Activities and Accomplishments

2012 was an exciting and productive year for the Council. The Council has continued its efforts in pediatric dose reduction, with planning meetings held in April at the SPR annual meeting in San Francisco, in June at the SNMMI annual meeting in Miami Beach, and in October at a collaborative meeting at the EANM in Milan, with members of the EANM Pediatric Committee. A major goal of the 2011/2012 dose reduction campaign (conducted jointly with Image Gently) was 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 U.S. children’s hospitals and yield high quality images. The current goals are to evaluate the effectiveness of the dose reduction campaign, to target additional radiopharmaceuticals for potential dose reduction, and to collaborate with the EANM’s pediatric dose reduction guidelines. The EANM meeting resulted in the formation of a working group from both societies to attempt to harmonize the EANM guidelines of 2006 and 2008 with the North American guidelines of 2011. Future efforts for both groups will likely be directed at dose reduction in SPECT/CT and PET/CT.

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 2012 SNMMI Annual Meeting, with 4 CME sessions. The continuing education sessions included the popular RWE session, a session on neurologic and musculoskeletal applications in pediatric hybrid imaging, novel tracers and new imaging strategies and treatment options in pediatric oncology, and radiotherapy applications for neuroblastoma – including a lively “point-counterpoint” discussion of low dose versus high dose I-131 MIBG radiotherapy.

Dr. Treves, of the Pediatric Imaging Council, participated in the Dose Reduction in Pediatric Nuclear Medicine session sponsored by the MIRD.

The Pediatric Imaging Council’s educational program for 2013 will include 3 CME sessions, and a full day Categorical Course. We plan some exciting new information on Body/PET MR, MSK and oncologic SPECT/CT, CT dose reduction strategies for SPECT/CT and PET/CT, F-18 dose optimization, amino acid PET/CT for brain neoplasms and congenital hyperinsulinism, F-18 FLT PET for brain tumors, I-124 MIBG pre-therapy PET/CT imaging and dosimetry, technical troubleshooting in pediatric NM, molecular imaging applications in pediatrics, as well as our annual, very popular Read with the Experts session.

During the 2012 Annual Meeting, the Council recognized four pioneers in pediatric nuclear medicine, establishing the Majd-Gilday Young Investigator Award and the Conway-Treves Senior
Investigator Award -- in their honor. Drs. Massoud Majd, David Gilday, James Conway, and Ted Treves were presented with commemorative plaques in a Council award ceremony. This year at the SNMMI Annual Meeting in Vancouver, BC, Canada, the Council will be awarding the first Majd-Gilday Young Investigator Award to Srikala Narayanan MD, for their abstract entitled, “Feasibility and Potential Clinical Applications of Co-Registered MR and 18F-FDG PET Fusion Imaging in Pediatric Oncology”.

The Pediatric Imaging Council members continue to participate in the ACR Appropriateness and Performance Guidelines. Drs. Spottswood, States and Parisi are liaison members of the SPR’s Nuclear Medicine Committee, and as such, developed a successful spring SPR pediatric NM session: “Dose Reduction Strategies in Pediatric Nuclear Medicine: An Update”.

**Looking Forward**

The pediatric radiopharmaceutical dosing recommendations will be expanded to include lesser used tracers and possibly CT, SPECT/CT and PET/CT parameters.

In an effort to maintain awareness of Council activities, the Council plans to continue production of a newsletter – annually or bi-annually.

The 2013 Board of Directors elections ended on May 6, the Council elected a Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and two Board members, all of the newly elected officers will begin their terms after the SNMMI Annual Meeting.

Efforts are still underway to upgrade our Council webpage on the SNMMI website. We have requested a “quick link” from the SNMMI homepage (www.snm.org) to the PIC webpage, to allow for easy access. (Current access is via the SNMMI homepage → About SNMMI → Councils → Pediatric Imaging Council). We have uploaded 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 SNMMI PIC website.

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, MD, MSPH
Vice-President: Susan Sharp, MD
Secretary-Treasurer: Elizabeth Hingsbergen, MD
Immediate Past President: Larry Binkovitz, MD

Board of Directors: All Council Officers
Zvi Bar-Sever, MD
Ruth Lim, MD
Nanci Burchell, CNMT

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 SNMMI membership
3. Foster research and education in pediatric nuclear medicine
4. Provide outreach to other professionals and organizations
5. Encourage SNMMI membership and Pediatric Imaging Council membership in the Pediatric nuclear medicine community
6. Serve as a resource to the SNMMI leadership