

Book review

Piotr Lass, Editor

Nuclear Medicine Department, Medical University, Gdańsk, Poland

Jaroslav Vižda, Helen Urbanová
Atlas of Gallium Scintigraphy/Atlas galiové scintigraphie

Publisher: Agentura Pankrác s.r.o,
Prague, Czech Republic, 2001

Copyright © 2001 Lacomed spol. o.r.o.

⁶⁷Ga-citrate scintigraphy was introduced in 1969 and for a long time it was the only method for targeted neoplasm/inflammation imaging. There is a question whether, in the era of MCAs and peptide imaging, as well as a wave of new inflammation imaging agents, there is a space for ⁶⁷Ga imaging. Both the statistical data on the impressive number of ⁶⁷Ga scintigraphies performed in the authors' home centre — the Department of Nuclear Medicine in Hradec Králové, Czech Republic (c. 400–500 per year!) – and also the excellent quality of the presented scintigrams leave no doubt that the authors are of excellent competence in the field and have attained

a very high quality of both planar and SPECT gallium neoplasm/inflammation imaging. The atlas illustrates the application of ⁶⁷Ga-citrate scintigraphy in malignant lymphomas, malignant melanoma and other malignancies, sarcoidosis, interstitial pulmonary diseases, other inflammations and miscellaneous studies. It is printed with excellent quality and on very good paper. What may be missing for the average readership is the positioning of ⁶⁷Ga-citrate scintigraphy against other neoplasm/inflammation agents. Although it is stated (page 13) that (scintigraphy with ⁶⁷Ga-citrate) "has an acceptable price and radiation dose. With correct indication it can significantly contribute to resolving series of tumours and inflammatory diseases", no cost-effectiveness analysis of ⁶⁷Ga-citrate scintigraphy is provided in this atlas when compared with other agents. This would give an additional value to this very interesting book.

Correspondence address of the Authors: vizda@fnkh.cz, urbanova@fnkh.cz