CURRENT PRACTICE OF RADIOLOGY

THRALL

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with 1851 illustrations







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PREFACE



Current Practice of Radiology is a departure from the style of both textbooks and review articles. The intention of the book is to provide an opportunity for recognized experts in radiology to share their current approaches to common and important diagnostic problems. It is a logical extension of the Current Therapy series, which has been very successful using the same philosophy of asking experts to describe their own approaches to practice.

Each author was charged with presenting his or her viewpoint rather than presenting a comprehensive spectrum of opinion from the literature or the point and counterpoint of controversies. It is the goal of this book to give the reader a clear statement from an authoritative figure, recognizing that many background details are not included. The authors also have kept the suggested readings to a minimum, emphasizing only the more important articles that can serve as an entry point to a wider pursuit of the literature.

It was not possible or practical to be encyclopedic or exhaustive in selecting material for this book. Rather, emphasis has been placed on topics that reflect the forefront of current practice. Other chapters are contemporary presentations of areas of longstanding interest in radiology.

The intended audience for this work is primarily the practicing radiologist who needs to stay abreast of contemporary thinking in the specialty. The book should

also be of interest to radiologists in training who have mastered the fundamentals and are ready for more advanced material in which the fundamentals are put into practice.

A unique feature of this work is the "book-within-the-book" concept. One of the problems with radiology is the taxonomy of our specialty. The academic framework for radiology has increasingly become organ-system specialization. However, many individual radiologists also have an interest in the technical modalities that cross organ-system boundaries. The basic organization of the book into sections follows an organ-system outline. The table of contents is then restated so that all chapters dealing with nuclear medicine, ultrasonography, computed tomography, or magnetic resonance imaging can be readily accessed.

It is hoped that *Current Practice of Radiology* will become an enduring part of the educational resource in radiology. Contributors to this first edition have done a marvelous job in capturing the spirit of presenting a personal statement of their practice. Feedback and critique will guide topical selections for future editions.

I would like to thank the many authors for their excellent contributions to the book. Lynne Gery provided excellent editorial support, and Doreen Flynn did yeoman work in keeping the many correspondences going to the right people.

James H. Thrall, M.D.