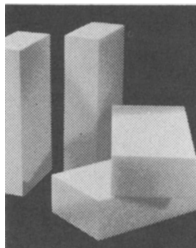


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## WEALTH OF PRACTICAL INFORMATION

*Title* Physical Aspects of Radiation  
Brachytherapy

*Publisher* International Atomic En-  
ergy Agency, 1967

*Pages* 63

*Price* \$1.50

*Reviewer* Gordon L. Brownell

This booklet is a result of a panel meeting of specialists held in Vienna in 1967. In 63 pages, it contains a great deal of useful and practical information, not the least being an extensive definition of the term "brachytherapy." For those not familiar with the specialized terminology of radiation therapy, "brachytherapy" generally refers to all interstitial and intracavitary forms of therapy, as contrasted with "teletherapy," which is therapy at a distance or, generally, external radiation therapy.

The material consists of four parts: general information, source supply and techniques of use, dosimetry, and the care and handling of sources. Two supplements list physical and chemical properties of commonly used radioisotopes, such as Ra, <sup>137</sup>Cs, <sup>60</sup>Co, <sup>192</sup>Ir, etc., and suppliers of small-sealed sources. The treatment is general and descriptive and does not go deeply into any aspect. For example, recently developed computer techniques of dosimetry are mentioned only briefly. However, the booklet does contain a wealth of practical information about radioisotope brachytherapy and should be of use both to the expert and to the person wishing general information in this field.

*Dr. Gordon L. Brownell is Associate Professor of Nuclear Engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he received his PhD in 1950, and head of the Physics Research Laboratory at Massachusetts General Hospital. A specialist in the localization of brain tumors with radioisotopes, he has edited and contributed to several books on radiation dosimetry.*