



W A R M T H

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF RADIOPHARMACEUTICAL & MOLECULAR THERAPY

Registration No: S/84634 • Registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1960 in New Delhi, India

www.warmth.org

1st July 2014

To: All Members of WARMTH

Dear Friends of WARMTH,

The first six months of the year have flown past, with numerous WARMTH activities being organized and attended by members from all over the world. The year started off with our participation in the Indian Science Congress in Jammu, India in February.

One of the Nuclear Oncology Council [NOC] CME sessions at the SNMMI Mid-Winter meeting (MWM) in Palm Springs, CA in February, was also convened with the co-sponsorship of WARMTH. This is planned as an ongoing annual event (the proposal for a CME session at the 2015-MWM has already been prepared and was sent to the Scientific Program Committee for consideration). Within the May 2014 NOC newsletter that was distributed and made widely available to the nuclear medicine community, a detailed article on WARMTH was included for the first time. The URL of this newsletter was recently provided to all the WARMTH members for their information.

Many members also participated in the 3rd Balkan Congress of Nuclear Medicine, which was held in Bucharest on 23rd-26th April 2014, convened by Prof Raluca Mititelu. We also subsidized the oral and poster awards at this meeting, which managed to garner more memberships to WARMTH.

A meeting on "The Future of Nuclear Medicine and Diagnostic Imaging" was held in Vienna at the IAEA on May 5th to 9th, 2014. Representatives from all major Nuclear Medicine and Radiology organizations attended, including myself representing WARMTH. Over the week presentations were made and discussions were held on the strategic directions of Nuclear Medicine, and key highlights identified were the emergence of new diagnostic tracers, the increasing role of hybrid imaging, the opportunities for expanding Nuclear Medicine techniques to all countries, and the increasingly important role of therapy in Nuclear Medicine practice. These discussions will be used to formulate plans for IAEA programs over the next 4 years.

At the SNMMI meeting in St. Louis beginning of June 2014, Suresh Srivastava informed about his commitment for WARMTH to continue active collaboration with SNMMI through the Nuclear Oncology Council. He persuaded and convinced the NOC Board of Directors (BOD) to submit a proposal to the Committee on Councils of the SNMMI to create a continuing seat for a WARMTH representative on the NOC BOD. This might initially be a non-voting position that could eventually progress into a permanent seat in the NOC Governing Body.

The World Journal of Nuclear Medicine continues to evolve under the supervision of our new editor-in-chief, John Buscombe. After sifting through the submitted articles and case studies in the repository, of which there were over a hundred, there has been enough material to fill 3 issues in the next 12 months, with the abstracts of the 9th ICRT and 11th WFNMB Congress also to be published in this journal. In addition, since 1st January 2014, 43 papers have been submitted. All have been reviewed

Governing Body (2013-2014)

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Dr Shazia Fatima (Pakistan)
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Dr Knut Liepe (Germany)
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within 6 weeks of submission, most within 4 weeks, with an acceptance rate of 40%. By the end of 2014 if authors can return proofs in reasonable time, it is hoped that the backlog can be cleared and have submission to publication time to a maximum of 9 months, similar to other nuclear medicine journals. This is a tireless job, and we thank John and his editorial board for their hard work in getting this in order. The journal will also take a new direction and be a joint journal of WARMTH and WFNMB, which will also share the production cost of the journal.

I am pleased to inform you that in the time since the WARMTH meeting in Manila we have made significant progress on our web presence. As many of you know when Dr. Ajit Padhy our executive director passed away suddenly we were left without access to modify our website at warmtholth.org. We now have a new website and web address, courtesy of the hard work by Josh Mailman, Chair of patient advocacy advisory board for the SNMMI and our very own Patient Advocate. The website can now be found on www.warmth.org. Josh has also installed a content management system which will allow us to manage and add new information on our website easily, and allow usage on portable devices as well. He has also moved all the articles and information from our previous website and added a depository of documents and presentations. And finally, added a management application which will assist our Secretariat in their management of new and membership renewals, event registration and management as well as membership communication. Most importantly, it will also allow us to accept online payments as well. By the end of July you will receive an email with a username and password to update your member profile if you wish. Josh has done all this voluntarily, and on behalf of WARMTH, I sincerely thank him tremendously.

In the background, there has been ongoing establishment of the Permanent Secretariat with Ms Ee Sia Tan and Ms Shirley Tay in charge, under the direction of GB members - Emie, Partha and Sze Ting. They can now be contacted at warmth.secretariat@gmail.com

Under the auspicious of WARMTH THERANOSTICS Academy/School ("targeted training for targeted therapy"), we are in the process of developing online lectures on radionuclide therapy: Science & Practice. The main goal of this academy will be to provide high quality educational material and working protocols for individuals and departments with limited or no experience to practice radionuclide therapy service. The course will be designed for physicians and technologists, who work in nuclear medicine. A first outline was drafted by Gnanasegaran Gopinath. The proposal is to have 3 modules (a) Physics & Radiation Protection (b) Radiopharmacy and (c) Clinical. The governing body members of WARMTH will contribute to the lectures and the invitations to the governing body members will be sent out shortly. The production of this series will be supervised by Prof. Dr. Kees Hoefnagel and we hope to complete them by mid 2015. At the end of each lecture the WARMTH members will have the possibility to evaluate their knowledge in radionuclide therapy (via a multiple choice and or practical test questions). The format will be finalized after discussion with the members in Cancun, Mexico at the WFNMB meeting. Further, there will be opportunities for clinical attachment to Centers of Excellence in Radiotheranostics (i.e.,



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practical training) and the possibility of accreditation for the learner's online or a combination of offline/online achievements/certification etc.

The next major event on the horizon is the ICRT 2014, which will be held in Cancun, Mexico on the 27th August 2014, in conjunction with the 11th WFNMB Congress. There will be a full day of international experts on current and cutting edge research methodologies and results, including an update on Ajit's 'pet' project – Re-188 Liver Therapy. In Ajit's spirit, we have continued our tradition of granting 'lump sum' attendance grants, which was taken up by suitable awardees with abstracts accepted to be presented at the WFNMB Congress. We will also have our next Governing Body meeting with attending members at that meeting, and also aim to sign up members to WARMTH at this meeting as well.

In memoriam of Ajit Padhy's first death anniversary (which is on August 22, 2014) we plan to prepare a video. I therefore ask all members for images to be sent together with comments to Patricia Bernal who kindly has agreed to prepare the video which will be shown during the candle light ceremony at the 9th ICRT in Cancun and during the breaks. I also would like to suggest to establish a "WALL Of REMEMBRANCE" in front of the conference site where all members can place personal photos, memorabilia etc. This wall will be re-established at each year's ICRT to honor Ajit Padhy and his visionary life and engagement for WARMTH.

The next stand-alone ICRT will be held in Innsbruck, Austria from 4th to 8th May 2015. The 2015 Congress President is Prof Irene Virgolini, and she has already established a very experienced scientific committee which promises to have a very robust program from local and international experts.

At the recent SNMMI Annual Scientific Meeting, we had very productive meetings with international organizations – including the Nuclear Oncology Council of the SNMMI, World Federation of Nuclear Medicine & Biology, Asia-Oceania Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology. We look forward to integrated growth of nuclear medicine and we will remain the peak body for radionuclide therapy globally.

So, in this time of change within WARMTH, I would like to thank each and every member for their patience and continued participation in our organisation. I look forward to seeing you in the near future.

Kindest Regards,

Prof Richard Baum
President, WARMTH