information available. These include the value and timing of x-ray and colonoscopy, the indications for and the results of various surgical procedures, the role of immunosuppressive therapy, and the cancer problem in ulcerative colitis. Where controversy exists, both sides are discussed fairly, although the discussant tends to give a clear opinion on the question asked. Each presentation is followed by a relevant bibliography.

The text is well edited, and illustrations and x-rays are clear and easy to interpret. Though far from being an exhaustive textbook on the subject, the book provides an excellent source of concise reviews of over 30 important topics related to IBD together with a useful amount of expert opinion on controver-

sial issues. It will be most useful to students of gastroenterology and other physicians interested in a compendium of current information on a group of difficult questions concerning the care of patients with inflammatory bowel disease.

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Complications of Pancreatitis – Medical and Surgical Management. By Edward L. Bradley, III, M.D. W.B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1982, 320 pp. Hardcover. US \$ 39.50.

This book is a comprehensive review of the medical and surgical complications of pancreatitis. It reflects the considerable clinical experience of the main author and of the 12 invited contributors, all of whom are recognized authorities in the field.

The book is divided into 13 chapters. It is well written, approaching different subjects systematically and presenting varied and balanced points of view abstracted from the recent literature. The pathophysiology of important entities, such as pulmonary insufficiency, renal failure, abscess formation, pseudocyst, hemorrhage, etc, and the incidence, clinical manifestations and management of these complications are described and discussed. Each section contains diagrams, tables, figures and an up-to-date bibliography allowing the more inquisitive reader an easy access to the pertinent literature. There is no special chapter dedicated to the role of modern radiology in the diagnosis and management of the above-mentioned complications. A number of illustrations, mainly plain abdominal films, barium studies and angiograms, are presented, but the important contribution of the new imaging methods is only briefly mentioned. There are, for instance, only 3 CT illustrations in the entire book, one of which, in the chapter dedicated to pseudocysts, is of a very poor quality. Some of the reservations and opinions expressed by the main author regarding these modalities, contradict the recent experience reported in the radiographic literature and are, no doubt, the consequence of his limited experience with early generation scanners.

Overall, however, *Complications of Pancreatitis* provides a succinct and very valuable source of information and advice, particularly in delineating solid clinical guidelines for the management of patients with pancreatitis. It is recommended to all students in medicine and surgery interested in the clinical aspects and pathophysiology of pancreatitis.

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