SNMMI: Cardiovascular Council

Report to SNMMI Committee on Councils/Centers and House of Delegates

January 2014

Activities and Accomplishments

The CVC sponsored thirteen CE sessions at the 2013 SNMMI Mid-Winter Meeting in New Orleans.

One Categorical - Update in Cardiovascular Molecular Imaging: Part I: Emerging Technology, Applications and Controversies in Cardiovascular Molecular Imaging. Part II:

Election of new Vice President-elect, Treasurer and 3 Board members, all newly elected offices began their terms June 2013.

Nominated Dr. Albert Sinusas to the SNMMI commission of government relations to serve as the representative of the society for NHLBI

Nominated Dr. Marcelo Di Carli to lead an effort in conjunction with ASNC to set up a task force to design a study the address the issue of half dose/half time MPI.

Assisted SNMMI in securing a representative on a think tank on radiation safety in cardiovascular care organized jointly with the DCRI, AHA, ACC and ASNC. Dr. Henry Royal was nominated by SNMMI leadership to serve as the SNMMI representative. Dr. Marcelo Di Carli was nominated as the alternate.

Nomination of Drs. Marcelo Di Carli, Rory Hachamovitch, Diwakar Jain and Ronald Schwartz to ACCF/AHA/PCPI/NCQA Cardiac Imaging Work.

Participation in the discussions on and the SNMMI response to, recent papers on radiation exposure risk associated with cardiac imaging studies.

Review of collaborative Hybrid Imaging Guideline prepared by SNMMI in collaboration with ACR, ASNC and SCCT

Proposed three joint sessions on cardiac molecular imaging, vascular molecular imaging, and radiation for the AHA annual meeting. None of these were included in the final program.

Participated in the planning of the third NIH Cardiovascular Molecular Imaging Symposium spearheaded by Dr. Albert Sinusas.

Sponsored the first Molecular and Clinical Cardiovascular Imaging Symposium in Geneva (organized in part by Dr. Thomas Schindler).

The CVC played a major role in the SNMMI 2013 Annual Meeting, in Vancouver, British Columbia by offering the following educational sessions:

1. Technical Advances in Cardiac SPECT and PET
2. Preclinical Molecular Tracers for Cardiovascular Imaging: What is in the Horizon?
3. Non-coronary Artery Disease Applications of Nuclear Cardiology (SAM session)
The CVC BOD meeting and Business meeting were held at the SNMMI Annual Meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on June 9, 2013.

Selection of 2013 Hermann Blumgart Award Winner: Award and lecture were given at SNMMI Annual Meeting. The 2013 Hermann Blumgart award was presented to Robert Beanlands, MD.

The CVC organized and conducted its Young Investigator Award (YIA) competition. The following individuals won the 2013 CVC YIAs:

**Basic Science:**
1. James Thackeray – 1st Place
2. Franz Kaiser – 2nd Place
3. Hakan Orbay – 3rd Place

**Clinical Science:**
1. Stefan de Haan – 1st Place
2. Jeffery Lau – 2nd Place
3. Luka Lezaic – 3rd Place

In addition, six travel grants and three poster grants were awarded during the CVC Business Meeting at the 2013 SNMMI Annual Meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Wengen Chen, MD, PhD was appointed to the position of CVC intern until June 2015.

CVC produced two newsletters (Spring and Fall 2013).

The membership of the CVC consists of physicians, scientists, and technologists. It continues to be one of the largest councils of SNMMI with approximately 340 active members as of July 2013. Membership has generally been stable over the last decade, while more recently a slight decline in membership has been noted, as well as a decrease in the SNMMI membership.

**Looking Forward**

The CVC will present the following two educational sessions at the 2014 SNMMI Mid-Winter Meeting in Palm Springs, CA, February 6-9, 2014:

- Emerging Cardiac Applications of Radionuclide and Hybrid Imaging
- New Tracers, Techniques and Targets in Nuclear Cardiology

The CVC is scheduled to hold a Board of Directors Meeting, at the 2014 SNMMI Mid-Winter Meeting, on Sunday, February 9, 2014 to discuss ongoing activities of the council.
Organization of Scientific and CME Program for 2014 SNMMI Annual Meeting in St. Louis, MO (June 7-11, 2014). As in prior years, the CVC is prepared to organize a Saturday Categorical Seminar and multiple CME sessions on cardiovascular nuclear imaging. A recipient for the Hermann Blumgart Award will be selected by the Award Committee, and will be presented in the Blumgart session at the meeting. Oral and poster sessions will be composed by the CVC members of the scientific program committee and the CVC vice chair, sub-chairs for clinical and basic sciences, and the sub-chair for the YIA. Also, the CVC will again hold its cardiovascular Young Investigator Award Competition, for which the 6 best abstracts will be selected as finalists. The Council will give a $500 award to the best cardiovascular technologist abstract.

Officers of the Council

President: Vasken Dilsizian, MD
Vice President: Prem Soman, MD, PhD
Vice-President Elect: Thomas H. Schindler, MD
Secretary: Maria L. Mackin, BS, MS, CNMT, RT(N)
Treasurer: Ed Lyons, Jr., RT(R), CNMT
Immediate Past-President: Sharmala Dorbala, MD

Board of Directors:
Robert Beanlands, MD
Salvador Borges-Neto, MD
Elias Botvinick, MD
Panithaya Chareonthaitawee, MD
Gordon DePuey, MD
Andrew J. Einstein, MD, PhD
Robert J. Gropler, MD
Howard C. Lewin, MD, FACC, FASNC
Raymond Taillefer, MD
H. William Strauss, MD
Mark I. Travin, MD
Andrew Van Tosh, MD
Wengen Chen, MD, PhD (Council Intern)

Ex-officio Members: (non-voting)
Frank Bengel, MD
Rory Hachamovitch MD, MSc
Mehran M. Sadeghi, MD (Past President I)
Ronald G. Schwartz, MD, MS, FACC, FAHA (Past President II)
Mission

The ultimate goal of the Cardiovascular Council (CVC) of the Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNMMI) is to contribute to the enhancement of quality patient care using cardiac radiotracer techniques. The CVC works to achieve this goal via three basic endeavors: 1). Contribute to the development and promotion of methods and procedures for proper clinical applications of current nuclear cardiology techniques, including a key role in the development of practice guidelines 2). Educate health care providers both within and outside the Society of Nuclear Medicine regarding the most up-to-date and highest quality cardiovascular nuclear medicine care, and 3). Serve as a major contributor and facilitator to the basic research development of new cardiovascular imaging techniques, and in the clinical applications of such new techniques. Members of the CVC also work with the SNMMI and other cardiac imaging organizations in the interaction between providers of nuclear cardiology services, and government and 3rd party payers with regard to quality and appropriate compensation for services. Finally, the CVC contributes to the presentation and explanation of nuclear cardiology methods and benefits to the general public through print and other media.