



SCANNER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ACNP
September/October 2006

President's Message

All on the Same Team

It is again my pleasure to submit my fourth message to the *ACNP Scanner* as ACNP president. The year is moving quickly and several key events have occurred in the last few months.



Michael Middleton

As your ACNP representative, I attended the ACR Intersociety Meeting in Banff, Canada, in late July. Many organizations that perform imaging services were represented, including SNM. The discussions were focused primarily on maintaining and proving quality. As you may guess, some interesting points were brought up, and we had several heated discussions! We are now at a time where pay for performance and other national trends are focusing the attention of health care service payers on the issue of monitoring quality, and the balanced budget act is tightening reimbursement for all medical services. Nuclear medicine is no exception, and like others in the medical field, we are finding that we have to not only do more with fewer resources, but also maintain—and prove we are maintaining—high-quality services. There will be a time when accreditation is not an option but a mandatory process—if you want to get paid for your services. Private insurers are making this happen across the country.

In ACNP, we have always stressed the importance of high-quality practice, and our phantom imaging program eventually became a large part of the current ICANL practice accreditation program. ACR also has developed accreditation programs. I predict we will see these types of programs expand, and our input and participation is imperative. Quality is no longer an option.

But it doesn't stop there. Practice accreditation is only one aspect of the national focus on quality. We are all being asked individually to maintain certification and participate in life-long learning initiatives. SNM and ABNM have helped lead the way in these efforts. While CME is a part of the equation, there are now online courses and other avenues to prove we are maintaining the quality of our services. As we all get busier and spend more time demonstrating that we offer high-quality services, it is imperative that we find ways to efficiently pursue our own continuing medical education and participate in educating our colleagues about current practice trends and requirements. The ACNP is working on this and supporting these educational efforts.

This is part of the reason ACNP and SNM have joined forces for the upcoming Mid-Winter Educational Symposium in San Antonio. The template for the meeting is almost finalized, and there will be an opportunity to obtain four days of CME credit for a bargain price of around \$300. Not only will traditional educational lectures be given, but several lectures on practice development, malpractice issues, ethics, and practice accreditation will also be included. PET/CT, SPECT/CT, and cardiac CT will be discussed, as well as physician training and maintenance of certification—related topics. Read with the Expert sessions are also included! Some

sessions will be joint sessions with SNM councils. The cooperation between our two organizations has never been stronger. In addition, attendees will have the opportunity to hear presentations by residents in nuclear medicine and attend SNM council presentations throughout Saturday and Sunday. This important four-day, double symposium will begin Thursday, February 15, in beautiful San Antonio, TX. Don't forget to "kick back" (as we Texans say) and enjoy some of what this fabulous town has to offer.

Finally, we are making strides in formulating our ACNP Residents Organization under the leadership of Dr. David Ng, an expansion of our residents mentoring program by Dr. Simin Dadparvar. This process is moving along with the help of our bylaws chair, Dr. Warren Moore. Some revisions in our ACNP Bylaws will likely occur, and I ask you all to stay tuned for more information.

There is much work still to be done on these and other issues, and I ask for your support. The work of our ACNP committees must still go on! If you would like to participate in one or more of our ACNP committees, please contact me or Mike Nelson. In the meantime, I encourage you all to make plans to come to "San Antone"!

*Michael Middleton, MD, FACNP
President, ACNP*

ACNP Membership Drive

We would like to invite you all to join the American College of Nuclear Physicians (ACNP). This organization is composed of full-time and part-time practicing nuclear physicians, radiologists, and scientists. We have a very important mission that involves addressing and improving the issues important to all of us in our practices. Our mission statement is posted on the ACNP Web site, but in short it involves addressing and improving nuclear medicine in the following arenas: practice management, quality, education, advocacy, reimbursement, and government relations.

You can join online now. There is no membership fee for nuclear medicine trainees. Their membership is supported by the generosity of industry. To join online, please go to: www.acnponline and click on MEMBERSHIP.

Save the Date

Dear colleagues,

I have the privilege this year of serving as program chairman for ACNP's 33rd Annual Meeting, taking place in San Antonio, TX.

This promises to be an outstanding meeting, cosponsored with our colleagues at SNM and held in conjunction with SNM's Mid-Winter Meeting. Please mark your calendars and join us in San Antonio, February 15-18, 2007.

*Hazem H. Chehabi, MD, FACNM
ACNP, Annual Chair Program*

Call for Abstracts

The Scientific Program Committee of the American College of Nuclear Physicians invites the submission of original abstracts for the 33rd ACNP Annual Meeting, held in conjunction with the SNM Mid-Winter Meeting February 15-18, 2007, in San Antonio, TX. Papers on all aspects of clinical and basic science in nuclear

medicine, correlative imaging in radiology, nuclear cardiology, and radiation oncology will be considered. The accepted presentations will be in oral or poster format. There will be an award ceremony on Saturday evening February 17, and three best essay awards, each for \$ 500, and two travel grants, each for \$ 750, will be given to outstanding scientific papers. Abstracts will be published in *Clinical Nuclear Medicine* and should be no longer than 300 words. Tables and figures should be included in the “Results” section.

Abstracts must be submitted online at www.acnponline.org (click on CALL FOR ABSTRACTS) and by mail on a floppy disk or CD-ROM in a standard word processing format preferably Microsoft Word or Corel WordPerfect. The authors’ names and affiliations should be included with the title of the abstract. Each submitted disk must be clearly labeled with the presentation title and the word processing program and version. Each disk should contain only one file—the abstract to be presented. If you are submitting multiple abstracts, you must submit a separate disk for each one. Each disk must be accompanied by a printout of the abstract. Please include a cover letter with the corresponding author’s name, address, and contact information. The disk, printout, and cover letter should be sent to:

Simin Dadparvar, MD
Hospital of University of Pennsylvania
Department of Radiology
110 Donner Building
3400 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
Phone 215-662-3041

Abstracts must be received by November 30, 2006

All authors will also have the opportunity to submit their manuscripts to *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*. If accepted through the peer review process, the paper will be published in *JNM* as the proceedings of the 33rd Annual Meeting of the ACNP.

ACNP/SNM Government Relations Update

New York Legislative Victories (#A4882; #A3255)

In July, there were two major legislative victories for nuclear medicine in the state of New York:

New York bill #A4882—an act to amend the public health law, in relation to the practice of radiologic technology and to repeal article 35 of such law relating to the practice of x-ray technology—was signed into law by New York Governor George E. Pataki. The act will establish licensure for nuclear medicine technologists practicing in New York. You can view the language of New York bill #A4882 online at: <http://capwiz.com/snm/issues/bills/?bill=7687276>.

Additionally, in response to letters and correspondence from ACNP, SNM, the Council on Radionuclides and Radiopharmaceuticals, and individuals within the local nuclear medicine community, Governor Pataki vetoed the potentially (and unintentionally) harmful state bill #A3255. If broadly interpreted, #A3255 could have severely restricted or even outlawed the transfer of unit doses and low-level radioactive waste, sale of low-level contaminated equipment and facilities, and the reprocessing/recycling of used generators.

DOE Funding for Basic Nuclear Medicine Research

The nuclear medicine community is still awaiting the floor vote on the Senate version of the Energy and Water Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2007. Earlier this summer, Senate appropriators included the following language in their committee report on the bill requesting \$25 million specifically for nuclear medicine research at the Department of Energy:

Medical Applications and Measurement Science—Modern nuclear medicine builds on the exploitation of nuclear energy to promote human health, a concept that has been successful since the middle of the 20th century. The Committee is disappointed the Department has eliminated funding for nuclear medicine for the second year in a row from its budget request. The Committee understands the Department is working with the National Institutes of Health on a research strategy between the two entities, furthering research in the nuclear medicine arena in a manner that does not duplicate efforts. However, because the Committee lacks necessary information about this partnership, the Committee is concerned that either research might be duplicated or that the NIH might not have the means to fund its share. Section 314 of the bill proposes to provide funding derived from a research account charged against Department of Energy research as provided in section 1001(e) of title X of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The Committee expects that \$25,000,000 will be available to support nuclear medicine research. (Senate Report 109-274—ENERGY AND WATER APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2007)

Following the expected passage of the Energy and Water Appropriations bill by the full Senate, relevant appropriators will need to work out dissimilarities with their House of Representatives counterparts in conference. As you may recall, the House version of the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill did not include similar language restoring funding for nuclear medicine.

NRC Proposed NARM Rulemaking

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) draft rulemaking on naturally occurring and accelerator-produced radioactive material (NARM) was released for public comment on July 28. The NARM rulemaking, Requirements for the Expanded Definition of Byproduct Material, would revise the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 definition for “byproduct material,” add a definition for “discrete source,” amend existing regulations to include radium-226 and certain accelerator-produced radioisotopes, and modify the regulatory framework to account for these new materials.

The NRC Task Force of the ACNP/SNM Joint Government Relations Committee has been actively involved in the public NARM rulemaking process since the passage of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The task force analyzed the proposed NARM regulations and submitted comments before the close of the public comment period on September 11. Of principal concern to the task force is that the rulemaking does not disturb patient and research access to radiopharmaceuticals.

USP General Chapter <797> Proposed Revisions

On August 15 the SNM Radiopharmaceutical Sciences Council, Committee on Pharmacopeia, and interested ACNP and SNM leaders submitted comments in response to the proposed revisions of U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP) General Chapter <797> Pharmaceutical Compounding—Sterile Preparations.

The comments and references are available to download at: <http://interactive.snm.org/index.cfm?PageID=5466>

Michael Peters
Assistant Director for Public Affairs

What's New in the Nuclear Medicine Industry?

Click the headlines to read the full story online.

[View Estimated Time Allocations for Nuclear Medicine Procedures](#)

Research and Markets (<http://www.researchandmarkets.com/reports/c41474>) has announced the addition of "Nuclear Medicine—Global Strategic Business Report" to their offering.

This report analyzes the worldwide markets for Nuclear Medicine in Millions of US\$. The specific product segments analyzed are gamma cameras and PET scanners. The report provides separate comprehensive analytics for the US, Canada, Japan, Europe, Asia—Pacific (excluding Japan), and rest of world. Annual forecasts are provided for each region and product segment for the period of 2000 through 2010....

[IMV Nuclear Medicine Report Shows Distinct Utilization Patterns in Hospitals vs. Non-Hospitals](#)

An estimated 19.7 million nuclear medicine procedures were performed during 17.2 million patient visits in the United States in 2005, in over 7,200 hospital and non-hospital sites, according to a report just released by IMV Medical Information Division. This represents a 15% increase from 2002 to 2005, from 14.9 million to 17.2 million patient visits, for an average annualized rate of 5% per year over the period. Over half, or 57%, of the patient visits were for cardiovascular studies, including cardiac perfusion....

[Zecotek's LFS Scintillation Material Receives Notice of Allowance from US Patent Office](#)

Zecotek Medical Systems Inc. today announced that it has been advised that its U.S. Patent application in respect to its LFS scintillation material received a Notice of Allowance from the U.S. Patent Office. The application currently resides in the Office of Publications and is now being readied by the U.S. Patent Office for formal issuance....

[Boston Life Sciences, Inc. Announces the Issuance of a U.S. Patent Licensed to BLSI by Harvard et al that Covers Methods for the Diagnosis and Monitoring of ADHD ; Methods Encompass Current Imaging Techniques Using Labeled Dopamine Transporter Binding Compounds](#)

Boston Life Sciences, Inc. announces that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has issued a patent to the President and Fellows of Harvard College, the General Hospital Corporation, and Organix, Inc. that covers methods of diagnosing and monitoring attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) by assessing the level of dopamine transporter (DAT) in at least one region of a patient's central nervous system. The patent is exclusively licensed to BLSI under a worldwide licensing arrangement between BLSI and Harvard University....

[Toshiba Announces Version 3.0 Software for Aquilion 64; Fastest Reconstruction and Enhanced DICOM Data Transfer for Increased Productivity](#)

Meeting clinical demands for applications that enhance departmental workflow, Toshiba America Medical Systems Inc. announced today the release of its Version 3.0 software for the Aquilion(TM) 64 and 32 computed tomography (CT) systems—the most advanced multislice CT technology available. The new software is designed specifically to improve overall departmental productivity, and features options that further enhance the industry's fast reconstruction kit, up to 28 slices per second, and includes enhanced digital imaging and communications format in medicine (DICOM) data transfer at up to 50 images per second....

[Dilon Technologies Secures Major Financial Deal; Will Support Increase in Product Demand and Company Growth](#)

Dilon Technologies, LLC, a U.S. manufacturer and supplier of high-resolution molecular imaging systems recently completed an equity offering of 7.25 million dollars that will propel the company's sales and marketing efforts. The deal was placed by Taglich Brothers, Inc. of New York, NY, a full-service investment banking firm focused exclusively on microcap companies. Michael Taglich, President of Taglich Brothers, commented that "Based on the spectacular clinical results that the Dilon 6800 Gamma Camera has shown in detecting breast cancer, we are convinced that it should be regarded as an integral part of the standard of care for breast cancer detection and preoperative planning....

[Philips and Dartmouth Announce Research Collaboration to Advance Discovery in Cancer, Heart, and Neurological Diseases](#)

Philips Medical Systems, a division of Royal Philips Electronics, and the medical and engineering schools of Dartmouth College, today announced they have entered into a multi-year research agreement to develop innovative imaging capabilities that aim to better enable earlier detection and treatment of heart disease, cancer, and neurological diseases. For Dartmouth, this is the first of its kind collaboration that brings together world-class academic and clinical researchers from Dartmouth Medical School and the Thayer School of Engineering with industry-leading technology and scientists from Philips to develop and expedite novel diagnostics and therapies to improve clinical care....

[Neoprobe Initiates Lymphoseek Phase 2 Clinical Study](#)

Neoprobe Corporation, a diversified developer of innovative oncology and cardiovascular surgical and diagnostic products, today announced that it has initiated its Phase 2 multi-center clinical study of Lymphoseek(TM), a lymphatic tissue targeting agent being developed by the Company. Neoprobe was granted authorization by FDA earlier this year to commence patient enrollment in a Phase 2

multi-center clinical study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of Lymphoseek. Lymphoseek is intended to be used in biopsy procedures for the detection of lymph nodes in breast and melanoma cancers....

[New Laser Imaging Technique Illuminates Disease in Eyes of Alzheimer Mouse Model](#)

Advanced imaging technologies—including PET, MRI and others—are improving early detection of Alzheimer's disease and may prove to be powerful tools in testing new therapies, according to new research results reported today in Madrid at the 10th International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (ICAD), presented by the Alzheimer's Association....

CT Training for Nuclear Medicine Professionals

With PET/CT an integral part of today's nuclear medicine and with as much as 200 hours of CME in didactic and 500 hours of supervised clinical experience needed for CT credentialing, we at ACNP are providing the updates to fulfill the required CT training.

There are several books and Web sites available that are currently used by our radiology colleagues. These easy-to-read CT and PET/ CT books and Web sites are very informative and, we hope, will be beneficial to our members:

CT and PET/ CT Books for Nuclear Medicine Physicians

1. *Pocket Atlas of Body CT Anatomy* (Radiology Pocket Atlas Series), by W. Richard Webb and Michael B. Gotway, published February 2002.
2. *A Pocket Atlas of Normal CT Anatomy of the Head, and Brain* (Radiology Pocket Atlas Series), by Michelle M. Smith and Timothy L. Smith, published January 2001.
3. *CT, and MRI Pathology: A Pocket Atlas*, by Michael L. Grey and Jagan Mohan Ailinani, published April 2003.
4. *Human Sectional Anatomy: Pocket Atlas of Body Sections, CT, and MRI Images*, by Harold Ellis, Bari M. Logan, Adrian K. Dixon, and Bari Logan, published October 2001.
5. *Pocket Atlas of Normal Head, and Brain*, by Anton N. Hasso and Miyuki Shakudo, published June 1990.
6. *Pocket Atlas of Normal CT Anatomy*, by James B. Weinstein, Joseph K. T. Lee, and Stuart S. Sagel, published January 1985.
7. *Human Cross Sectional Anatomy: Pocket Atlas of Body Sections, and CT Images*, by Harold Ellis, Bari Logan, and Adrian Dixon.
8. *Fundamentals of Body CT* (3rd edition), by W. Richard Webb, William E. Brant, and Nancy M. Major, published 2006.
9. *Computed Body Tomography With MRI Correlation* (2-volume set), by Joseph K. T. Lee, Stuart S. Sagel, Robert J. Stanley, Jay P. Heiken, published December 2005.
10. *Imaging Atlas of Human Anatomy* (3rd edition), by Jamie Weir, and Peter H. Abrahams, published 2003.
11. *Atlas of Human Cross-Sectional Anatomy: With CT, and MR Images*, by Donald R. Cahill, Matthew J. Orland, and Gary M. Miller, published 2001.
12. *PET, and PET/ CT, A Clinical Guide*, by Eugene C. Lin, and Abass Alavi, published 2005.
13. *Clinical PET, and PET/CT*, by Hossein Jadvar, and J. Anthony Parker, published 2005.
14. *Cardiac CT imaging: Diagnosis of Cardiovascular Disease*, by Matthew M. J. Budoff, Jerold S. Shinbane, published March 2006.

Websites for CT:

1. Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, <http://www.ctisus.com>.
2. Chest X-ray, Your Thoracic Imaging Resources, <http://www.chestx-ray.com>.
3. Albert Einstein Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA, <http://www.learningradiology.com/index.htm>.
4. Human Anatomy by Dartmouth Medical School, Hanover, NH, <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~anatomy>.

ACNP is a true advocate for nuclear medicine physicians and scientists. We will keep you periodically updated regarding the national CT meetings and book listings. If you have any information that you want to share with your friends, please e-mail me at sdadparvar@aol.com.

Simin Dadparvar, MD, FACNP

ACNP Residents Organization: President's Message

Hello residents and fellows,

We are in the midst of our membership drive and encourage all nuclear medicine residents to join. Membership is free for residents/fellows courtesy of the support of the industry.



David Ng

All members are assigned to a chapter based on their location: East Coast, West Coast, Mid-West, or Southern States. We are calling for volunteers to be chapter presidents and officers. We are also currently looking for members who are interested in becoming chapter officers or being on ACNP national committees/task forces. Further details will be found at the ACNP Web site, www.acnponline.org, under RESIDENTS AS FUTURE LEADERS.

We have made it very easy to join. We have a new online membership form. All a resident has to do is to fill-in their particulars online and provide the e-mail address of their program director (for verification of in-training status).

One of the benefits of joining is the mentorship program. As nuclear medicine residents think about different career options, the mentorship program provides a great way to get to know other established nuclear physicians in different career tracks and ask them how to break into various aspects of nuclear medicine. We have mentors in industry, academia, and private practice, and they are eager to share with nuclear medicine residents the skill-sets a resident needs to learn to be successful. Thanks to the efforts of the American Board of Nuclear Medicine, cross-sectional imaging (CT, MRI) is currently part of the curriculum for nuclear physicians. The new trainees starting in 2007 will even have one extra year to learn cross-sectional imaging. Nuclear medicine residents may want to use their new skills in cross-sectional imaging to form joint ventures with neurology groups in neuroimaging, cardiology groups in cardiac imaging, orthopedic groups in musculoskeletal imaging, or oncology groups to form free-standing oncology centers (with PET/CT and nuclear therapy services). Mentors can help guide residents in marketing themselves and give advice on how to form joint ventures with different specialty groups. If they don't know the answer to a particular question, they can probably refer you to another mentor who can answer that question.

Another benefit of joining ACNP is the opportunity for networking. Nuclear medicine is a very small world, and many job opportunities come as a result of word of mouth before being advertised. Being a member of ACNP enables a job-seeker to network with senior partners of private practice groups or nuclear medicine division chiefs, and this may provide an advantage in the job search. Membership for residents and fellows in training is free and supported by generosity of the industry. To join ACNP online, please go to www.acnponline.org.

Our Annual Meeting is coming up in February. The first call for abstracts is online, and we invite residents/fellows in nuclear medicine, nuclear radiology, radiation oncology, and nuclear cardiology to submit abstracts. The best papers can be submitted for consideration by *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*. For further details, please refer to the section of the ACNP Web site under the heading CALL FOR ABSTRACTS.

Please feel free to contact me at acnp_ro@yahoo.com if you are interested in joining a national committee or becoming a chapter president. We are forming an ACNP_RO group at Yahoo to facilitate communication. Please sign up for the acnp_ro grouplist at yahoo: http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/acnp_ro/.

David Ng MD
President ACNP-RO

Nominations for ACNP Fellowships Due by November 30

ACNP is seeking outstanding candidates for fellow status in the year 2007. Eligible applicants must be board-certified nuclear medicine physicians and/or scientists who have made outstanding contributions to the field of nuclear medicine and/or the ACNP. Candidates may be nominated by ACNP fellows or may be self-nominated.

Please review the eligibility requirements, then fill out the application and send it, along with two recommendation letters from current ACNP fellows, to Mike Nelson, ACNP, 1850 Samuel Morse Drive, Reston, VA, 20190, by November 30. For more information and the application, go to www.acnponline.org and click on ABOUT ACNP/MEMBERSHIP/FELLOWSHIP or call Mike Nelson at 703-326-1195.

Nominations for Annual Mentorship Award Due November 30

ACNP values the outstanding mentors who have assisted residents and fellows in achieving their goals throughout the past year. The second annual “Best Mentor of the Year” award will be given on February 15 at the ACNP Annual Meeting. Nominations for the award are being accepted through November 30. You may nominate an ACNP member by submitting a one-page description of why you believe he or she deserves this award. Send your nomination to Mike Nelson, ACNP, 1850 Samuel Morse Drive, Reston, VA 20190. If you have any questions, contact Simin Dadparvar, MD, at sdadparvar@aol.com.

Share Your News and Information

We would appreciate it if you would share any information about your institution or practice with *Scanner*. If you have received a grant from NIH, DOE, the U.S. Army, etc.—or if you have successfully passed a milestone such as an NRC inspection, the Nuclear Medicine Residency Review, or practice accreditation—please let us know. We will publish your experience and help you share your wealth of knowledge with ACNP members. Please e-mail your information to the editor at sdadparvar@aol.com.

ANCP Welcomes New Member: Samir Fakir, of Buffalo, NY

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