

Assad Movahed, Gopinath Gnanasegaran, John R. Buscombe, Margaret Hall

Integrating Cardiology for Nuclear Medicine Physicians

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A Guide to Nuclear Medicine Physicians

 Springer

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Preface

Nuclear cardiology has become the mainstay of many departments of nuclear medicine, driving what was once an academic and sometimes eccentric specialty into what is today the centre of many patients' lives. As nuclear cardiology has matured our concerns have shifted from how can we do this to how can we do this better. Many of the most recent publications in nuclear cardiology have focused upon how imaging and reporting quality can be improved, i.e. how to be more consistent in what we do and how to be more reliable with regard to our diagnoses.

Coronary artery disease and Ischaemic heart disease affects people from all countries and all social strata. The idea that it is a disease only of the affluent West has been shown to be untrue and as a consequence, nuclear cardiology has become a truly global specialty. This is reflected in the fact that the number of practitioners in nuclear cardiology is increasing and despite the arrival of cardiac CT and cardiac MRI, demand continues to grow. In response to the importance of the subject we have brought together experts not only from Europe and North America but also from the emerging centres of excellence in Asia to produce a book with a truly global perspective on the role of nuclear cardiology in patients with heart disease.

The editors have worked closely with cardiovascular physicians around the globe to produce a book that will be essential reading for those practising nuclear cardiology, as it provides information on basic anatomy and physiology, on the technical aspects of the methodology and how the results can affect clinical management. All this they could not do themselves. The editors therefore wish to thank the authors for their contributions, the team at Springer for bringing the disparate manuscripts into a single text and those who read the manuscripts for providing us with insightful comments, which enabled us to improve the text. The editors also wish to thank those AVA/medical illustration units worldwide producing high quality illustrations including the AVA unit at the Royal Free Hospital for their skills in graphics.

The editors hope that you enjoy the efforts of all these professionals and hope that you will read this text, learn from it and apply something new and beneficial for the care of your patients.

**Assad Movahed
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