

Atlas of Bone Scintigraphy in the Pathological Paediatric Skeleton

I. Gordon, S. Fischer, K. Hahn (1996) Springer-Verlag, Berlin Heidelberg New-York. Hardcover, 343 p., 347 ill., DM 218 (ISBN 3-540-60471-5)

This excellent textbook is the continuation of the atlas of bone scintigraphy in the developing paediatric skeleton published in 1993 by the same authors and commented in this journal (Orthop Traumatol 1994; 4: 192). A large selection of paediatric orthopaedics and trauma is pre-sented with clinical cases illustrated by more than one thousand abnormal bone scan views. This atlas is mainly devoted to infection, arthritis and tumors, which represent the most commonly used indication for bone scintigraphy. The second part of the book is considering trauma, dys-trophic diseases and avascular necrosis. The last chapter is devoted to congenital dysplasia and miscellaneous conditions, and to unusual appearances of the bone-seeking tracer in non skeletal tissues like kidney, lung or brain. Each condition is introduced by a short clinical history, and documented with multiple bone scan views, printed with high level quality. A teaching point underlines the knowledge that can be taken from the case and points out the differential diagnosis of the images, with references to other chapters of the book.

This atlas is the first book specifically devoted to abnormal bone scintigraphy in children. It has to be considered, similarly to the previous «normal» scintigraphy atlas, as a reference book for all physicians who are involved in the treatment of growing children diseases. Its original presentation, made of commented bone scan images, makes it convenient and easy to use, particularly for non specialists in nuclear medicine.

Cl. Karger

Peripheral Musculo-Skeletal Ultrasound Atlas

S. Marcellis, B. Daemen, M.A. Ferrera (edited by R.F. Dondelinger) (1996) Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, New-York. 203 p., 750 ill., DM 228 (ISBN 3-13-102771-1 (Stuttgart) - 0-86577-592-3 (TMP New-York))

Let us first start with the undeniable qualities of this work :

- this is a remarkably presented book with a hard cover and a perfect reproduction of the illustrations on smooth glazed paper.
- the presentation is simple, not overloaded, with precise comments,
- reading is easily done, enabling a rapid knowledge of the musculo-tendinous pathology through echography,
- the analysis of the images is perfect,
- one discovers the whole range of the ultrasound diagnostic possibilities, showing fatigue fracture or meniscal lesions etc...
- the references are numerous and the index is easy to use.

Despite all its qualities, this atlas shows a few inconveniences ;

- there is no mention of the positioning of the patients during the realization of certain cuts,
- the level and the orientation of certain cuts would have required an accompanying sketch,
- there is a total lack of post-operative echographic imaging which is useful in certain cases : for example, follow-up of a disrupted Achilles tendon clinically presenting post-operative discomfort,
- all the color doppler echography imaging has been hidden,
- there is an evident lack for a given pathology of a semiologic echographic debate about the differential diagnoses,
- interventional echography is not described, at the most quoted,
- musculo-tendinous tumors have not been treated, which constitutes an inconceivable lack,
- some chapters lack deepness in their analysis, for example the hip pathology in the young child.

Nevertheless, this work remains indispensable to all echographers for the quality of its illustrations and commentary.

Dr Clouet