

Winter 2017

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President's Message

Leonard M. Freeman, MD, FACNM, FACR



Welcome to our winter newsletter; particularly to our new Nuclear Medicine residents, scientists and technologists who are in training. Our common goal is to promote education concerning our specialty to our fellow colleagues as well as physicians in other specialties and the general public. We deal with many general aspects of Nuclear Medicine that are not encompassed in other SNMMI councils.

At the recent mid-winter meeting in Phoenix, our council successfully sponsored or co-sponsored five continuing education courses. Several of our members organized and participated in these sessions. I am particularly pleased that we will have a major presence at our upcoming annual meeting this June in Denver, Colorado. We will be sponsoring or co-sponsoring two full day categorical courses. Colleagues from Great Britain and Israel have put together a superb session on SPECT/CT and Dr. Doug VanNostrand is conducting a session on Radioiodine Theranostics. We also have a large total of eight continuing education courses on a variety of subjects. Details of these courses are presented below in this Newsletter.

I want to thank our intern, Dr. Mohammad Taoudi, for his participation this past year. I also would like to welcome Kasha Balestrieri as our new intern for the next two years. Kasha is a certified Nuclear Medicine Technologist in upstate New York who has attended an SNMMI leadership training program and has been an active member of the Eastern Great Lakes Chapter. We look forward to her active participation in our council.

Finally, I want to congratulate Dr. Kevin Donohoe for his tireless efforts in leading and coordinating the Society's efforts in overseeing several committee's dealing with appropriate use criteria (AUC). Two of these dealing with V/Q Imaging in Pulmonary Embolism and Bone Scanning in Metastatic Disease are completed and approved by the SNMMI Board of Directors. Two others are nearing completion and six new groups are in the process of being formulated. Dr. Donohoe provides us with an update later in this newsletter.

2017 GCNMC-Sponsored Education Sessions

It was great to see so many members at the 2017 SNMMI Mid-Winter Meeting in Phoenix, AZ where the GCNMC sponsored the following educational sessions:

- Brain Death Update and Visual Versus Quantitative Analyses of Dopamine Transporter Imaging using 123I-Ioflupane SPECT (*co-sponsored with the Computer and Instrumentation Council and Brain Imaging Council*)
- Current and Emerging Techniques in Molecular Imaging of Infection
- Radioactive Iodine Therapy of Benign Thyroid Disease (*co-sponsored with the Therapy Center of Excellence*)
- Bone Densitometry for the 21st Century
- Management of Local-Regional and Advanced Differentiated Thyroid Cancer (co-sponsored with the Therapy Center of Excellence)

The GCNMC is pleased to sponsor the following Categorical and CE sessions at the SNMMI Annual Meeting, June 10-14, 2017 in Denver, Colorado:

Categorical:

- SPECT/CT: Clinical Applications and Quantification
- 2015 ATA Guidelines: Update and Controversies in Radioiodine Theranostics

CE Sessions:

- Appropriate Use Criteria Update
- Lung Scanning—Part I--V/Q Scintigraphy: Clinical Challenges, AUC and Optimizing Planar Scintigraphy
- Lung Scanning---Part II—Tomographic Imaging (SPECT,PET & CTPA) and Non- PE uses
- Major Myths and Controversies in Differentiated Thyroid Cancer and Radioiodine Theranostics
- Gastrointestinal Bleeding Scintigraphy: How Best to Help Your Patient and Gastroenterologist
- Update on Clinical Radionuclide Nephrourology
- Spondylodiscitis: Role of Imaging for Diagnosis and Monitoring Treatment Response
- Radioiodine Therapy for Hyperthyroidism: State of the Art

Intern Report: Mohammad Taoudi, MD



I am delighted to have served as the interim GCNMC Intern. I wish I had more time to explore and work on many more exciting projects. At about midterm of my one year interim position, I was honored to participate in national and international nuclear medicine meetings.

I have initiated a large retrospective study evaluating the role of the ventilation portion of V/Q scanning in screening for lung parenchymal disease. We are hoping this study will lead to a larger prospective study and ultimately to confirming the great usefulness of V/Q imaging in non-embolic disease. In the meantime, I continue to enjoy serving the GCNMC in outreach projects to educate the general public about the broader role of nuclear medicine, and particularly in cancer treatment planning and treatment.

AUC Guidelines Update



Kevin J. Donohoe, MD

The Guidance Oversight Committee of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging is proud to announce the approval by the SNMMI Board of Directors of the first two SNMMI Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) at the 2017 SNMMI Mid-Winter Meeting. These two documents will help guide referring physicians in caring for patients with suspected pulmonary embolism and patients with prostate and breast cancer. Once these documents are formatted for publication they will be made available on the SNMMI web site under the “Quality and Practice” tab on the home page, then under “Guidance”.

Soon to follow are two more AUC on Hepatobiliary Imaging and PET Imaging in Restaging Malignant Disease. We hope these two AUC will be ready for SNMMI Board of Director review at the April Board meeting.

The workgroups putting these four carefully researched and discussed documents together have volunteered many hours of their time and expertise to assure that these documents meet the standards put forth by the Institute of Medicine for guideline development, and also include input from stakeholders from other specialty societies. These documents will be reviewed annually with updates issued (when appropriate) shortly after review.

The Guidance Oversight Committee is taking advantage of the momentum offered by the approval of these documents to begin development of six new AUC describing the use of I-123 and I-131 in the diagnosis and treatment of thyroid disease, prostate cancer imaging, somatostatin receptor imaging, white blood cell imaging of infection, imaging of gastrointestinal motility, and PET myocardial perfusion imaging.

The Guidance and Oversight Committee would like to thank SNMMI Leadership for their support of the development of these documents, and particularly thank the members of the workgroups that have volunteered so much of their time and efforts towards development of these AUC. The documents will be a valuable resource for referring physicians and ultimately improve the care of our patients.

2017 GCNMC Board of Director Elections – Call for Nominations

On behalf of the General Clinical Nuclear Medicine Council (GCNMC) Board of Directors, we would like to announce the call for nominations for the 2017 GCNMC Board of Directors election. The Nominating Committee has the task of preparing a slate of candidates for the following positions on the GCNMC Board:

- **Secretary/Treasurer** (*two-year term, ascends to President*)
- **Four Board Members** (*two-year term*)

The GCNMC Nominating Committee would like to invite the GCNMC membership to nominate candidates for these positions. We ask you to remember that as GCNMC Board Members, nominees will be tasked with making an effort to attend all Board meetings and helping the Council move into the new-year with new goals and initiatives.. This is a great opportunity to get involved in GCNMC activities, and we hope that, with your help, we are able to create a slate of candidates who will work hard to achieve the goals of this Council. The GCNMC Nominating Committee welcomes self-nominations.

Nominations should be forwarded to Ana Hilton at ahilton@snmmi.org by **February 17, 2017**. **When sending in nominations, please include the specific position and attach the CV of the nominee if possible.** Self-nominations are encouraged.

2017 GCNMC Lifetime Achievement Award - Call for Nominations

The General Clinical Nuclear Medicine Council is seeking nominations for the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award. The GCNMC Lifetime Achievement Award was established to recognize those physicians and scientists who have distinguished themselves through a career dedicated to the advancement of patient care through the field of nuclear medicine. These individuals will have provided outstanding contributions to the general nuclear medicine subspecialties including urogenital, pulmonary, musculoskeletal, endocrine and/or gastrointestinal imaging that have advanced the field to allow improved clinical diagnosis and patient care.

We encourage all members of the GCNMC to submit nominations for this award. To make a nomination for the Lifetime Achievement Award, please submit the nominee's name and brief statement as to why you believe he/she should receive the award.

Nominations should be sent to Ana Hilton at SNMMI at ahilton@snmmi.org by **March 7, 2017**. **All nominations will be reviewed by the GCNMC Nominating and Awards Committee.** The winner of the GCNMC Lifetime Achievement Award will be expected to be present during the General Clinical Nuclear Medicine Meeting at the 2017 SNMMI Annual Meeting, June 10-14 in Denver, CO to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award (plaque).

If you have any questions, please contact Ana Hilton at 703.652.6794 or ahilton@snmmi.org

Save the Date! [SNMMI Annual Meeting](#), Denver Colorado – June 10-14, 2017

Please visit the [General Clinical Nuclear Medicine Council](#) website for more information and to join!

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