

Scintillator

April/May 2011

You're Invited: 2nd Annual NMRO Networking Luncheon

The 2nd Annual NMRO Networking Luncheon for residents will be held during the SNM/ACNM Annual Conference in San Antonio, TX, in June 2011.

Monday, June 6 from 11:30am - 1:00pm (lunch break) at the San Antonio Convention Center, room 204AB. The NMRO will be providing a free box lunch for all attendees. Key leaders, as well as the NMRO Board members, will be in attendance.

The first annual networking luncheon, held last year at the 2010 SNM Annual Meeting, was a huge success, with a large turnout and many residents connecting and communicating. In addition, many important issues regarding the current and the future status of nuclear medicine were discussed by prominent members of current nuclear medicine leadership. This year promises to be just as informative, with many current leadership members invited and planning to attend.



For cutting-edge discussion on the current status and future plans and goals for nuclear medicine—and for enjoyable nuclear medicine resident camaraderie—please plan to attend! To RSVP - please reply to acnm@acnmonline.org.

We hope you are able to attend and look forward to seeing you in San Antonio!

2011 ACNM Annual Meeting Awardees

Earlier this year, ACNM accepted abstract submissions from residents and fellows of nuclear medicine, nuclear cardiology, radiology and radiation oncology that reflected original research and academic efforts in the field of nuclear medicine, correlative imaging or radionuclide therapy. Over 30 abstracts were submitted and accepted for presentation; both poster and oral – the most submissions in ACNM history!

The following abstracts awards were distributed for outstanding research effort:

- Travel Grant Award for \$750 to Gauri Khorjekar, MD for “Pilot Study Assessing Two Factors in Altering Radioiodine Uptake in Breast Tissue (Breast) in Patients (PTS) with Well-Differentiated Thyroid Cancer (WDTC).”
- Travel Grant Award for \$750 to Pejman Kharazi, MD for “Out-patient I-131 Therapy For Differentiated Thyroid Cancer: Mode of Transportation, Duration of Travel, Number of Traveling Companions, and Type of Lodging.”
- Best Essay Award for \$500 to Khalil Salman, MD for “Nuclear Medicine Detection of Cutaneous Manifestations of Diseases.”
- Best Essay Award for \$500 to Andrei Iagaru, MD for “Classical Hodgkin’s Lymphoma in First Complete Remission: Is There a Role for 18F FDG PET/CT Surveillance?”
- Best Essay Award for \$500 to Yuxin Li, MD for “Prognostic Value of Metabolic Versus Volumetric Response in Assessing Treatment of Small Cell Lung Cancer Using FDG PET/CT.”



ACNM Residents Accept Travel and Best Essay Awards (Lt to Rt) Andrei Iagaru, MD, Pejman Kharazi, MD, Gauri Khorjekar, MD and Khalil Salman, MD



Yuxin Li, MD, PhD

Membership Drive

Calling all residents! The NMRO is in the midst of its annual membership drive!

We are happy to announce that for first-time members, the membership fee (only \$10) has been waived. If you're interested in becoming a member, fill out the membership form at https://acnm.snm.org/docs/membership_application.pdf and fax it to 703-708-9015. The benefits of membership also include an online subscription to *Clinical Nuclear Medicine*.

Transition to Practice: Importance of MOC

In 2001, the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) decided to replace recertification exams with maintenance of certification (MOC) programs—more comprehensive efforts to assess the ongoing competence of medical specialists and their ability to provide high-quality health care. Demonstration of “lifelong learning” has always been an integral part of what a physician does, but now we will quantitate this so that the public can maintain its trust.

Here are some additional reasons why we need to actively participate:

- **Enhanced expertise.** Medical knowledge is enhanced by keeping current with the latest research and advancements.
- **Patient benefit:** Patients are assured that they are receiving high-quality medical care.
- **Reimbursement:** Third-party payers are beginning to require all physicians to participate in a MOC program (the Pay-for-Performance initiative) in order to be eligible for reimbursement.
- **Privileges and credentialing:** It is expected that most hospitals will require physicians to participate in a MOC program to maintain privileges.
- **Self-governance:** Instead of having the government dictate what constitutes high-quality medical care, the ABMS prefers that the specialties define and disseminate their own standards through their respective MOC programs.

As medicine MOC and lifelong learning move into the 21st century, demonstrable participation will become an accepted part of our practice and will help ensure the high-quality practice of nuclear medicine.

Leonie Gordon, MD
Professor of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine
Director of Diagnostic Radiology Residency
Medical University of South Carolina

Welcome to Our New Officers

Over the last 2 years the awareness and activity of the NMRO have dramatically increased. This year, we are pleased to announce that there will be even more resident leaders: in addition to the 4 officers, there will now be a board of directors that will help drive this newly dynamic organization. Everyone who applied to run for these positions was very well qualified and will, we believe, have a unique and strong voice for residents in nuclear medicine.

We are proud to have the opportunity to introduce the following new leaders for NMRO.

Officers:

President: Karen Ayers
 Vice-President, External Affairs: Somali Gavane
 Vice-President, Internal Affairs: Shree Subdei
 Secretary/Treasurer: Erica Cohen

Board Members:

Jonathan Khodadadian
 Yuxin Li
 Alice Yu
 Brian Wosnitzer
 Bhawana Rathore

ACNM/NMRO Intern:

Asim Bag

Thank you for voting, and we hope you will become increasingly involved as we strengthen this organization—for residents and by residents.

ACGME Accepting Nuclear Medicine RRC Resident Applications

The American College of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) is seeking applications for the next Residency Review Committee (RRC) resident member.

If you're interested in this position, you will need passion for nuclear medicine and the integrity of its training since it is the mission of the ACGME is to improve health care by assessing and advancing the quality of resident physicians' education through exemplary accreditation.

Specifics:

Current second year resident in good standing
 Term – 2012-2014
 Four 1-1.5 day meetings per year
 Time dedicated to reviewing how programs train their residents
 Deadline August 1, 2011

If you are interested in this wonderful opportunity and want to know more including how to apply, please contact Norma R. De Yagcier at nrdeyagcier@acgme.org or Erin Grady, MD at egrady@lumc.edu.

The First Sino-American Conference on Nuclear Medicine

We are pleased to report to you about a historic conference that has opened up cooperation and collaboration between the United States and China in our chosen specialty of nuclear medicine. The conference was held in Beijing in late February 2011. The topics covered included the current state of nuclear medicine in the United States, presented by SNM leadership, and in China, given by CSNM leadership; how training of nuclear medicine physicians takes place in the United States and in China; basic and advanced discussions on PET/CT and SPECT/CT, and the list goes on.

One day was devoted to the first Sino-American Conference on Nuclear Medicine Young Professionals Tournament. Twelve young professionals in nuclear medicine were chosen from both the United States and China to represent their country. For Yang and I it was truly an honor for us to be selected to present our research projects. In the end, two winners were selected from the United States and 2 from China. These winners received the opportunity to spend time studying in the opposite country to encourage collaboration in research.

The Chinese, Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) and its members gave us a very warm welcome. It was very nice to see so much young interest in nuclear medicine in China. Our hosts were also very receptive to the NMRO and would like to become involved and share their experiences; we welcome this.

Interestingly, at the end of the conference, we were on the Chinese nightly news. Next year, we will be planning the same conference, but this time we will host it in the United States.

Erin Grady, MD

Yang Lu, MD



SNM Residents and Leadership Attending the Sino-American Conference



1st Sino-American Conference, Beijing China

ACNM Mentor-of-the-Year

The ACNM also recognized an outstanding individual, Charles Intenzo, MD, Nuclear Medicine Residency Program Director and Division Director, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Division of Nuclear Medicine, Philadelphia PA, with the ACNM Mentor-of-the-Year Award. Dr. Intenzo's personal achievements have been an absolute example of a successful Nuclear Medicine physician, an example that many of his residents would strive to emulate. On more than one occasion, Dr. Intenzo said that he takes pride in how he runs the residency program, and he wants his residents to look back at their residency years and think of those years as the best ones they'd had in their professional careers. Dr. Intenzo's dedication to his residents and to the field of nuclear medicine are great examples of the true meaning behind this award. The ACNM was excited to present Dr. Intenzo with the 2011 ACNM Mentor-of-the-Year Award.



The ACGME and You

Erin Grady, MD

Most residents know about the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) from the annual survey that we are told about by our program coordinators and the training that we do annually about the “core competencies”—but not many people know more about the ACGME that just those things.

The ACGME is a private, nonprofit organization that accredits about 8,700 residency programs in 130 specialties and subspecialties that educate about 109,000 residents. Its mission is to improve health care by assessing and advancing the quality of resident physicians’ education through exemplary accreditation. It was established in 1981 out of a consensus need in the medical community for an independent accrediting organiza-

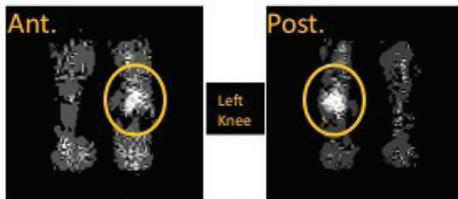
tion for graduate medical education programs.

The ACGME also wants to make sure that residents are treated fairly, that is they are able to voice their concerns without fear of retaliation, etc. They also make sure that residents get adequate time for rest and outside study, hence the duty hour restrictions.

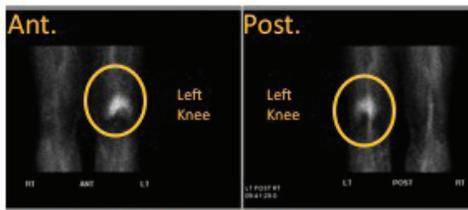
If you want to learn more about the ACGME and resident services, visit <http://acgme.org> and click on Resident Services. If you would like to know more about the nuclear medicine Residency Review Committee (RRC), visit the same website and click on Review Committees, then Nuclear Medicine. This area also hosts the RRC newsletter, explaining the benefits of the RRC.

History:

69 year-old male L RCC s/p L nephrectomy localized to the left kidney with no extra-capsular extension or angio-lymphangitic spread at time of diagnosis in 2006. The patient then underwent a L total knee arthroplasty, 4 years after prosthesis placement he began having L knee pain with difficulty ambulating. Labs showed WBC of 11.8 and ESR 36. The patient had multiple imaging exams, here is his 3 phase bone scan.



Angiographic (Blood Flow) Images



Blood Pool (Immediate) Images



Whole Body Bone Scan (Delayed Images)

Please check the acnmonline.org website for the complete case report by B. Rathore, MD, et al