

## **SNMMI Government Relations Committee Meeting**

Mid-Winter Meeting, San Antonio, TX  
Friday, January 23, 2015; 3:30-5:00pm CT

### **Minutes**

**Attendees:** Dr. Munir Ghesani (Chair), Dr. Ethan Balkin, Michele Panichi-Egberts, Dr. Alan Packard, Dr. Michael Graham, Dr. Fred Fahey, Dr. Janis O'Malley, Dr. Warren Janowitz, Dr. KG Bennett, Dr. Erica Cohen, Ruth Tesar, Dr. Henry VanBrocklin, Dr. Peter Herscovitch, Dr. Ben Franc, Terri Wilson (MITA), Michael Guastella (CORAR), Rilla Hamilton (NNSA), Randy Howell (NNSA), Su Bunning (SNMMI) Jesse Schoolnik (SNMMI), Caitlin Kubler (SNMMI), Kendall Horvath (SNMMI)

#### **1. Open Meeting**

Chairman Ghesani opened the meeting at 3:31. A quorum was established and both the agenda and minutes were approved.

#### **2. Current State of Molybdenum Availability in the US**

Rilla Hamilton, from the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) discussed the current state of Mo-99 availability in the U.S. The American Medical Isotope Production Act (S. 99) created partnerships with commercial entities to accelerate non-HEU production specifically Northstar and Shine. Since June, the NNSA has added \$5.3 million to Northstar and \$3.3 million more to Shine. There has been discussion of Department of Energy backed loans to new U.S. based producers of Mo-99. Northstar has an active application and production could begin in the 2016 timeframe. Shine could be active in the 2018 timeframe.

#### **3. Coding & Reimbursement/APC Task Force Update**

The APC Task Force has reviewed the numbers on how CMS should divide the current APCs and what the best options are. The Task Force will have a call next week to discuss next steps. Hopefully, CMS is receptive of our proposal.

#### **4. Third Party Payer Subcommittee**

The subcommittee has been responding to comments and submitting letters as needed. We are keeping an eye on the conversion to HEU and how to get third party payers to be more receptive. We are hoping to create a section for Q&A submissions on the website, possibly as part of coding corner. We are also charged with working on the toolkits, though it is currently on hold as we work on clinical support tools.

#### **5. Advocacy Committee Update**

The CRCPD has been active. We have reached out to the Organization of Agreement States this year for the first time. The Joint Commission proposed standards were released and SNMMI have held calls and submitted comments.

## **6. FDA Task Force**

SNMMI held an FDA stakeholder meeting in the fall to facilitate the approval of new radiopharmaceuticals and their great potential to sustain the field of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging, and more importantly, to translate these agents' promise to clinical care. The meeting brought together representatives of academic medicine, industry, government agencies, and professional societies.

## **7. NRC Update**

### **a. Part 20 & 35**

SNMMI submitted comment to the NRC in the fall regarding both Part 20 & 35. Part 35 contained updates for the medical use of byproduct material, specifically, medical event definitions, training and experience, and clarifying amendments. Part 20 addressed radiation protection regulations.

## **8. Compounding Task Force**

SNMMI has met with the FDA and they have been receptive. We have also submitted comment letters. We remain concerned about the ability to transport across state lines. We have worked with CORAR and others.

## **9. ACNM Government Relations Committee Update**

The ACNM Government Relations Committee was created to be a better connection between ACNM and this committee. Currently, they are focusing on a hodgepodge of issues. They are working on increasing nuclear medicine's voice at the American Medical Association.

## **10. Discuss Priorities & Strategic Plan for 2015**

Funding is a priority, but we must continue to look for area where it can be obtained. SNMMI is the only organization that will fight to secure funding.

## **11. Close Meeting**

Chairman Ghesani closed the meeting at 5:01.