2011-2012 was a productive year for the Council. One of the most important recent achievements of the PIC has been its work in pediatric NM dose reduction. During 2010 and 2011, a workgroup of pediatric NM physicians, including several Council members, developed consensus guidelines for pediatric administered radiopharmaceutical doses. This dose reduction effort resulted in a published list of 11 commonly used radiopharmaceuticals in pediatric NM practice, and can be found on the SNM PIC website and in the JNM: Gelfand MJ, Parisi, MT, Treves ST: Pediatric Radiopharmaceutical Administered Doses: 2010 North American Consensus Guidelines. JNM Feb 2011; 52(2):318-322.

Last fall, members of the Pediatric Imaging Council worked conjointly with the Image Gently Alliance to market the new consensus guidelines. This “Go with the Guidelines” marketing campaign, co-sponsored by the SNM Pediatric Imaging Council and the Image Gently Alliance, was launched November 15, 2011. Its aim is to encourage community hospitals, academic hospitals and clinics to observe the North American Consensus Guidelines for NM radiopharmaceutical doses in children. The dose recommendations, calculated on a weight basis, have been tested in children’s hospitals and yield high quality images. To foster awareness, the Campaign distributed thousands of 11 x 14-inch posters designed to remind medical practitioners to use these new guidelines for 11 frequently-performed imaging studies in children. The guidelines are available at www.snm.org, www.acr.org, www.pedrad.org, and the poster can also be downloaded at www.imagegently.org.

Members of the Pediatric Imaging Council and the Image Gently Alliance met again on April 20, 2012 at the Society for Pediatric Radiology Annual Meeting in San Francisco to discuss the next steps in this initiative. Future work will include: 1) the distribution of a follow-up survey to ascertain whether hospitals are utilizing the dose guidelines, 2) review additional radiopharmaceuticals for consideration of dose reduction, 3) evaluate resolution recovery as a means of reducing dose, 4) evaluate dose reduction in hybrid imaging, and 5) education of families potentially exposed to therapy doses of iodine-131.

The Council continues to support our first Pediatric Imaging Council Intern, who will serve from 2011-2013. Dr. Servaes is an Assistant Professor at the Children’s Hospital of Pennsylvania, and has been assigned a project to develop a pediatric MOC module under the leadership of Drs. Helen Nadel and Meg Parisi. Dr. Lisa States, also at the Children’s Hospital of Pennsylvania, will serve as her “on-site” mentor.
The Pediatric Imaging Council continues to provide robust educational activities at the annual meetings, and every other year at the Mid-Winter Meetings. The Council sponsored a successful educational program at the 2011 annual SNM meeting, with 3 CME sessions and a well-attended 1-day categorical course. The scientific sessions were highlighted by Dr. Yen-Lin Lui’s scientific presentation entitled “Neuroblastic tumors (NTs) with high 18F-FDOPA avidity will show higher aromatic amino acid decarboxylase expression”, for which he received the, the Council’s Young Investigator Award.

Our educational program for next year will include 4 CME sessions, but no full day categorical course. We plan some exciting new information on Prospects for Molecular Imaging in Children, Novel Tracers for Tumor Imaging in Children, Pediatric Radiotherapy Applications, Advanced Hybrid imaging in Pediatrics, and our annual, popular “Read with the Experts” session.

The Pediatric Imaging Council continues to participate in the ACR Appropriateness and Performance Guidelines. Drs. Lisa States, Susan Sharp and Stephanie Spottswood are representatives from the Pediatric Imaging Council for the evaluation of skeletal imaging and Drs. Binkovitz and Spottswood are representatives for gastrointestinal imaging. Several members have also been selected for participation in the new SNM guidelines for DMSA imaging, MAG-3 renogram imaging, skeletal imaging, and Meckel’s diverticulum imaging.

The Council is working toward establishing two special awards, the Majd-Gilday Young Investigator Award, and the Conway-Treves Senior Investigator Award, to recognize these four pioneers who have made enormous scientific contributions to our subspecialty of pediatric nuclear medicine. The Majd-Gilday Young Investigator Award will be given to young scientists and physician-scientists for outstanding research contributions to the field of pediatric nuclear medicine. The Conway-Treves Senior Investigator Award will be given to senior scientists and physician-scientists who have contributed greatly to our subspecialty of pediatric nuclear medicine as a scientist, teacher, mentor and leader, or who have contributed substantially to the work of the Society of Nuclear Medicine or the SNM Pediatric Imaging Council. The Young Investigator Award is a monetary award, and funding will be provided by the PIC budget. The Senior Investigator Award will receive a plaque only.

The Council has voted to add a Vice president position to its governing Board. The specific responsibilities of the Vice President are provided in the revised bylaws.

**Looking Forward**

The pediatric radionuclide dosing recommendations will be expanded to include lesser used tracers and CT parameters.
We hope to present a Young Investigator Award annually and a senior investigator award every other year, as determined by the Awards committee.

One of our challenges for the future is to improve communication amongst our members and with the greater NM and Molecular Imaging community. Efforts in this regard have begun with the circulation of our first newsletter in the fall of 2011, which we hope to publish bi-annually, to keep members abreast of new developments. A spring 2012 newsletter has also been produced. Dr. Larry Binkovitz is the current newsletter editor. The fall newsletter is currently available on the PIC website, and future newsletters will be available there, as well. The SNM PIC website is expected to serve as an additional communication tool, as it will be the reference site for PIC Board and Business Meeting minutes and announcements for upcoming activities.

A second initiative is to improve educational content for Council members and other interested parties. Efforts are underway to upgrade our Council webpage on the SNM website. We have requested a “quick link” from the SNM homepage (www.snm.org) to the PIC webpage, to allow for easy access. (Current access is via the SNM homepage → About SNM → Councils → Pediatric Imaging Council). We have begun to upload a reference library of educational articles from the medical literature on pediatric NM topics, and we plan to add interesting and challenging clinical cases, and a pediatric teaching file. There is also a link to Image Gently, where readers can learn about dose reduction in pediatric imaging. The Council plans to merge the activities of the pednucmed.org website with the pediatric NM list-server in the near future, and eventually consolidate these activities into the SNM PIC website.

A third initiative is to re-organize the Council such that its activities and decisions become more inclusive. Efforts to this end include 1) recruiting Council members to volunteer for one of the 7 standing committees that currently have no active members, 2) establishing a third officer (Vice President) to chair some of the committees which currently have no leadership, and to take responsibility of some of the operations of the Council.

Finally, through the e-community portal, we hope to be able to better communicate amongst ourselves, as well as with our non-member colleagues in the international pediatric NM community. Our hope is that the e-community will provide a forum for posting questions about protocols, imaging problems and challenging cases, much like what was achieved with the forums in pednucmed.org and the pediatric NM list-server.
Officers of the Council

President: Stephanie Spottswood
Secretary-Treasurer: Susan Sharp
Immediate Past President: Larry Binkovitz

Board of Directors: All Council Officers
Daniel Levin, M.D.
Gerald Mandell, M.D.
Susan E. Sharp, M.D.
Nanci Burchell, C.N.M.T.

Ex-Officio Members:
Sabah Servaes (Intern) (non-voting)
Michael Gelfand, MD (Past President I)
Meg Parisi, MD (Past President II)
Helen Nadel, MD
Ted Treves, MD
Massoud Majd, MD

Mission

1. Provide a forum for members to exchange ideas, concepts, techniques and practices related to pediatric nuclear medicine
2. Provide expertise in pediatric nuclear medicine to SNM membership
3. Foster research and education in pediatric nuclear medicine
4. Provide outreach to other professionals and organizations
5. Encourage SNM membership and Pediatric Imaging Council membership in the Pediatric nuclear medicine community
6. Serve as a resource to the SNM leadership