respiratory) are summarized with the aim to help clinicians to prevent and manage them effectively.
Together with already existing guidelines (1, 2) a practical guide presented in this article could help clinicians to further improve the effectiveness of cancer pain management with morphine and the quality of supportive care received by cancer patients.

Reference:


Snežana BOŠNJAK

book
review

THE ROLE OF CELL ADHESION MOLECULES IN COMMUNICATION AMONG CELLS

Author: Aleksandar KERENJI

Have you had any idea what infuriated around two hundred cells of your blood vessel this morning and why have two cells of intestinal epithelium "decided" to become immortal? Of course you have not, since we do not communicate with our cells. Is this really just so? You will find answers on these and many other questions in the publication, which I am about to present you with a pleasure on this occasion.
The book discusses the function of adhesive molecules not only in the system- and organ regulation but also locally, on the level of barely a few cells. I must admit that I have not read recently some professional literature all in a breath and with such a curiosity. If it was not scientifically founded and based on material proofs, it might have been highly placed in the genre of science fiction. Knowledge to which I came by reading of known events effected that my lectures to medical students in physiology are not any more sketched on former models. As a source of new knowledge it is simply incredible how inexhaustible this field of research is, which is not going to delight us only with new inter-
esting details but will also give answers on series of - so far unanswered - questions. The greatest benefit is that, after an established "diagnosis", comes a period of practical application of the obtained results, which will undoubtedly have repercussions to the extension of the human life and its quality.
Therefore, I highly recommend this book not only to people in medicine, but also to colleagues in biology, chemistry, genetics and many other fields since the matter and style, which are easy to be understood, and the way of presentation, are attainable to their comprehension, too.

Prof. Dr. Nikola GRUJIĆ

NUCLEAR MAGNETIC RESONANCE IN ONCOLOGY

Author: Vladimir BALTIĆ
Editor: Znamenje, Novi Sad, 2002, hard paper cover, 280 pages of 30x21 cm format and CD, 473 illustrations, price Din. 4900,00 (EUR 163)
This book is about the use of nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) in oncology. It is edited by Vladimir Baltic, a physician of internal medicine and oncology, full professor of internal medicine at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Novi Sad, and the head of the Department of Immunobiology at the Institute of Oncology Sremka Kamenica. In the realization of this difficult task professor Baltic engaged, apart from his personal endeavors, 19 experts of various professions as author and coauthors - radiologists, oncologists, neurologists, physicists, and electro engineers who are mostly employed at the Institute of Oncology Sremka Kamenica and its Center for imaging diagnostics. The Center was established in 1994 (at that time its name was Center for magnetic resonance), and NMR MAGNETON SP 63 of 1.5 T was installed by the end of that year, as a second machine for NMR imaging and the first for NMR spectroscopy in medical institutions of Serbia and Montenegro. During the last 9 years tens of thousands of NMR imaging and about two thousands of spectroscopic examinations were done, mostly in oncology. It provided both author and coauthors with great professional experience, in addition to their great knowledge of relevant literature. With the selection of his collaborators professor Baltic granted a competence in writing of all topics presented in this book.

The monograph is divided in 22 chapters that cover six thematic sections. The first 12 pages of the book tell us about the discovery and development of NMR and its use in biomedicine. The second part of the book (24 pages) gives data on tumor etiology and its biological and biochemical characteristics, which are the basis for NMR characterization of tumor and its distinction from other nontumorous structures. The next section of 44 pages presents basic principles and equipment of NMR, contrast media used in NMR examinations, and biological effects of magnetic fields. General principles of NMR spectroscopy and its role in investigation of malignant tumors, especially brain tumors, are described on 46 pages of section four. The following 11 pages deals with teleradiology - an integral part of multimedia communication in modern medicine, which enables a wide use of NMR information in all branches of medicine whenever necessary. The sixth, and the largest, section of the book (127 pages) describes the use of NMR in clinical oncology. Indication spheres, characteristics of NMR findings and contribution of obtained information in the identification of tumor pathology are also presented. Separate chapters of this section deal with brain, head and neck tumors, endocrine tumors of endocrine glands (pituitary gland, pineal gland, thyroid gland, and adrenal glands), tumors of the lung and mediastinum, heart and pericardium tumors, breast tumors, tumors of abdominal organs (liver, spleen, pancreas, rectum), kidney tumors, tumors of the uterus and ovary, tumor of the prostate, malignant lymphomas, soft-tissue sarcomas and tumors of the bones. All chapters are illustrated with NMR images typical for the tumors of relevant localizations.

The monograph is of high-quality technical design with clear and well-structured tables, figures, graphs, NMR images and spectrograms. At the end of certain chapters and at the end of the monograph there is a list of abbreviations used in the book with their explanations, which greatly facilitate the understanding of the text. At the end of each chapter of the monograph there is a list of contemporary references mainly prepared according to Vancouver style. The Index is the last part of the monograph and it greatly helps to all readers to find easily the part of the book that deals with the problem they are interested in. A slight conceptual discrepancy is a result of a number of authors that participated in writing of this book. As this is still a new technology there are no words in our language for many concepts and notions, standard terms of English language have been used in the book. This should motivate our experts to establish terms in Serbian language that will be equivalent to English terminology. The monograph comes with a CD version.

The monograph is a highly professional text primarily to be read by NMR experts and oncology clinicians. However, its structure makes possible for other readers to understand and acquire basic knowledge of NMR technology. The book is also a significant contribution to otherwise modest publications about NMR edited in our language.

I highly recommend this book to all experts in NMR for their further education and to all oncologists who use NMR to solve their clinical problems.

Prof. Dr. Ljubomir STEFANOVIĆ