

## SOCIETY OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE'S 49TH ANNUAL MEETING

The 49th SNM Annual Meeting, which was held June 15 through 19 in Los Angeles, California, attracted more than 3,500 attendees, who took advantage of the educational programs and the exhibitions. The latest in nuclear medicine equipment, products, and services from 156 companies was displayed in 61,100 square feet of exhibits.

This year, the theme for the technologist educational sessions was "Discover the Future."

### Keech Becomes SNM-TS President

Frances Keech, MBA, RT(N), assumed the presidency of the Technologist Section at the SNM-TS business meeting in Los Angeles. Keech has been an active member of the Society since she joined in 1986, shortly after coming to the United States. She has served as president of the New England Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine, Technologist Section, as well as on numerous Society and TS committees. Most recently, she has served on the Government Relations and Coding and Reimbursement committees, as well as on the Advance Practice and Education and Development Fund taskforces, and as chair of the Scope of Practice and Entry Level for Nuclear Medicine Technologists taskforces.

### JNMT Authors Honored for Outstanding Papers

Three outstanding papers were chosen from papers published in the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology* during 2001. Abdelhamid A. Elkamhawy and Harish Chandna were awarded first place for "Minimum Detectable Defect Thickness in SPECT-Myocardial Perfusion Test: Phantom Study with  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$  and  $^{201}\text{Tl}$ " (2001;29:183–188). The second place paper was

" $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -DMSA Absolute Uptake: Normal Pediatric Values at 2–4 Hours" by Rachael Moorin (2001;29:22–29). Michael T. Hackett, Wei-Jen Shih, and Vickie H. Kiefer won third place for "Brain SPECT Artifacts in Patients Having Metallic Cranioplasty" (2001;29:189–192). The authors of the first place paper received \$500 in addition to the plaque given to each of the three award winners.

### New SNM-TS Fellows Inducted

Valerie Cronin and April Mann were awarded Technologist Section fellowships at the SNM-TS Council meeting in June. The SNM-TS gives a fellow status in recognition of a member's participation in professional and civic activities, education, and professional experience and contributions.

## TECHNOLOGIST SECTION AWARDS

### Scientific Paper

#### First Place: (\$500 and plaque)

*Potential for Achieving Higher Quality PET Scans by Selecting Injected Dose of FDG Based Body Size*  
P.A. Clarke

#### Second Place: (\$300 and plaque)

*Biodistribution and Imaging of  $^{18}\text{F}$ FDG in RNU Rats with LS174T Carcinoma and E. coli Infection*  
P.J. Kok

#### Third Place: (\$200 and plaque)

*Occupancy of Dopamine D2 Receptors by the Atypical Antipsychotic Drugs Risperidone and Olanzapine: An  $^{123}\text{I}$ -IBZM SPECT Study*  
Elizabeth Hackett

### Scientific Poster

#### First Place: (\$200 and plaque)

*A Critical Appraisal of the Utility of Pinhole Imaging of the Foot and Ankle*  
C. Frater

#### Second Place: (\$150 and plaque)

*Study of the Stability and Plastic Syringe Adsorption of  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -Sestamibi and  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -Tetrofosmin of Pulmonary CT Angiography in a Tertiary Care Medical Center*

K.T. Cheng, J. Yu, K.M. Spicer

#### Third Place: (\$100 and plaque)

*Changes in Ventilation Perfusion Scan Trends Following the Introduction*

M.J. Gregory, A. Daftary, and J. Seibyl

### Abstracts

#### First Place (Oral Presentation)

*Potential for Achieving Higher Quality PET Scans by Selecting Injected Dose of FDG Based on Body Size*  
P.A. Clarke

#### Second Place (Oral Presentation)

*Biodistribution and Imaging of  $^{18}\text{F}$ FDG in RNU Rats with LS174T Carcinoma and E. Coli Infection*  
P.J. Kok

### Student Awards

#### First Place (Oral Presentation)

*Interruption of Breast Feeding After Administration of  $^{123}\text{I}$*   
A.C. Kamuf

#### Second Place (Oral Presentation)

*Comparison of Myocardial Activity with One- and Three-Hour Delays Between Rest and Stress*  
K.M. Gelbert

### Brain Imaging Council Awards

#### First Place (Oral Presentation)

*Occupancy of Dopamine D2 Receptors by the Atypical Antipsychotic Drugs Risperidone and Olanzapine: An  $^{123}\text{I}$ -IBZM SPECT Study*  
Elizabeth Hackett

#### Second Place (Oral Presentation)

*Evaluation of Scatter Correction Using a Striatal Phantom for Quantitative Brain SPECT Imaging*  
Doug Vine

**Third Place (Poster)**

*Evaluation of Test—Retest Variability of SPECT with <sup>123</sup>I Altropane*

Sandy Barrow

**Cardiovascular Imaging Council Awards—Scientific Paper**

**First Place: (\$200 and certificate)**

*Effect of Arm Positioning on Rest/Stress SPECT Myocardial Perfusion Imaging*

S.J. Kelly, P. Farago, S. Dorbala, and A. Lorusso

**Second Place: (\$150 and certificate)**

*Analysis of Gated SPECT Blood-Pool Imaging to Evaluate Function and Volume of the Right Ventricle*

T.P. Owens, I.P. Clements, and B.P. Mullan

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#### **PUBLIC AFFAIRS UPDATE**

##### **CARE Bill Update**

As of the summer deadline for this publication, we had 54 co-sponsors on H.R. 1011, the Consumer Assurance of Radiologic Excellence (CARE) bill.

Senator Kennedy did not introduce the bill to the Senate before the July 4<sup>th</sup> recess. We remain confident that he will still do so soon.

##### **State Licensure**

Arizona enacted nuclear medicine technologist licensure. As enacted and signed by the governor, HB 2042:

- Requires nuclear medicine technologists to be licensed in Arizona, beginning January 1, 2004.
- Adds one nuclear medicine technologist to the Medical Radiologic Board of Examiners.
- Requires the Board to adopt rules for the certification, minimum education and training for nuclear medicine technologists.
- Requires the Board to adopt rules requiring 24 h of continuing education every 2 y for nuclear medicine technologists. The Board may require documentation of the continuing education for license renewal after August 1, 2004.

In the Spring/Summer 2002 issue of *UPTAKE*, we described the Iowa Department of Public Health's amendment to state regulations that allows the establishment of on-the-job-training (OJT) programs in nuclear medicine technology. We want to clarify that individuals who are certified under the program are only certified in the state of Iowa—the

certification is not nationally recognized.

### **NRC Proposes \$3000 Fine**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has proposed a fine of \$3000 against Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, for an incident in which a medical technology student was given <sup>99m</sup>Tc without approval by an authorized physician as required by NRC regulations.

The student was given a quantity of <sup>99m</sup>Tc that is normally given to patients for diagnostic studies, and no adverse effects resulted. The NRC also cited the hospital for its radiation officer's failure to conduct an adequate investigation after the incident.

In a letter to the hospital's regional president, Fredrick W. Slunecka, NRC Regional Administrator Ellis W. Merschhoff emphasized the intentional nature of the violation and the importance of prompt corrective action for violations of this type and significance.

The violation has been categorized as a Severity level III violation, which carries a civil penalty of \$3000. The NRC uses a 4-level scale to rate the seriousness of violations, with Severity level I being the most serious. The violation for failing to conduct an adequate investigation has been catego-

rized as Severity level intravenous, which has no civil penalty.

—William Uffelman, SNM Director of Public Affairs and General Counsel

### **VOICE BOX**

#### **2002–2003 Continuing Education Chair**

Kristen Waterstram-Rich has been appointed the 2002–2003 Chair of the Continuing Education Committee.

#### **Changes to VOICE Guidelines**

The Continuing Education Committee and National Council approved the following changes to the VOICE Guidelines at the Annual Meeting in June.

#### **Section III - B Audiovisual Program**

- The composition of the audiovisual program has been expanded to include CD-Roms and Web-based instructional activities.

#### **Section IV—H Activities not eligible for CE Credit**

- Reading of scientific papers

#### **Section V - Transcripts**

- Are available to SNM-TS members online. Transcripts are no longer mailed from the SNM headquarters office.

### **Section VI - B Application Processing Fees for Approval of CE Programs**

- The fee for SNM chapters will be raised by \$10.00, from \$25.00 to \$35.00.
- The fee for commercial companies will increase by \$25.00, from \$100.00 to \$125.00.

### **Section VII - A - 2 Responsibilities of Sponsoring Organizations or Applicants**

- Applications should be submitted at least 4 wk in advance of the activity.
- Applications received less than 2 wk before the activity may not be evaluated for approval or, if approved, may not receive credit reporting forms until after the meeting is over.

### **Section VII - A - 3**

- Verification of attendee participation (registration list) must be typewritten.

Please contact me at (703) 708-9000, ext. 1210 or [jjordan@snm.org](mailto:jjordan@snm.org) if you have any questions about the changes.

—Jannine Jordan, Continuing Education Manager



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