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DEAR ISRRT MEMBERS,

The world is now open again after the pandemic. Our profession has contributed a lot during the past three years for the quality of work we provided to our patients globally. I do hope all of you will continue the good work for our profession and the imaging and therapy services we provide.

My Board you elected during the last world congress in Bangkok had our strategic meeting in Prague, Czech Republic March 23-24, 2023. Key focused areas during the meeting include the plan for the workshop in Africa, global voice of the profession at various representative meetings with WHO, IAEA and other radiology related professional organization and the establishment of academic wing of ISRRT, the International Academic Network (IAN). We are also pleased to inform the members that ISRRT signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Siemens Healthineers. Partnership with industry, through both parties’ network, will bring in additional activities that can reach out more to our members, creating opportunities for educational and social activities.

We had a successful ISRRT meets India session at European Congress of Radiology (ECR). Special thanks to our member, the Indian Society of Radiographers and Technologists (ISR). ISRRT also had fruitful meeting with the European Society of Radiology (ESR) including an agreement to expand our session at with aim to bring in international perspectives of the international radiographer groups. During the ECR, ISRRT renewed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the European Federation of Radiographer Societies (EFRS). ISRRT will continue our close collaboration with the EFRS in all aspects of education, professional practice, and representation of our profession.

I also represented ISRRT at the International Congress of Radiology (ICR) hosted by the International Society of Radiology (ISR) in Hurghada, Egypt during March 15-17,
2023. I presented on behalf of the radiographers on the implementation of the guidelines on discontinuation of gonad shielding. At ISRRT and ISR leadership meeting, we agreed to expand our collaboration in the areas where radiographers and radiologists work as a team.

I do believe that my term will be exciting as I promise to bring you new perspectives and activities run by the ISRRT. I am looking forward to meeting you in your countries, as we can travel again.

Napapong Pongnapang
ISRRT President
DEAR COLLEAGUE,

After a very successful ISRRT World congress in Bangkok, in December 2022, the new ISRRT Board was elected through a smooth, transparent and democratic procedure. The transition was easy and the new Board members were introduced to their new duties and responsibilities by the previously elected Board position holders.

The new President Dr Napapong Pongnapang began planning for a board meeting with the support and help of the Consultant CEO, and the Treasurer.

A very successful Board meeting took place at the end of March 2023 in Prague, Czech Republic. Interestingly enough, this was the second ISRRT Board meeting in Prague, the previous one was in 2003 which was a strategic plan meeting. The location was chosen because Prague is inexpensive and is easily approachable by all Board members. On top of that, four members of the Board and the CEO are from Europe, and that has limited the travel costs.

The Board meeting agenda was demanding and full of interesting and important items. However, the president made it possible for the Board to discuss all the agenda items in a time frame and important decisions have been made, which will be communicated to the council members over the next period, by the Board.

As you already have been informed by the official ISRRT FB page, the preplanned world congress for 2024 has been moved from Denmark to Hong Kong June 6-9, 2024.

The change of venue/country was made after the Danish council informed the Board that during next year (i.e., 2024) they will have significant trade union negotiations with the Denmark government and that will absorb much of the energy and the forces of the Danish council.

The local (Hong Kong) organizing committee which was set up in a short time is very enthusiastic to organize the ISRRT Congress in Hong Kong city next year, and as I have seen by the very well organized and structured proposal they have submitted, it is going to be a fantastic Congress.

Thus, I encourage all you, to consider and plan your next participation to the ISRRT World congress in Hong Kong, in June 2024, and as many of you who have participated in previous ISRRT World congresses have to admit the ISRRT is something more than a society, it is a family for the Radiographers/RTs around the world.

Thus, stay tuned through ISRRT social media platform and the website, for more practical information to come.

Dimitris Katsifarakis
ISRRRT Consultant CEO
DEAR ALL,
I was re-elected at the last council meeting in Bangkok in December 2022 for a second and final term.
It is a great mark of trust that I appreciate at its fair value.
This congress was a success both from an organizational and educational point of view.
We will not forget as well the social program and especially the joy of meeting again after two years of a pandemic.

As treasurer, I am also satisfied, because this event presents a positive balance which will allow us to balance our 2023 budget and continue our actions in favor of radiographers, especially in developing countries.

As such, I will participate in the first workshop in Madagascar on May 11 and 12, where about 60 radiographers from this huge and poor country will meet for continuing training in pediatrics and radiation protection.

This event will also be sponsored by the French association AFPPE of which I am the vice president. The AFPPE has always been alongside the ISRRT since 1994 to help set up workshops and training in French-speaking Africa, Vietnam and Haiti.

On March 23 and 24, the new ISRRT Board of management had its first meeting face-to-face (we already had one online meeting in January). This was two days of intensive, and above all, very productive meetings which delighted both old and new members.

The President, the CEO and I had chosen Prague for its central position in Europe and especially for the organizational costs which were much lower than other European capitals.

The control of our expenses remains essential but above all, thanks to our dynamic new president Napapong Pongnapang, we are in the perspective of educational and financial partnerships with the industry in order to increase our revenues.

We will certainly have other online Board meetings in the coming months but we are all looking forward to seeing each other again at the next ISRRT World Congress which will take place in Hong Kong in June 2024.

As you know, Denmark has withdrawn and I would like to thank the whole team that was involved in this project. I would also like to congratulate the Hong Kong team, and in particular its leader Edward Chan, who has just joined us on our new Board.

Thank you for your commitment and I’m sure we made the right choice.

Philippe Gerson
ISRRT Treasurer
PARI RESEARCH GRANT 2022

PARI RESEARCH GRANT is a research grant program organized by the Indonesian Society of Radiographer (ISR/PARI) Central Board. In 2022, the Scientific Research and Publication Team conducted the PARI Research Grant with a predetermined schedule.

The activity started with the proposal submission phase from April 18 to May 28, 2022, proposal selection phase from June 1 to June 18, 2022, announcement of proposal selection on June 25, 2022, data collection and result compilation from July 1 to October 31, 2022, progress report from September 2 to 4, 2022, research results seminar from November 11 to 13, 2022, and research report submission from December 2 to 4, 2022.

After going through a rigorous selection process, PARI Research Grant 2022 successfully announced four winners who will receive research grant funding. They are:


- Nur’aini, S.ST, M.Si NIR. 3207092114231 with the research title “Lung Tumor Staging Determination on Thorax Ultrasound,”


We hope that PARI Research Grant 2022 can inspire Indonesian radiographers to conduct useful research for the development of the profession. We congratulate and wish success to the winners, and hope that the PARI Research Grant activities will continue in the coming years to support the improvement of radiography services in Indonesia.
THE RADIOGRAPHER CREDENTIALING WORKSHOP AND NATIONAL PARI MEETING

BATAM, INDONESIA
NOVEMBER 18-20, 2022
REPORT BY SUGIYANTO, HIDAYAT A SABARUDIN AND PUTU ADI SUSANTA
THE INDONESIAN SOCIETY OF RADIOGRAPHERS (ISR/PARI) held a National Radiographer Credentialing Workshop and National Working Meeting in Batam, Riau Islands, Indonesia on November 18-20, 2022. About 200 radiographers from all over Indonesia attended the three-day, two-night event. The purpose of this activity was to improve the quality and service in healthcare facilities and increase patient safety through the support of competent healthcare professionals.

Healthcare workers who directly interact with patients must maintain standards and competencies for patient safety. This is done to ensure that services are provided by truly competent healthcare workers. Competencies include knowledge, skills, and professional behavior. Republic of Indonesia Law No. 44 of 2009 concerning Hospitals, Article 16, mandates that the operation of radiology equipment must be carried out by competent personnel. Furthermore, this law also mandates that hospitals must make efforts to implement patient safety processes through the implementation of good clinical governance. Republic of Indonesia Law No. 36 of 2009 concerning Health also requires that every healthcare worker who provides services to patients must prioritize patient safety.

Healthcare workers who provide healthcare services to patients must have competencies according to their respective expertise. This is in accordance with the 2022 National Hospital Accreditation Standards, Patient Assessment (PP) Assessment Element 4.2, which states that other healthcare staff and testing staff, including those performing patient services, must be competent by meeting credentialing requirements.

This PP standard 4.2 refers to Staff Education Qualification Standards (KPS) 17 in the 2022 National Accreditation Standards. Hospitals establish a selection process to ensure that the knowledge and skills of clinical staff meet the needs and are within KPS 17 standards, where hospitals have an effective process for collecting, verifying, and evaluating the credentials of other Professional Care Providers (PPA) and other clinical staff (education, registration, permits, authority, training, and experience).

Batam was chosen as the location for the radiographer workshop and national working meeting because of its strategic location, situated on the border between Indonesia, Singapore, and Malaysia, making it easily accessible from various cities in Southeast Asia. This makes Batam an ideal location to hold a national working meeting involving national and international participants from various countries in Asia. Batam has adequate facilities such as many five-star hotels, restaurants, and conference centers equipped with modern facilities such as internet access, audiovisuals, and conference services. This makes Batam an ideal location to hold a national working meeting with many participants. Batam has free trade zone status, making it a center for trade and business in Indonesia. Batam has good infrastructure such as ports, international airports, and adequate road networks. This makes Batam easily accessible to national and international participants from various regions in Indonesia and abroad.

Batam is known as a safe and politically stable city, making it a safe place to hold a national working meeting with participants from various countries.

Additionally, Batam is the third largest industrial city in Indonesia.
after Jakarta and Surabaya, with a land area of 715 km² and consisting of three main islands: Batam Island, Rempang Island, and Galang Island. Located in the Riau Islands Province, south of Singapore and Johor, Malaysia, Batam is one of the centers of tourism development in Indonesia, with numerous hotels, restaurants, recreational facilities, spas, and beauty centers spread throughout the city.

Batam is also home to several interesting tourist attractions such as Nongsa Beach, Ocarina Waterpark, and the Great Mosque of Batam, which is the largest mosque in the city. Batam is known for its strategic industries, such as shipbuilding, petrochemicals, and electronics, making it one of the largest industrial centers in Southeast Asia.

The radiographer credentialing training program is conducted over three days.

DAY 1:
On the first day, participants register and attend the opening ceremony, followed by a technology update session and a coffee break before entering the effective communication session. This is followed by practical session 1 on effective communication through role-playing. Before dinner break, participants attend the credentialing instrument and practical session 2 on credentialing instrument preparation and credentialing planning.
DAY 2:
The second day is divided into two sessions, one for workshop participants and one for head of regional PARI. Workshop participants begin the day with a morning quiz, technology update, and competency assessment 1, followed by material 1 on the radiographer credentialing guidebook and practical session 2 on credentialing instrument preparation 1.

After that, participants attend material 3 on the radiographer credentialing guidebook 1. Before lunch break, participants attend practical session 3 on credentialing practices, including self-assessment, document verification, credentialing, recommendation, and report writing.

Finally, participants take post-test 1. Meanwhile, the regional head session starts at 8am with a national meeting and capacity building.

DAY 3:
The third day is filled with RTL session, closing ceremony, and checkout.
ISRRT ATTENDS IAEA CONSULTANCY MEETING TO DISCUSS PATIENT RADIATION SAFETY IN RECURRENT IMAGING

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
MARCH 6-8, 2023
REPORT BY HÅKON HJEMLY, ISRRT VP EUROPE AFRICA
THE ISRRT IS AN IMPORTANT STAKEHOLDER for the IAEA and are often invited to contribute with input to relevant policy publications. This is often done at multi-professional meetings at IAEA headquarters in Vienna. In 2019 and 2020 the ISRRT attended two technical meetings on the topic recurrent imaging (Recurrent Imaging) and joined a position statement (Joint Position Statement). Shortly after, a few professional organizations from the USA issued a Statement on Proper Use of Radiation Dose Metric Tracking for Patients Undergoing Medical Imaging Exams. These two statements expressed different positions regarding the use of patient exposure history, which was the motivation for the IAEA to call a meeting with all these organizations, to further discuss and foster dialog.

This IAEA Consultancy Meeting took place March 6-8th this year and the purpose of the event was to foster a common understanding for patient radiation safety in recurrent imaging and to produce a white paper on the topic. The motivation for this international white paper arose because of the lack of agreement among official organizations on the effect of cumulative radiation exposure, not only to bring on board organizations with opposing views, but to provide healthcare providers and patients information that can avoid fears. During the consultancy meeting it became clear that the disagreement was less than one could expect from different position statements recently published. Both medical imaging professionals and medical physicists acknowledge the benefit of medical imaging and recurrent imaging, the focus should be on the medically justified and informed use of medical radiation. When this short report is being written, the work with the IAEA white paper is still ongoing. Until the paper is finished and published, hopefully before end of 2023, details of the discussions and draft content must be treated with confidentiality. What I can say is that attending such meetings on behalf of the ISRRT and forwarding our positions and radiographers perspectives, is both very meaningful and important. It is also in the best interest of our patients that radiographers perspectives are taken into account when forming advice on radiography-relevant topics, our profession is in a key position when it comes to practical radiation protection, medical imaging justification and patient communication.

Not all invited organisations and experts could attend in person but attended online when possible.

The invited organisations and experts were:

Represented Organizations / representative:
- American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) - J. Daniel Bourland
- American College of Radiology (ACR) - Mahadevappa Mahesh
- European Federation of Organizations for Medical Physics (EFOMP) - Paddy Gilligan
- European Society of Radiology (ESR) - Franz Kainberger
- Heads of European Radiological Competent Authorities (HERCA) - Barbara Godthelp
- International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) - Kimberly Applegate
- Image Gently Alliance – Kimberly Applegate
- International Organization for Medical Physics (IOMP) - Mahadevappa Mahesh
- International Society of Radiology (ISR) - Franz Kainberger
- International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists (ISRRT) - Hakon Hjemly
- World Health Organization (WHO) - Emilie Van Deventer and Suz Schrandt (USA) from the WHO Patients for Patient Safety network

Invited experts:
- Donald Frush (USA) – Meeting Chair, Marco Brambilla (Italy), Ehsan Samei (USA), Madan Rehani (USA), Richard Wakeford (ICRP) (online), Andreas Valentin (Austria) - Austrian Society for Internal and General Intensive Care Medicine, Danielle Dahlstrom (Austria) – Senior communication advisor.

IAEA staff:
- Radiation Protection of Patients Unit (organizer): Jenia Vassileva (Scientific Secretary) and Vesna Gershon, Nuclear Medicine and Diagnostic Imaging Section, Division of Human Health – Diana Paez, Miriam Mikhail. Dosimetry and Medical Radiation Physics Section.

Meeting room during the individual presentations and discussions.
The Malaysian Society of Radiographers is working hard to make sure that all presenters, delegates, speakers, and strategic partners feel welcome at the 24th Asia-Australasia Conference of Radiological Technologists (AACRT 2023).

This conference will be held at the Borneo Convention Centre (see below) in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, from August 11–13, 2023, in conjunction with the 7th Southeast Asia Radiographers Conference (SEARC).

Honouring the past, treasuring the present and nurturing the future is the theme of our conference. The topic serves as a gentle reminder to us not to forget our history, where we are coming from, and how we started, to appreciate what we have today and to support the advancement of the next generation. The conference is represented by a logo that uses the same colours as the AACRT logo, with a hornbill representing Sarawak as our venue for the conference.

Why did we choose Sarawak as the location for our conference? We feel that everyone is familiar with the metropolis of Kuala Lumpur in Peninsular Malaysia, so we are presently bringing you to the Borneo region of Malaysia so you may experience our cultural diversity, learn about our ethnic group, and view the wildlife that we conserve. We are convinced that you will not change your mind about joining us, travelling to Sarawak, and attending this conference. It will be an amazing experience.


You can download the invitation letter from our website.

We have opened early bird registration for participants and delegates until May 31, 2023, after which the pricing will be the standard price. We provide information about transportation and lodging on our website. If you arrived at Peninsular Malaysia’s Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA). You should take a domestic aircraft to Kuching Sarawak on the island of Borneo in East Malaysia. We also
recommend Hotels for lodging in and around Kuching, Sarawak. We are presently accepting abstract submissions; for further information, please visit https://abstract.aacrt2023.com/. The deadline for abstract submission is May 1, 2023.

Above right is a summary of abstract submission data. We are still in negotiations with the index journal’s publisher to have them address our conference. As soon as we are certain, we will inform the presenters via social media and our website.

Why are you encouraged to attend the conference? The conference will be scientific and will feature presentations of new research, clinical practise, educational materials, new technologies provided by our strategic partners, and cultural events. There are additional opportunities for networking amongst participants, delegates, presenters, and strategic partners.

What exciting activities are available in Kuching, Sarawak? Sarawak is home to a variety of natural features and ethnic cultures. Our programme will teach you about the fascinating history of Sarawak. Assume that you have extra time. Then, you can prolong your stay to explore in the national parks of Mulu, Semenggoh, Santubong, Bako, Bengoh Range, Kubah, Kuching Wetlands, Kampung Panchor (Hot Springs), Fairy Cave and Wind Cave at Bau, Lambir Hills, Niah Caves, and Gunung Gading. Discover the Sarawak jungles. We advise you to visit Padawan since the jungle resembles the setting of...
Jurassic Park. That was highly recommended.

Dayak is currently the official term for the native ethnicity of Sarawakians. Iban, Hakka, Huchiu, Hokkien, Teochew, Malay, Bidayuh, Orang Ulu, and Melanau are among the most prominent ethnic groups in Sarawak. Sarawak Cultural Village and the Borneo Culture Museum are essential stops for anyone seeking to discover more about Sarawak culture. We will also perform their performance for the conference participants' enjoyment.

What is authentic and distinctive cuisine in Sarawak? Enjoy the traditional Sarawak delicacies of bamboo-cooked chicken, mee kolok, laksa Sarawak, and umai.

It would be ideal if you tried the well-known Sarawak cake and learned how to prepare it. You would be intrigued by the cakes due to their variety of flavours and designs. Also, you can carry home souvenirs for your family and medical colleagues.

Lastly, we hope that our recommendation of Sarawak's attractions encourages you to visit Kuching, Sarawak. We believe that with your participation in our conference, we will be able to be valuing one another and make our conference meaningful. Join us, radiographers, radiological technologists, medical physicists, and anyone else who believes they are qualified to attend this conference.

We await your arrival.
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Ambassadors of the Year

The WRETF is proud to acknowledge two exceptional Ambassadors. The Ambassador of the Year award is an honor bestowed upon Ambassadors who have made exceptional contributions to fulfilling the WRETF’s mission of fostering a global culture of volunteering to increase access to education in the science and practice of radiography and radiation therapy throughout the world. The WRETF extends its heartfelt appreciation for their dedicated service.

Stephen Samson Mkoloma, pictured right, hailing from Tanzania, is a true inspiration not only to the WRETF community but also to radiologic technologists across the globe. His insights and guidance are highly valued by the Ambassadors, and his unwavering commitment to our mission serves as a source of inspiration to all of us. Stephen is the director of the Educational Partnership. The program aims to foster collaboration among radiography and radiotherapy programs by encouraging participants to share online educational resources. By leveraging the collective expertise of the global community, Stephen’s initiative seeks to enhance learning and promote resource sharing.

Despite being a new member of the WRETF Ambassadors, Prakash Umbarkar, pictured right, from India has quickly proven to be an invaluable asset to the foundation. His passion for sharing educational content and his active involvement in the radiotherapy community are truly inspiring. Prakash’s collaboration with Peach Luna from the Philippines has been instrumental in the success of the foundation’s World Radiography Students’ Day, and the WRETF’s recently launched webinar series. His passion and dedication have been invaluable in making educational resources available to a global audience. With his unwavering commitment to our mission, Prakash is poised to continue his contributions to the success of the WRETF educational initiatives.

WRETF Launches its First Webinar Lecture Series

Peachy Luna, Prakash Umbarkar

The World Radiography Educational Trust Foundation (WRETF) has launched its first webinar series last January 23, 2022 that was attended by 125 educators, students and representatives from 13 countries in the European Region and international organizations from Australia, England, India, Kenya, the Philippines, Tanzania, the United Arab Emirates, and India.
Each webinar aims to provide the audience with an in-depth presentation focused on a specific topic or subject, showcasing expertise in Radiography, Radiation Therapy, Radiologic Imaging Modalities, Practice and Education.

This year, the WRETF Webinar Series was given a theme, “Instructional Skills in the Clinical Setting.” The first lecture focused on the “Dimensions of Clinical Instruction.” Guest Speaker Professor Subramanya K. Betageri is currently a professor and the clinical coordinator for Radiation Therapy Program at Health Sciences, Education, and Wellness Institute at Bellevue College, Bellevue, Washington State, USA. He is a board-certified radiation therapist who practiced in Jamaica, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Professor Betageri is one of the Trustees on the board for the World Radiography Trust Foundation.

The memorable launching of the project was followed by the comprehensive lecture of Professor Betageri and concluded with a live question-and-answer session, a celebration of the video and poster flyer, and the awarding of certificates to Speaker Betageri and all active participants. The one hour and a half program was successfully organized by the WRETF Ambassadors with Prakash Umbarkar and co-host Peachy Luna leading the webinar production. The highlights of the program included the official launch and announcement of the Webinar Series project by the WRETF Chair Christopher Steelman. “I am thankful to all the efforts of the WRETF Ambassadors, the support of all the Trustees and Weber State University for sponsoring the event” he said.

Christopher Steelman  
Chairman

News & Views

Editorial submissions & deadlines

Deadline for the three issues per year are:

- March 10 (April issue)
- July 10 (August issue)
- November 10 (December issue)

All material must be sent electronically. Advertisements and images must be sent as high resolution PDF, TIF, EPS, JPEG files.

You are invited to comment in relation to the ISRRT newsletter editorial content and make suggestions for future issues.

All comments will be considered by the Editor and the Editorial Committee.

Advertisements/Secretariat

A section is reserved for the advertising of educational programs, courses or new radiological texts.

To submit news or to advertise please contact:
ISRRT Consultant CEO:
Mr Dimitris Katsifarakis ceo@isrrt.org
Weber State Student Global Engagement Scholarship recipients announced

The ASRT Foundation Scholarship Review Committee has selected Chattanooga State Community College students Savannah Mathis, Lesley Akers and Dana Sloan as the recipients of the Weber State University School of Radiologic Sciences Student Global Engagement Scholarship.

The students travelled to Sydney, Australia, March 2-13, 2023. The scholarship awards $2,000 each to entry-level students participating in a study abroad program that is part of their radiologic technology education curriculum. The funds help offset costs such as airfare, housing and fees.

The Weber State University School of Radiologic Sciences, located in Utah, created the Student Global Engagement Scholarship to help provide students studying abroad unique academic and life experiences, enhancing the value of their education, building cultural competency and laying the foundation to become responsible world citizens.

ASRT Foundation names two additional Siemens Education Journey Award recipients

The ASRT Foundation has selected two additional recipients to receive the Siemens Healthineers Education Journey Award for 2022. ASRT members Michelle Physic, B.A., R.T.(T), and Seema Mislmani, M.B.A., C.R.A., B.S.R.T., R.T.(T), will attend the United Kingdom Imaging and Oncology annual Congress meeting this June in Liverpool, England. The program promotes peer-to-peer education and supports professional development in the radiologic technology and medical imaging communities.

Recipients will receive $4,000 each to attend the UKIO, which will cover the registration fee for the conference plus travel and lodging. The program has awarded more than $96,000 to recipients since the program started granting awards in 2016.

Donna Long
Council Member

EUROPE
FRANCE

A new year that started positively for the AFPPE (Association of Electroradiological Paramedical Personnel).

Like many societies around the world, AFPPE’s objectives for the radiographer profession are the following and will remain the same for 2023:

- Evolve our profession, and evolve with it.
- Train, be trained and informed.
- Generate exchanges between radiographers.

With regard to the first point, there are many ways for development, but there are also many difficulties. France is facing a significant shortage in the number of radiographers needed, since there is an increasing number of imaging and therapy units, but the number of students who will be the new professionals has not changed. This creates a shortage, which in particular hampers the development of advanced practices since the institutions do not want to degrade access to care, there is also a blockage by liberal radiologists who fear that through this development radiographers will seek to become independent.

Aside from this political aspect, for which AFPPE is continuing lengthy negotiations with the various stakeholders (Ministry, Radiology Doctors’ Associations), the profession is faced with a lack of attractiveness to young people at the time of their choice of orientation, like all the health professions.

In order to find a solution to this problem, a partnership has been set up between CNPMEM (national professional council of radiographers) and a Youtubers to create an immersive video to promote the profession. The result was the publication on January 22nd of a 34-minute video on the theme “a day with a radiographer” made in a hospital with diagnostic imaging units as well as therapy unit (CHU Poitiers). We are very happy with the final result of this collaboration which has already been viewed more than 90000 times and widely shared on social networks. The follow-up
in November with the renewed operation of “Radiographer’s week” where it will be this time students who will present their future profession!

As far as training and professional exchanges are concerned, the year 2023 is marked by the possibility of holding congresses without health restrictions. The 9th CT French speaking days were held in Lyon, January 28-29 with great success. This event brought together more than 700 radiographers as well as many partners who came together in a technical exhibition of more than 20 stands! The main topics discussed were optimisation of practices, new technologies and new career perspectives presented by high-quality speakers from all over France. In addition to the oral presentations, the participants had the opportunity to make many exchanges during the various breaks but also outside the congress center around delicious meals in the heart of the French capital of gastronomy.

After this successful event, AFPPE continues its training program with several national congresses:

- 62nd Scientific congress (including ultrasound and interventional radiology) on March 24-25
- 50th congress of the French Society of NeuroRadiology March 29-31
- 36th MRI Francophone Days, May 13-14
- Congress of the Women’s Imaging Society, June 1-3
- Managers Congress June 15-16
- 7th National Day of Radiotherapy radiographers on June 23

We hope for a great success for these days with the return of the professionals face to face without masks!

In order to diversify its training offer, AFPPE also invested in 2022 in a room adjacent to its head office, which has been completely renovated and equipped to accommodate about twenty people. This room has been rented for teaching in particular on radiation protection and magneto-vigilance but remains accessible to people outside the profession for private use.

This room was christened on 13 January 2023 and is now called the “Roger Husson Room” in honour of one of the former presidents of AFPPE who passed away last year. He has distinguished himself particularly since he has accompanied all the notable progress made by French radiographers, whether during his two terms of office or as a mentor to subsequent presidents (creation of the diploma authorising the practice, studies in three years, inclusion of studies within the university system, cooperation protocols opening the possibility of advanced practices in the future...). He has also always promoted international relations and it is thanks to him and the tireless investment of volunteers that this collaboration continues, particularly within the ISRRT.

This decision pays tribute to this exemplary radiographer in his investment for his pairs who remains a model for all and whose name will thus remain written in the history of the profession in France.

Benjamin THIRIAT,
Council member France

IRELAND

A snapshot of what is happening in Irish Radiography and Radiation Therapy

24th IIRRT Annual Conference

The IIRRT annual conference took place on Saturday November 5, 2022 at The Gibson Hotel, Point Square, Dublin. After a three-year hiatus, meeting again in person for an informative day of radiography/radiation therapy matters was a real pleasure.

As President, Jennifer Grehan, pictured above right, opened the event by welcoming all attendees and highlighting the increasingly important role of Continued Professional development (CPD) for both professions.

Launching “CPD with the IIRRT”

Jennifer spoke of the online lunchtime talks and webinars, alongside face-to-face study days currently on offer with the IIRRT as well as background work being undertaken to allow the website to host a library of past events alongside pre-recorded journal clubs in 2023. Modality specific “Special Interest Groups” were re-launched and those interested were encouraged to link in with other radiographers and radiation therapists with shared interests. The audience was made aware of a new collaboration between the IIRRT and the Institute of Guidance Counsellors to raise the profile of the professions with school leavers by having IIRRT representatives available to their 16 regional boards for talks and information.

The day consisted of keynote speakers, quality initiatives sessions, diagnostic imaging, and radiation therapy presentations. Academic medal presentations and poster prizes were acknowledged. The Olive
Fleming medal is an endorsement of Clinical Excellence and is awarded to a single graduating student in each course per year as nominated by clinical staff. Medals from 2021 and 2022 were awarded.

Posters submitted for the conference were of very high quality and challenged our judging panel. The winning poster was called “An investigation into dose optimisation and image quality using the 15% kVp for digital radiography” by Tudor Varga, Alan O’Brien and Michelle O’Connor, University Hospital Waterford.

New Irish Pregnancy Poster Resource

The IIRRT are constantly looking for opportunities to collaborate and create resources that can be used in departments. Most recently, the IIRRT worked with Fujifilm to produce a new binary-neutral pregnancy poster, right.

The posters are designed to reflect the diversity of the gender spectrum and respect the needs of all pregnant people. It consists of a variety of the main spoken languages used in departments.

Staffing crisis within the Radiation Therapist profession in Ireland

While it is clear that there are shortages of both diagnostic radiographers and radiation therapists internationally, currently there is an acute national shortage within the radiation therapist profession in the Republic of Ireland and this is impacting on the provision of radiotherapy services nationally.

Currently, radiation therapist staffing deficits across the public facilities is running between 15-30% and this figure is largely mirrored within private facilities. As a result, there has been forced machine closures in public facilities meaning that they are unable to provide 100% of the available radiotherapy capacity to public patients. This comes at a time where the demand for radiotherapy services is already greater than what a fully operating service can provide. The knock-on effect to these machine closures in an already overstretched system is that some cancer patients requiring radiotherapy have had to be placed on waiting lists and key performance indicators (KPI) targets which are aimed at ensuring patients receive timely access have fallen. Delays in access to cancer treatments may negatively impact a patient’s outcome.

Radiation Therapists in Beaumont Centre of SLRON, Dublin celebrating World Cancer Day

These staffing shortages also have a detrimental impact on staff’s health and well-being as those who remain struggle to maintain required levels of service under increasingly challenging conditions leading to increased instances of burnout, stress and work-related absences. This in turn further exacerbates the problem, leading to higher levels of staff turnover. Additionally, staffing shortages negatively impact service development which is particularly pertinent given the fast-paced technological advancements within the field of radiotherapy. All of this is of acute concern to both healthcare professionals and patients in Ireland and requires action.

The IIRRT will lead on conducting research to further investigate recruitment and retention issues in both radiation therapy and diagnostic radiography in Ireland over the coming months.
PORTUGAL

API MR collaborates on International Webinar

API MR acceded to the invitation of the Brazilian College of Pediatrics and actively participated in a webinar to talk about the concerns of patients in radiological examinations, from the perspective of the Portuguese Radiographers.

Likewise, the colleague Manuel Duarte Lobo, API MR board President, was invited to give a lecture on the subject: "What are the patient’s concerns about radiological exams?", followed by Dr. Donald Frush, of the Image Gently Alliance with a lecture "Dialogue to parents about ionizing radiation" and finally Dra. Kimberly Applegate of the IRCP with the theme "How can we minimize radiation risk to my child?"

The webinar had the theme "Risk communication and benefit of radiological examinations in pediatrics" and can be reviewed here:

Original: www.youtube.com/watch?v=eCcww-x7EWs&list=LL&index=2 (start at 10.30 min)

Portuguese Subtitles -BR: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ivvi60HEHOO& list=LL&index=1&t=2676s (start at 10.30 min)

The lecture was attended by members of the Radiological Protection Commission of the Brazilian College of Radiology, with members of Latin Safe, the Latin American Society of Pediatric Radiology, and the Brazilian Society of Pediatrics of Paraná.

This extended network of stakeholders gathered to discuss the theme of radiological protection of children, generated an interesting debate of ideas and exchange of inter-continental experiences, essential for our evolution and affirmation as a key profession in the theme.

API MR Collaborates in Latin Safe Course

API MR was invited to collaborate on a course promoted by Latin Safe Latin America. Latin Safe is an Alliance of several Latin American countries to promote good radiological protection practices. It is based in Colombia and consists of several renowned radiologists. Its objective is to bring all stakeholders in the radiology area closer to exchanging knowledge to reduce radiation doses in patients.

The course in which API MR was invited to collaborate is called "Curso de calidad, seguridad del paciente, humanización y gestión del riesgo en los servicios de imágenes diagnósticas en Latinoamérica". The basic language is English but with Portuguese and Spanish subtitles.

API MR contributed to the presentation of the: "Comunicando los beneficios y riesgos de la radiación a los pacientes" and can be viewed in: https://player.vimeo.com/video/756973955

All information on the website: www.latinsafe-edu.org/pt-br/Principal

API MR launches Densitometry course in partnership with Vitae Training

API MR, in partnership with Vitae training, launches the online course of Bone Densitometry, in an asynchronous format. It is a 12h course, certified by DGERT, with diploma and qualitative final evaluation.

The course, being in asynchronous format, is available for three months so that trainees can do it without hurry and at their pace, from the comfort of their homes. In addition, they have the possibility of doing certified training, with evaluation and duration, something highly valued in terms of professional curricula.

Lectures Cycle - API MR /NNE IMR

API MR collaborated with the National Nucleus of IMR Students and promoted a cycle of lectures via Zoom on topics of interest to both students and professionals.

These events were free of charge for associate members and was given a diploma of participation at the end of the event.

The first lecture was on January 3rd at 9:15pm, via Zoom, with the lecture "Radiation Dose Management – Practical Cases in a Hospital Center", given by Prof. Cláudia Machado. In this lecture, 250 participants were assigned.

The next lecture took place on January 14 at 16:30. The theme of this lecture was Radiation Risk Communication Strategies to Patients with professor Manuel Lobo. This lecture was attended by 140 participants.

On February 15th took place another lecture, this time with Professor Magda Cruz Ramos, who talked about the theme of Pediatric Radiotherapy.
AUSTRALASIA

AUSTRALIA
ASMIRT 2023 Conference

From April 27 to 30, ASMIRT will be hosting our national conference with the theme this year of “Champions of Change” at the Sydney International Conference Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney. At this conference we invite the presenters and delegates to honour the past by sharing previous learnings and knowledge and how they relate to our current practice, to embrace the present by networking, collaborating and reconnecting with their peers and others, and to shape the future by sharing their research, practice improvements and person centred care initiatives across the medical radiation professions. The conference has a number of invited speakers on a diverse range of topics with something for everyone. Registration is now open at https://conference.asmirt.org/2023/

Journal of Medical Radiation Science (JMRS)
JMRS was formed in 2013 by the merging of The Radiographer, the Journal of ASMIRT (formerly the Australian Institute of Radiography) and Shadow, the Journal of the New Zealand Institute of Medical Radiation Technology (NZIMRT). The journal accepts manuscripts related to medical imaging, radiation therapy, nuclear medicine, sonography and the complementary disciplines of medical physics, radiology, radiation oncology, nursing, psychology and sociology. MRS is a peer reviewed, international journal which is fully open access.

JMRS invites authors to submit articles for a special themed issue on Particle Therapy. To learn more about contributing to the Journal, please visit the website, www.jmrsjournal.com

AFRICA

MADAGASCAR

The Association of Paramedics on Medical Imaging (ANPIM) of Madagascar followed a training led by Geneva Foundation- ISRRT and WHO on "Communicating Radiation Risks in Pediatric Imaging“ and also to be accompanied by a long term mentorship on it in 2021. This training was a great opportunity to us to work on pediatric imaging field and to improve the gap on it in our country.

In Madagascar the pediatric population is not really considered as vulnerable in term of radiation and imaging procedures has no specific difference to the adult radiography. For all these reasons, the ANPIM thinks of organizing a workshop on Radiology and Radiation Safety in Children in collaboration with the ISRRT. It will be held May 11-12, 2023 at the training Institute IFIRP (Institut de Formation Inter-Regional des Paramedicaux) Antananarivo, Madagascar and will focus on “Radiography in children: Technique and Radiation safety”

The aim of the training is to help professional Radiographers all around the country to strengthen their skills on practice pediatric Radiography procedures but also improve their how know in pediatric Radiation safety culture.

Below is more detail information about the workshop:
Radio–pediatric and Radiation Safety in Children
May 11-12, 2023, Antananarivo, Madagascar

Purpose
The aim of the training is to contribute to the improvement of the safety of the examination and the safety of the patient during a pediatric examination procedure included in the 10 actions to improve the radiation protection of the Bonn Call for action of AFROSAFE and WHO.

Nordic Congress of Radiology and Radiography 24.-26.5.2023

WELCOME to the Nordic Congress of Radiology and Radiography 2023 – a joint 64th Nordic Congress of Radiology and 25th Nordic Congress of Radiography.
The objective of this training is to upgrade and strengthen the knowledge, skills and attitudes of Radiographers with regard to Radio-examination to help pediatric patients and their families make informed and active decisions.

Objectives

Upon completion of the training, participants should be able to:
- Apply information and practice the basic principles of a child’s X-ray and CT;
- Prepare a child and family for imaging;
- Inject contrast media for a child;
- Identify radiation doses and hazards in pediatric procedures;
- Improve Pediatric Imaging know-how and technical competence;
- Know the ethical considerations in imaging
- Appropriate use of radiation in pediatric imaging.
- Promote a culture of safety and security in radiological examinations to improve practices,
- Radiation Protection Laws in Madagascar

Training content

The training programme consists of 2 modules divided into 10 subsequent sessions.

**MODULE A: BASIC PRINCIPLES IN PEDIATRIC IMAGING**
- Session 1: Pediatric Exam Modality;
- Session 2: Injection of contrast agents for children;
- Session 3: Restraints in Pediatric Imaging;
- Session 4: Roles of Radiographers in Pediatric Imaging;
- Session 5: Exchange and Dialogue between ISRRT and ANPIM on Ethical Considerations in Pediatric Imaging

**MODULE B: RADIATION PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN**
- Session 1: Radiation doses and risks of pediatric procedures;
- Session 2: Proper Use of Radiation in Pediatric Imaging
- Session 3: Promoting a Culture of Radiation Safety to Improve Practice
- Session 4: Role of public health in the benefit-risk dialogue,
- Session 5: Exchange and Dialogue between ISRRT and ANPIM on Children’s Radiation Protection Laws

Razafindraharivelo Faratiana
ANPIM Treasurer

**TANZANIA**

- TARA AGM held Nov 11-12, 2023.
- TARA was addressing several issues to the guest of honour Dr Hussein Mwinyi, the president of Zanzibar and presented by Minister of Health Hon Nassor Ahmed Mazrui. We requested the ministry of Health of Zanzibar to expand the human power resource (radiographers) in Unguja and Pemba Hospitals, and also we request to establish the Medical Radiology and Imaging Professional Council (MRIPC) which is not there at that moment. Also we requested them to establish a degree and diploma courses for radiography to increase number of radiographer in Tanzania.
- During our AGM we had the opportunity to conduct election as our constitution directs us, and we elected new leaders for the next three years.
  The name and position of the chosen leaders are as follows:
  - TARA President: Bakari Msongamwanja
  - TARA Vice President: Wilson Ngoye
  - TARA Secretary: Omary Msehwa

Tara Executive leaders together with Ministry of Health of Zanzibar Hon: Nassor Mazrui (4th from the right) with other leaders from Ministry of Health of Zanzibar, during AGM which held in Zanzibar 11-12, November.
MEMBER COUNTRIES

TARA Deputy Secretary:
- Godfrey Ngoye

• TARA Treasurer:
  - Shadrack Butemi

• TARA Deputy Treasurer:
  Erick Masalu

Ministry of Health Zanzibar together with Tara President with other leaders looking different product from Tara AGM sponsors, during Tara AGM, November 11-12, 2022 at Zanzibar Ocean view.

24th Asia-Australasia Conference of Radiological Technologists
AUGUST 11-13, 2023
KUCHING, SARAWAK
MALAYSIA