

FOREWORD

Molecular imaging and therapy have made important contributions to the diagnosis and treatment of many medical disease processes, especially in the area of oncology. The advancements in planar imaging, SPECT/CT and positron emission tomography (PET) (PET/CT and PET/MRI) and targeted molecular radiotherapy will continue to play an increasing role in patient care as newer molecular agents are introduced into clinical medicine.

Molecular Imaging and Therapy provides a robust introduction into selected clinical topics that utilize molecular imaging and targeted radiotherapy and provides sufficient evidence-based details to allow clinicians of various specialties and backgrounds to gain a thorough understanding of the appropriate clinical uses and benefits of these molecular imaging and therapy techniques. The information in this book will greatly benefit Nuclear Medicine Physicians and Radiologists currently in practice and in training, but will also be very useful to healthcare providers of all specialties wishing to stay current in their understanding of these molecular techniques as they apply to a wide spectrum of oncological and non-oncological diseases.

Each chapter is written by molecular imaging experts in each topic. The authors provide the most clinically relevant and up-to-date research data on each topic and effectively incorporate this information into a format that is easy to comprehend by imaging and non-imaging specialists alike. Since much of the work to date in molecular imaging and targeted radiotherapy has been in oncology, there is an emphasis on oncological diseases, however non-oncological diseases such as infection/inflammation, thyroid diseases, and Parkinson's disease are also covered. An especially useful part of this book was its practical information, such as in the chapter "Nuclear Imaging and Therapy of Thyroid Disorders", that included very helpful outpatient instructions for hyperthyroid radioiodine therapy, pretherapy screening prior to radioiodine therapy, and thyroid cancer outpatient instructions after radioiodine treatment. These practical guides will be of great benefit to any healthcare provider who interacts with these patients. This book will greatly benefit the spectrum of those wanting practical patient care information to those wanting information about the recent prostate cancer therapy trials.

Molecular Imaging and Therapy is practically organized by disease process, allowing the reader to easily locate an area to gain further knowledge. The information obtained in these chapters will hopefully further the clinical knowledge of specialists in molecular imaging and stimulate readers of other specialties to learn more about this exciting and rapidly advancing field.

This book will make the impressive advancements in the rapidly growing field of molecular imaging and therapy available in a very readable format. Whether it is used to explore the past contributions or get a look forward to future developments in this field, this book will have very useful information for all.

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