



SCANNER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ACNP
July/August 2006

President's Message

All on the Same Team

As medicine has become more complex, we have all seen the various specialties become more and more divided, with multiple supporting organizations and societies springing up to serve these new subspecialties and sub-subspecialties.



Michael Middleton

In radiology, multiple societies and organizations have taken root as radiologists have organized around organ-based or technique-based specializations. To some extent this has also happened in the field of nuclear medicine, and certainly some of this has been understandable. Consequently, many of us now pay dues to as many as five or six different medical specialty organizations. But one thing remains constant: nuclear physicians use unsealed radioisotopes to diagnose and treat disease as a physiologic/metabolic-based specialty. Whether your practice involves the full scope of nuclear medicine or just positron imaging, molecular nuclear medicine, nuclear cardiology, radioimmunotherapy, part-time nuclear radiology, etc., there are common issues that unite all practitioners of nuclear medicine. Sure, separate organizations give us autonomy and can more easily address issues that are specific to a subspecialty; but,

when it comes to core issues, we need to be on the same team. We can accomplish far more working together than we can as separate organizations.

Last fall the ACNP regents unanimously voted to join forces with our friends and colleagues at SNM to plan a joint meeting in 2007. We will combine our 33rd Annual Meeting with the SNM Mid-Winter Meeting planned for February 14–18 in San Antonio, TX. We will then evaluate the benefits of holding such a joint meeting before determining whether this remains a one-time event or becomes an annual tradition. Under the leadership of Hazem Chehabi, MD, as ACNP program chair, formal plans for the joint meeting are now underway. Dr. Chehabi will be working closely with Peter Herscovitch, MD, SNM Mid-Winter Meeting program chair.

At the recent SNM Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA, the ACNP Regents met to discuss the business of the college. Our ACNP committees have been appointed, and we are combining forces with other like-minded groups looking at issues important to ACNP such as advocacy, education, quality, and government relations. We recently held a conference call involving several members of ACNP and SNM to plan out advocacy initiatives for nuclear medicine procedures. Dr. Greenspan, our immediate past-president, will be heading a task force to address this issue.

Another untapped resource is the energy and enthusiasm of our residents and fellows in training. Under the leadership of Dr. Dadparvar, we are making strides toward involving residents in our organization and helping them deal with issues of importance to physicians who are just entering practice. Likewise, they can help us—after all, they represent the future of nuclear medicine.

Finally, I would like to again encourage you all to not only maintain your membership in ACNP but also support its mission. It is never too late to join any of our active committees. Just let me or our executive director, Mike Nelson, know about your interest, and we will find a committee that can use your input. One of the advantages of a small specialty like nuclear medicine is that everyone can make a difference. So, let's join forces and see what we can accomplish!

See y'all in Texas!

*Michael Middleton, MD, FACNP
President, ACNP*

ACNP Delegates Report on the 2006 AMA Annual Meeting

The AMA House of Delegates met June 10–14 in Chicago, IL. Nuclear medicine was represented by delegates and alternates from the SNM, ACNP, and the American College of Nuclear Medicine. Those attending included Marion Jordan, MD (ACNP Delegate), Terence Beven, MD (Alternate Delegate), Gary Dillehay, MD (SNM Delegate), and Richard Lindgren, MD (ACNM Delegate). A number of significant resolutions were debated and/or enacted.

Resolution 208

This resolution requested AMA to seek repeal of the Deficit Reduction Omnibus Reconciliation Act, Section 5102, that part reducing the technical component payment for an imaging service under the physician fee schedule if it exceeds the outpatient department fee schedule amount for the service established under the Medicare prospective payment system for hospital outpatient departments. Testimony was very much in favor of the intent of the resolution, but the issue was referred to the AMA Board of Trustees for decision to allow consideration in the light of other factors, including the sustainable growth rate (SGR) reduction scheduled for January 1 and other reimbursement issues.

Resolution 613

This resolution from the medical student and resident sections called for AMA to make the association's highest priority activity a complete overhaul of the flawed system of medical care presently existing in the United States. While there was overwhelming support of the need for access to care, coverage for the uninsured and underinsured, and patient safety, and for fixing Medicare/Medicaid and the medical liability system, most testimony favored an incremental approach, with medical liability reform continuing to be AMA's primary focus. AMA's substantial effort in Congress has made progress toward liability reform, and the HOD did not want to jeopardize AMA's chances of success in 2007. An amended motion reflecting this sentiment was adopted. AMA will continue to be a catalyst for reform of the entire health care system.

Resolution 603

This resolution dealt with the current requirements for representation in the HOD, in particular, the 35% AMA member rule. The resolution was proposed for "not adoption" by the reference committee, but the Specialty and Service Society was successful in obtaining passage of a freeze in present membership until the HOD revises the current unsatisfactory methodology.

This does not guarantee perpetuation of societies in the HOD, particularly the smaller organizations, but does give those of us not currently meeting the requirements of percent AMA members and total membership some time in which to become qualified. The five-year review of societies will continue, but with no action taken at the present. Eight societies that were to be placed on probation at this meeting with one year to become qualified or lose their seat were spared for the time being.

Elections

William Plested, MD, a California surgeon, assumed the office of president. Ron Davis, MD, a preventive medicine physician from Michigan, was elected president-elect.

Elected to the Board of Trustees were Joe Annis, MD (Texas), and incumbents Peter Carmel, MD (New York), Joe Heyman (Massachusetts), and Cecil Wilson, MD (Florida).

Other significant actions taken by the HOD have been posted and can be reviewed on the AMA Web site (www.ama-assn.org).

Participation in AMA by representatives of nuclear medicine continues to be a vital activity for ACNP, as well as for SNM. AMA membership is something that each of us should strongly consider, since our ability to be heard in this umbrella organization for our entire profession is dependant on your individual participation as members.

*Marion Jordan, MD
ACNP Delegate*

*Terence Beven, MD, ACNP
Alternate Delegate*

Call for Abstracts

The Scientific Program Committee of the American College of Nuclear Physicians invites the submission of the original abstracts for the 33rd ACNP Annual Meeting along with SNM-Mid Winter Meeting to be held on February 14–18, 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. Three \$500 best essay awards and two \$750 travel grants will be awarded for 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 at www.acnponline.org, click on ABSTRACT SUBMISSION, and by mail on a floppy disk or CD-ROM in a standard word processing format: Microsoft Word or Corel WordPerfect is preferred. 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

NAS State of the Science in Nuclear Medicine Project

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) expert committee working on the State of the Science in Nuclear Medicine project got together in Washington, DC, June 12–13 for the first of several planned meetings. The official mission of the project is to provide findings and recommendations on the following issues:

- Future needs for radiopharmaceutical development for the diagnosis and treatment of human disease;
- Future needs for computational and instrument development for more precise localization of radiotracers in normal and aberrant cell physiologies;
- National impediments to the efficient entry of promising new radiopharmaceutical compounds into clinical feasibility studies and strategies to overcome them; and
- Impacts of shortages of isotopes and of highly trained radiochemists on nuclear medicine research, and short- and long-term strategies to alleviate these shortages if they exist.

With that mission in mind, the committee will examine the Department of Energy Office of Science/Office of Biological and Environmental Research Medical Applications and Measurement Sciences program and make recommendations to improve its research and isotope production impacts on nuclear medicine.

To learn more about the NAS State of the Science in Nuclear Medicine project, please visit the National Academies Web site at www.nationalacademies.org.

NRC Regulation of NARM

As of this writing, the nuclear medicine community is still awaiting the public release of the final draft rule on naturally occurring and accelerator produced radioactive material (NARM) by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

As you may recall, Section 651(e) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 granted the NRC complete regulatory authority over NARM (including PET products). In Spring 2006, the NRC released the proposed draft NARM rule package submitted to the commissioners for review in an effort to give the public extended notification.

You can download the proposed draft rule package at http://ruleforum.llnl.gov/cgi-bin/library?source=*&library=narm_lib&file=*&st=ipcr.

Lyons Formally Sworn in as NRC Commissioner

Peter B. Lyons was officially sworn in on June 28, 2006, as a Commissioner of the NRC. Commissioner Lyons had been acting as commissioner since January 2005, per an appointment by President Bush, but was recently confirmed by the Senate to fill out the full term through June 30, 2009.

In his previous professional experience, Commissioner Lyons worked on industry, energy, and environment issues at Los Alamos National Laboratory, then later as a science advisor for Senator Pete Domenici (R-NM). Lyons has published well over 100 technical papers, holds three patents related to fiber optics and plasma diagnostics, and served as chairman of the NATO Nuclear Effects Task Group for five years.

USP <797> Proposed Revisions

ACNP's allies on the Society of Nuclear Medicine Radiopharmaceutical Sciences Council are currently preparing comments in response to the proposed revisions of U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP) General Chapter <797>—Pharmaceutical Compounding: Sterile Preparations. There is serious concern within the radiopharmaceutical sciences community that the proposed revisions are overly prescriptive and lacking adaptability.

To view the proposed revisions marked and/or unmarked, please visit the USP Web site at <http://www.usp.org/USPNF/pf/generalChapter797.html>.

CARE/RadCARE Bill—Technologist Licensure

As of this writing, the House of Representatives' Consumer Assurance of Radiologic Excellence (CARE) bill (H.R.1426) boasts approximately 128 cosponsors. S.2322, the Senate companion bill (RadCARE), has approximately 16 cosponsors after being introduced by Senator Michael Enzi (R-WY) and Senator Ted Kennedy (D-MA) last February.

The CARE/RadCARE legislation will amend the Public Health Service Act to establish and maintain federal education and credentialing standards for personnel who deliver radiation therapy treatments and perform medical imaging procedures.

Michael Peters
SNM Assistant Director of Public Affairs

What's New in the Nuclear Medicine Industry?

Click the headlines to read the full story online.

[RAE Systems Expands Offering of Personal Radiation Detectors for First Responders With GammaRAE II Responder; First Intrinsically Safe Radiation Detector and Dosimeter in One](#)

[SIIM/SCAR Announces 2007 Research Grants Program; Application Deadline August 1, 2006](#)

[Cardinal Health Acquires Positron Emission Tomography \(PET\) Radiopharmaceutical Production Facilities](#)

[Molecular Insight Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Initiates Azedra\(TM\) Phase 1 Clinical Trial for Treatment of Neuroendocrine Cancer; Orphan Drug Targeted Radiotherapeutic Candidate Also Receives Fast Track Status](#)

[Bio-Tech Systems Announces the Release Report #240: Market for PET Radiopharmaceuticals and PET](#)

[Data from Phase I Clinical Trial of QUADRAMET\(R\) in Patients with Relapsed Multiple Myeloma Presented at the 11th Congress of the European Hematology Association; Combination regimen of QUADRAMET with bortezomib, administered on eight week intervals, well tolerated by patients and demonstrates preliminary evidence of tumor responses](#)

[Premier PET Imaging of Jacksonville Opens State-of-the-Art PET/CT Imaging Center](#)

[Siemens Introduces TruePoint PET-CT at SNM 2006; New System Architecture Increases Performance in Multiple Dimensions](#)

[New Clinical Data on Time-of-Flight System and an Enhanced Workflow Management Solution Strengthen Philips Suite of Imaging Technologies and Services for Nuclear Medicine](#)

[Cytogen Announces Positive Interim Findings from a Phase I Clinical Trial of QUADRAMET\(R\) Combination Study in Patients with Relapsed Multiple Myeloma; Novel combination regimen of QUADRAMET with](#)

[bortezomib, a protease inhibitor, well tolerated at doses studied to date and demonstrates preliminary antitumor activity](#)

[Immunomedics Constructs New Bispecific Antibodies Using the Dock and Lock \(DNL\) Technology; New DNL Products Bind to Both CD20 and CD22 Antigens](#)

[Data Presented at SNM Meeting Demonstrate Novel Therapeutic Combinations and Applications for QUADRAMET\(R\) ; Data presented on QUADRAMET use in combination with chemotherapy and statins, as well as novel application in kyphoplasty](#)

[Molecular Insight Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Presents Azedra\(TM\) \(Ultratrace\(TM\) MIBG\) Preclinical Data at Society of Nuclear Medicine Meeting; Early Data on Molecular Imaging Pharmaceutical for Chronic Heart Failure Also Presented](#)

[Cytogen and Philips Demonstrate PROSTASCINT\(R\) Image Acquisition and Processing Tools That Improve Efficiency and Reduce Imaging Time; New technologies reported at Society of Nuclear Medicine annual meeting aimed to pace the future of PROSTASCINT imaging, data suggest use of advanced image processing tools could significantly shorten acquisition times without compromising image quality](#)

[Siemens PETNET Expands Network of Pharmaceutical Manufacturing and Distribution Centers to San Diego; PETNET Network Capacity Increased to Meet Growing Demand for PET Products](#)

[The Sagemark Companies Ltd. Opens Premier PET Imaging of Jacksonville in Florida; 7th PET Imaging Center in Company's Portfolio](#)

[Positron Receives Funding from Private Investment Group](#)

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 the SNM and taking place along with SNM's Mid-Winter Meeting. Please mark your calendars and join us in San Antonio, February 14-18, 2007.

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

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 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, fill out the application, and send it, along with two recommendation letters from current ACNP fellows, to Mac Cannon, 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 Mac Cannon at 703-652-6766.

*Bennett Greenspan, MD, FACNP
Chair, Fellowship Committee*

A Letter to All Nuclear Medicine Residents and Fellows

Dear Residents and Fellows of Nuclear Medicine,

First let me congratulate you on your decision to pursue training in the wonderful, exciting, and unique field of nuclear medicine. I hope you all have rewarding and successful careers in our chosen specialty.

I 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 which involves addressing and improving the issues important to all of us in our practices. Our mission statement is posted on our ACNP Web site, but in short, it involves addressing and improving nuclear medicine in the following areas: practice management, quality, education, advocacy, reimbursement, and government relations.

There are multiple benefits to joining the ACNP, but the main one is working with other physicians with like-minded challenges. We promote career growth and award fellow status to members of the ACNP that have served honorably and effectively. I would encourage you all to eventually achieve the goal of “fellow of the American College of Nuclear Physicians.”

Other benefits include:

- ACNP’s bimonthly newsletter, the *Scanner*
- Free membership for nuclear medicine trainees
- Reduced registration fee for young professionals
- Reduced registration fee at the ACNP Annual Meeting for newly practicing nuclear physicians
- Training residents as future leaders
- Government relations updates
- Continuing education scientific updates
- Continuing education in professionalism and leadership
- Networking and collegiality
- ACNP mentorship program across the U.S.
- Award/recognition of outstanding nuclear medicine scientists and professionals in nuclear medicine

If you have interest in any of these programs, or have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or contact me. This can be done via contact information on the ACNP Web site, www.acnponline.org.

Again, I wish you all the best of luck, and look forward to meeting you at future ACNP meetings!

*Mike Middleton, MD, FACNP
ACNP President 2006–7*

2007 Mentorship Award

ACNP values your assistance in making the residency mentorship program a success. The college has created a “Best Mentor of the Year” award for presentation at the ACNP’s Annual Meeting. The resident/fellow

participants in the ACNP Mentorship Program will select an outstanding mentor for this honor at the end of each year. Nominees must be ACNP members.

Your participation in this important program will help generate outstanding leaders for nuclear medicine in the future. Nominations for Best Mentor of the year should be submitted to Simin Dadparvar, MD, at sdadparvar@aol.com by November 30.

*Simin Dadparvar, MD, FACNP
Chair, ACNP Mentorship Program*

Volunteers Needed

Make a difference in your specialty! Request an assignment to an ACNP committee.

For more information, contact Dr. Michael Middleton mmiddleton@swmail.sw.org or Mike Nelson, mnelson@snm.org.

ACNP Residents Organization: President's Message

Hello Residents and Fellows,

For the incoming fellows and residents, welcome to nuclear medicine. I would like to introduce you to our organization. The American College Nuclear Physicians–Resident Organization (ACNP–RO) is an organization run by residents/fellows with continuous advice from the ACNP faculty. Our primary goal is to be a voice for nuclear medicine trainees and to implement projects of interest to nuclear medicine trainees.



David Ng

We would like to extend an invitation for all nuclear medicine trainees to join our organization. The membership is free for residents/fellows thanks to support from industry. 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. One of our projects for the year is to compile a list of multiple choice questions in physics and clinical nuclear medicine. The chapter who contributes the most questions will get the best chapter award at the ACNP annual meeting. All the questions will be compiled

and given to nuclear medicine trainees at the ACNP annual meeting in February 2007. We hope this will be a good resource when studying for the nuclear medicine boards. We hope faculty will help contribute multiple choice questions and support residents in this project. Further details can be found on the ACNP Web site, www.acnponline.org, under the section: RESIDENTS AS FUTURE LEADERS.

Our second project is to prepare for the annual meeting in 2007. We will be holding a joint session with the SNM Mid-Winter Meeting. There will be dedicated lectures for the residents on several scientific and socioeconomic topics. There will also be three best essay awards and two travel grants for outstanding basic and clinical science presentations. All abstracts selected for oral and poster presentations will be published in the journal, *Clinical Nuclear Medicine*. 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*. Details are in the Call for Abstracts in this issue of *Scanner* and also on the ACNP Web site. We encourage residents and fellows from nuclear medicine, radiology, nuclear cardiology, and radiation oncology to participate. The deadline is November 30. This is a

good opportunity to present at a national meeting and use some of the advantages of membership such as networking for employment opportunities and mentorship programs.

Further information about our committees and organization can be found at our Web site. Please point your browsers to www.acnponline.org and sign up.

Please feel free to contact me at davidngmd@gmail.com if any of you are interested in becoming chapter officers or joining committees. Together we can make a difference.

*David Ng MD
President ACNP-RO*

ANCP Welcomes New Member: Lorraine Fig, MD, of Ann Arbor, MI

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