

Turkish Nuclear Medicine Society 2016 Annual Nuclear Medicine Congress

The collaboration between ACNM and TSNM was further cemented at the recently conducted 2016 Annual Nuclear Medicine Congress of the Turkish Society of Nuclear Medicine in Izmir, Turkey from April 6 through 10, 2016. TSNM had invited the Immediate Past President of ACNM (Dr. Rathan Subramaniam) and myself for talks at the Annual TSNM Congress. I gave two talks titled "Ga-68 Peptide Imaging in NETs" and "PET/CT & PET/MRI in the Workup of Prostate Cancer" and Dr. Subramaniam presented on "Training: Challenges and Opportunities: USA perspective" and "Hybrid Imaging for Management of Colorectal CA: What PET/CT serves & PET/MRI promises." The TSNM also presented us with plaques in recognition of the collaborative efforts between our organizations.

The congress was well attended by Turkey's nuclear medicine professionals who included physicians, technologists and researchers as well as some international visitors from the US and Europe. It was at the Swiss Hotel in Izmir, Turkey. Izmir is the third largest city in Turkey and is on its west coast (or Aegean coast). It is an old history with lot of history (was known as Smyrna in antiquity) and the ruins of Ephesus are nearby. It is a port city with lot of cafes and nice friendly people. It had a European feel to it along with its Asian roots.

We highly appreciated the hospitality shown to us by TSNM, especially by Dr. Murat Fani Bozkurt (the Treasurer of TSNM) and Dr. Zehra Ozcan (the President of TSNM). We discussed the establishment of a structured program for Turkish nuclear medicine professionals interested in having experience in the US to spend some time in some US Nuclear Medicine facilities. This is expected to be further developed, formalized and hopefully implemented in the upcoming year.

I would like to thank the TSNM leadership for putting up a wonderful and successful Annual Congress and a special thanks to Dr. Bozkurt for collaborating well with the ACNM. I sincerely hope that these seeds will reap mutual benefits for nuclear medicine professionals in the US and Turkey.

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