not only helps to place each case in context but also reinforces the complementary role nuclear medicine plays to other forms of imaging. The quality of the images is of a high standard throughout. Following on from the answers to each case are several teaching points. These have been carefully thought through and are concise yet informative covering technical, practical and clinical aspects where appropriate. As befits a book written during the exciting advancements within nuclear medicine of the past few years, several cases are included illustrating the uses and advantages of PET; naturally these questions focus on oncological imaging.

The book finishes with two short and very useful sections. The first tackles two of the important regulatory issues within nuclear medicine (ARSAC—Administration of Radioactive Substances Advisory Committee and IR(ME)R—Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposures) Regulations), of which all doctors should be aware, and at least have a limited knowledge of. For those who have been sufficiently stimulated by the previous one hundred and seventy four pages reading, the second section focuses on training in Nuclear Medicine for physicians and radiologists, providing clear information on the training pathways available to each group. A short list of recommended websites and references (mainly comprising core nuclear medicine texts) is also included.

In summary, this is an excellent text, which achieves its aims and more. Any radiologist preparing for the FRCR who devoted a few hours to working through this book would undoubtedly find that this was time well spent. The text easily provides a sufficient knowledge base for Nuclear Medicine within the FRCR and far more than is solely required for the MRCP. Furthermore, it will act as a welcome reminder to all physicians as to the range of nuclear medicine techniques available to help solve clinical diagnostic problems.

V. Warbey

Imaging in SARS


In the early part of 2003, the populations of China, Hong Kong and Canada were gripped by an outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). During that time and subsequently, a flurry of publications on SARS emerged. In this new book, the imaging aspects (both plain radiography and CT) of SARS are comprehensively and elegantly covered in a little over 150 pages. Further, despite the emphasis on imaging, there is a little of something for everyone. In addition to the radiology, there are useful chapters devoted to epidemiology, the role of emergency medical services and even an update which discusses the lessons learnt and measures instituted as a consequence of the SARS outbreak. If there is any criticism of the book (and it truly is a small one), it would be that the two chapters on the general imaging of pneumonias may seem somewhat superfluous to some readers. However, if it is agreed that a little revision is no bad thing, then the interested reader will not be deterred.

Perhaps the most impressive aspect of this publication is the speed with which it has been produced. The reader will appreciate that the project could not have begun before the first quarter of 2003 (when the initial outbreak of SARS was declared). Since then, the editors have managed to galvanize an impressive band of authors and have delivered a hardback book which has something of interest for respiratory physicians, radiologists, radiographers, intensivists and even hospital managers who may, in the not so distant future, be faced with outbreaks of the same or other infectious agents.

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doi:10.1016/j.crad.2004.11.010