

Summer/Fall 2016

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President's Message

Leonard M. Freeman, MD, FACNM, FACR



Welcome to our summer/fall newsletter; particularly to our new Nuclear Medicine residents, scientist and technologists who are in training. Our common bond and mission continues to be our ability to provide a forum for those of us with a similar broad interest in many general aspects of radionuclide imaging.

At the annual SNMMI meeting in San Diego this past June, our council successfully sponsored or co-sponsored a total of seven continuing education sessions as well a full day categorical course on radionuclide imaging of infection and inflammation. Several of our members organized and participated in the sessions. We also were pleased to sponsor a superb well attended CME session on Bone SPECT Imaging in Orthopedics organized by colleagues from London, UK and Israel.

I also am pleased to announce that five of our proposals have been accepted for continuing education courses (CME) at the mid-winter meeting which will be held in Phoenix, Arizona from January 19-22, 2017; three of the five are being presented as collaborative sessions with other SNMMI councils. A summary of these accepted proposals are listed following this message.

Several of our council members have been active participants in the Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) committees. A wonderful piece of news we received several weeks ago was that Medicare has approved SNMMI as an accepted organization for formulating AUC proposals. Later in this newsletter Dr. Kevin Donohoe summarizes the ongoing work by these committees.

I wish you all a very happy and healthy remainder of 2016.

GCNMC-Sponsored Education Sessions

The GCNMC is pleased to sponsor the following CE sessions at the SNMMI Mid-Winter Meeting, January 19-22, 2017 in Phoenix, Arizona:

- Brain death update and visual versus quantitative analyses of dopamine transporter imaging using ¹²³I-loflupane 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)

It was great to see so many members at the 2016 SNMMI Annual Meeting in San Diego, California where the GCNMC sponsored the following educational sessions:

Categorical Session:

- Radionuclide Imaging of Inflammation & Infection: State of the Art and New Developments

Continuing Education Sessions:

- Gastrointestinal Bleeding Scintigraphy: Changing the Paradigm
- Intestinal Transit Scintigraphy
- Hepatobiliary Imaging and Acute Abdominal Pain
- Theranostics in Thyroid Cancer.
- Diagnosis of Pulmonary Embolism: Update on the CTPA vs. V/Q Controversy
- Bone SPECT/CT Imaging in Orthopaedics
- Recurrent Clinical Issues with Breast Lymphoscintigraphy: Necessary Re-Evaluation Given Introduction of New Tracer and SPECT/CT

GCNMC Lifetime Achievement Award



Chun Kim, MD, presents the 2016 GCNMC Lifetime Achievement Award to **Leonard Freeman, MD, FACNM, FACR**. Congratulations Dr. Freeman!

The GCNMC Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes 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 gastrointestinal imaging that have advanced the field to allow improved clinical diagnosis and patient care

Intern Report

Mohammad Taoudi, MD



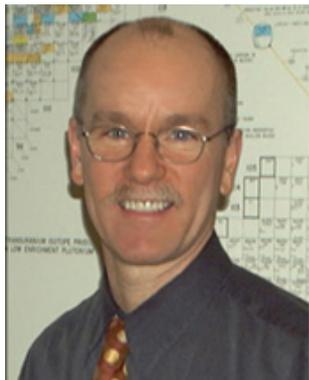
Nuclear Medicine is an exciting field. Its potential for future noninvasive diagnostic and targeted treatment of benign and malignant processes is virtually unlimited. This is precisely what attracted me to the field. I am thrilled to serve as the general clinical nuclear medicine council intern because being at the front line, gives me a unique opportunity to actually participate in the making of future nuclear medicine procedures and development of new indications.

I am currently working on an exciting project in cooperation with pulmonary critical care fellows, exploring the role of VQ imaging in non-embolic pulmonary pathology which will lead to expanding the scope of VQ scanning into the early diagnosis of lung parenchymal disease and ultimately improve patient prognosis. In order to promote the field of nuclear medicine, locally and abroad, I am working in cooperation with the Montefiore Cancer Care Community, local

primary care physicians and scientific international organizations, to educate the general public and cancer patients about the role of nuclear medicine and promote development of the field around the world.

AUC Guidelines Update

Kevin J. Donohoe, MD



The first four Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) being developed by SNMMI are nearing completion. Each of the four groups developing their AUC (Bone Scanning in Prostate and Breast Cancer; PET/CT for the restaging of Neoplastic Disease; Hepatobiliary Imaging; and Ventilation/Perfusion Lung Imaging) have been carefully going over the literature and subsequently writing up recommendations for the best use of these imaging studies. While each of the groups has encountered some obstacles along the way, these challenges were not unexpected, considering the entire AUC development process is new to SNMMI.

As the first group of AUC near completion, SNMMI Leadership has given the Guidance Oversight Committee the green light for the development of six additional AUC: Thyroid imaging and therapy; PET imaging of myocardial perfusion; Somatostatin receptor imaging; Imaging of infection; Imaging of gastric motility; and Imaging of prostate cancer. The titles and scope of each of these documents has yet to be finalized, pending assembly of the working groups and initial discussions between the working group experts. With the experience gained from the first group of AUC, we hope that these next AUC will be developed more expeditiously, hopefully within one year of their initiation.

All SNMMI members should be grateful to the members of these AUC working groups and SNMMI staff for their dedication to these documents. The time and effort required for the development of each of these documents are substantial but necessary for the future of the practice of Nuclear Medicine.

2016 GCNMC Board of Director Elections

The GCNMC Board of Directors held its election this Spring. Two Board Members were reelected. Please welcome back:

Chun K. Kim, MD



Helen R. Nadel, MD



Save the Date! [SNMMI Mid-Winter Meeting](#), Phoenix, Arizona – January 19-22, 2017

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!

GCNMC Board of Directors

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Leonard M. Freeman, MD, President
Timothy A. Manzone, MD, Secretary/Treasurer

Term

June 2015 – June 2017
June 2015 – June 2017

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Kevin J. Donohoe, MD
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Helen R. Nadel, MD
Mark Tulchinsky, MD
Mohammad Taoudi, MD (Intern)

June 2015 – June 2017
June 2016 – June 2018
June 2016 – June 2018
June 2015 – June 2017
June 2016 – June 2017

Committee Chairs

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Leonard M. Freeman, MD (Pulmonary)
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