Contents

Preface ix

Chapter 1. Radiological Imaging 1

1.1. Radiological imaging and nuclear medicine imaging. 3
1.1.1. Medical imaging methods 3
1.1.2. Absorption coefficients and Hounsfield number 4
1.1.3. Treatment planning system (TPS) 7
1.2. X-ray imaging 9
1.2.1. Principle of X-ray production 9
1.2.2. Principle of X-ray imaging. 10
1.2.3. Principle of computed tomography or scanner 14
1.3. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) 18
1.3.1. Definition and principle of NMR 18
1.3.2. Nuclear magnetic moment 19
1.3.3. Physical model of NMR in biological tissues 20
1.3.4. Quantum model of Larmor precession 26
1.3.5. Excitation and magnetic resonance phenomenon 31
1.3.6. Quantum model of the magnetic resonance phenomenon 33
1.4. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) 35
1.4.1. Nuclear magnetic resonance and medical imaging. 35
1.4.2. Magnetic resonance imaging techniques 35
1.4.3. T_1 relaxation time and spin–lattice relaxation 38
1.4.4. T_2 relaxation time and spin–spin relaxation 43
1.4.5. Relaxation time T_2* and free induction decay (FID). 45
1.4.6. Spin echo sequence 49
1.4.7. Gradient echo sequence 56
1.4.8. The slice plane and the slice selection gradient 57
1.4.9. Frequency-encoding gradient and phase-encoding gradient. 59

1.4.10. Fourier plane and MRI signal decoding 64
1.4.11. Image reconstruction 66
1.5. Ultrasound imaging 71
1.5.1. Ultrasound principle 71
1.5.2. Different elements of an ultrasound scan 73
1.5.3. The principle of Doppler ultrasound 74

Chapter 2. Technetized Radiopharmaceuticals and Radiothallium-201 used in Nuclear Medicine 77

2.1. Metastable technetium-99 and thallium-201 radiotracers 79
2.1.1. Overview 79
2.1.2. Dosimetry and gamma cameras 80
2.1.3. Advantages of technetiated tracers over thallium-201 85
2.1.4. Uses of metastable technetium-99 in brain, bone and kidney scintigraphy 85
2.2. Metastable technetium-99 radiotracers. 87
2.2.1. Metastable technetium-99 production line 87
2.2.2. Preparation of metastable radiotechnetium-99 88
2.2.3. Effective half-life, biological half-life, physical half-life 90
2.3. Technetium-labeled radiopharmaceuticals used in myocardial scintigraphy 91
2.3.1. ^{99}Mo-^{99m}Tc technetized radiopharmaceuticals 91
2.3.2. Principle of ^{99m}Tc-MIBI scintigraphy and dosimetry 92
2.3.3. Elimination of ^{99m}Tc-MIBI from the body 95
2.3.4. ^{99m}Tc-labeled tetrofosmin scintigraphy and dosimetry 95
2.4. Radiopharmaceuticals labeled with metastable technetium-99 used in lung scintigraphy. 97
2.4.1. Technegas [^{99m}Tc] ventilation scintigraphy, dosimetry 97
2.4.2. [^{99m}Tc]-DTPA ventilation scintigraphy and dosimetry 99
2.4.3. ^{99m}Tc-MAA lung perfusion scintigraphy and dosimetry. 100
2.5. Radiopharmaceuticals used in brain scintigraphy. 101
2.5.1. ^{99m}Tc-HMPAO and ^{99m}Tc-ECD radiopharmaceutical structures and dosimetry. 101
2.5.2. Characteristics of ^{99m}Tc-HMPAO and ^{99m}Tc-ECD radiopharmaceuticals. 104
2.5.3. Principle of the brain scan 105
2.5.4. Preparing and carrying out the cerebral perfusion scintigraphy examination 106
2.6. Production, use and dosimetry of radiothallium-201 107
2.6.1. Radiothallium-201 production process 107
2.6.2. Use of ^{201}Tl radiotracer and dosimetry 108
2.6.3. Excretion of thallium-201 from the body 109

2.7. Myocardial scintigraphy 112
2.7.1. Definition and uses 112
2.7.2. Procedure 113
2.7.3. Ergometric bicycle and treadmill 114
2.7.4. Performing the stress test 115
2.7.5. Arm exercise test and exercise intensity 117
2.7.6. Examination at rest 118
2.7.7. Myocardial scintigraphy coupled with pharmacological stimulation 118
2.7.8. General information on myocardial infarction 119
2.8. Radiopharmaceuticals used in bone scintigraphy 122
2.8.1. Structure of the MDP radiopharmaceutical labeled with metastable technetium-99 122
2.8.2. Principle of bone scintigraphy 122
2.9. Radiopharmaceuticals used in renal scintigraphy 127
2.9.1. Structures of DMSA and MAG_3 radiopharmaceuticals labeled with metastable technetium-99 127
2.9.2. Characteristics and properties of DMSA and dosimetry 128
2.9.3. ^{99m}Tc-DMSA static scintigraphy procedure 131
2.9.4. MAG_3 characteristics and properties and dosimetry 132
2.9.5. Characteristics and properties of DTPA and dosimetry 133
2.9.6. ^{99m}Tc-TDPA and ^{99m}Tc-MAG_3 dynamic scintigraphy procedure 135
2.10. Radiopharmaceuticals used in digestive scintigraphy 137
2.10.1. Definition 137
2.10.2. Standardized consensus meal labeled with metastable technetium-99 137
2.10.3. Digestive scintigraphy procedure 138

Chapter 3. Radioisotopes Fluorine-18, Metastable Krypton-81 and Iodine-123, 125 and 131 used in Nuclear Medicine 139

3.1. Properties and uses of the radiotracer ^{18}FDG 140
3.1.1. Choice of radiofluorine-18 in positron emission tomography 141
3.1.2. Obtaining radiofluorine-18 141
3.1.3. Synthesis of the radiopharmaceutical ^{18}FDG 144
3.1.4. Principle of PET Scan, dosimetry 147
3.1.5. Excretion of fluorine-18 from the body 152
3.2. Properties of the ^{81m}Kr radiotracer, dosimetry 154
3.2.1. Production of the ^{81m}Kr tracer by the ^{81}Rb–^{81m}Kr generator 154
3.2.2. ^{81m}Kr tracer ventilation scintigraphy: dosimetry 155
3.3. Lung scintigraphy examination 157
3.3.1. Procedure for the ventilation test 157
3.3.2. Perfusion examination procedure 159
3.3.3. Elimination of ^{99m}Tc and ^{81m}Kr in the body 160

3.4. Radiopharmaceuticals used in thyroid scintigraphy 161
3.4.1. Benefits of iodine 161
3.4.2. ^{123}I radiotracer production chain 162
3.4.3. Main emissions of the ^{123}I radiotracer 164
3.4.4. Properties of [^{123}I] MIBG and [^{123}I] ioflupane radiopharmaceuticals . . . 165
3.4.5. Principle of iodine-123 scintigraphy, dosimetry 166
3.4.6. Excretion of iodine-123 from the body 169
3.4.7. ^{131}I radiotracer production chain 171
3.4.8. Main emissions of iodine-131 172
3.4.9. Principle of iodine-131 scintigraphy: dosimetry 174
3.4.10. Excretion of iodine-131 from the body 176
3.5. General information on aerosols 177
3.5.1. Aerosol therapy: the concept of aerosol 178
3.5.2. Nebulization system: aerosol generators 178
3.5.3. Notion of median mass aerodynamic diameter (MMAD) 179
3.5.4. Particle deposition phenomena 179
3.5.5. Aerosol deposition sites and methods 181
3.6. Prostate disorders 183
3.6.1. The prostate in the urinary tract 183
3.6.2. Benign prostatic adenoma or enlargement 184
3.6.3. Prostatitis 187
3.6.4. Prostate cancer 191
3.6.5. Symptoms and diagnosis of prostate cancer 193
3.6.6. Treatment methods for prostate cancer 194
3.7. Principle of prostate brachytherapy using an iodine-125 implant 195
3.7.1. Decay diagram for radioiodine-125 195
3.7.2. Definition of brachytherapy: LDR, HDR and PDR brachytherapy modes 197
3.7.3. Principle of implantation of prostate brachytherapy equipment 199
3.7.4. Prostatic chemotherapy 201
3.8. Appendices 203
3.8.1. Stroke 203
3.8.2. Thyroid and parathyroid scans 215

References 231

Index 255