available do not deal with the two most significant recent advances: computed tomography and metrizamide myelography. This book provides a comprehensive discussion of the latter two procedures and provides as well material on other invasive special procedures relating to the spine, noninvasive conventional radiographic examinations, gas myelography, and an informative section on clinical evaluations. The book is well written and organized and contains numerous high-quality illustrations.

The first section on computed tomography (CT) covers noninvasive and invasive evaluation. There are excellent discussions with illustrations of the normal and pathologic anatomy, and the gross material is correlated with the CT appearance. Adult and pediatric material is covered. Low-resolution and high-resolution scanner material are presented, discussed, and compared. This material serves as a useful guide for individuals contemplating the purchase of a whole body scanner or the upgrading of a current scanner. The section devoted to physics is adequate to help the reader understand this area, and the material is well written—one does not get bogged down in esoteric physics discussions. The CT material appears up-to-date, presenting the current state of the art in CT scanning of the spine.

The second section deals with noninvasive conventional radiographic examinations. It includes material on plain film examination, transverse axial tomography, and nuclear scattering radiography, all clearly presented with good illustrations.

Both conventional myelography and CT imaging are discussed in depth in the third section—metrizamide myelography. A very good chapter on gas myelography is included.

In the fourth section other invasive special procedures, with an update on several of them, are discussed. Chapters on percutaneous spinal cord cyst punctures, epidural venography, and spinal cord arteriography are included.

The fifth section covers clinical evaluation of patients with spinal problems and includes discussions of low-back pain, lumbar and cervical spinal stenosis, acute spinal injury, and fracture treatment.

The book is practical and presents the precise technique for performing the procedures and includes the pathology demonstrated by the various radiologic examinations with a review of the normal anatomy. The indications and contraindications as well as the limitations and value of the various procedures are presented in a concise, understandable manner. Dr. Post states in the preface: "After reading the book, it is our desire that the physician will be greatly assisted in the care of his patient with spinal pathology. He will know what radiographic procedure to order, when under what circumstances, and with what diagnostic results. He will also know where and in what order to proceed with further radiographic examinations." The book succeeds in matching its goal, and it should be a valuable addition to the library of those physicians dealing with spinal disease and its diagnosis.

KENNETH D. MILLER, JR.
Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation
New Orleans, Louisiana