Versa HD.
Powered by high definition dynamic radiosurgery.

Versa HD™ with Monaco® gives you the clinical flexibility of high definition dynamic radiosurgery (HDRS) and conventional RT in a single platform. HDRS means you can deliver stereotactic treatments within standard RT time slots, regardless of anatomy or complexity. And, with advanced image guidance tools and up to 5x less transmission to non-targeted regions, you have assurance of end-to-end precision.

Discover how Versa HD can help you meet operational efficiencies while achieving better outcomes for patients.

elekta.com/VersaHD
CONTENTS

REPORT
TAMRT 2019 Annual Meeting and International Forum .................................................. 14
Vietnam 7th Annual Conference and World Radiography Day celebrations .................. 16
Patient safety in Tanzania .............................................................................................. 18
Malaysian Society of Radiographers host several meetings ......................................... 22
WHO stakeholder workshop in Geneva ......................................................................... 25
World Radiography Day celebrations
  Malaysia ....................................................................................................................... 26
  Rwanda ......................................................................................................................... 28
  Athens ......................................................................................................................... 30
  Thailand ....................................................................................................................... 32

ARTICLE
2019 Chesney-ISRRT Research Fund winner ................................................................ 10
RSNA 2019 .................................................................................................................... 12
Pathways, Practitioner, Promotion: The role of the radiographer ................................. 34
e-learning project ......................................................................................................... 35

NEWS
News from member societies:
  Australasia: New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan .......................................................... 46
  The Americas: America, Trinidad and Tobago ......................................................... 49
  Europe: Italy, Poland ................................................................................................ 51
  Africa: Mali, Nigeria, South Africa ........................................................................... 51

REGULARS
ISRRT Officers of Board of Management ................................................................... 4
ISRRT Committee Regional Representatives ............................................................ 4
President’s report ....................................................................................................... 5
CEO report ............................................................................................................... 8
WRETF ..................................................................................................................... 31
Professional Practice report .................................................................................... 36
Contact details for ISRRT editorial and advertising ............................................... 43
Publication and Communication report ................................................................... 43
Education report ....................................................................................................... 46
Diary dates ............................................................................................................... 45

ISSN NO. 1027-0671
ISRRT NEWSLETTER | DECEMBER 2019

ISRRT Editorial Committee
Alain Cromp
Donna Newman
Sharon Wartenbee
Dimitris Katsifarakis

Editor
Rachel Bullard

Production & Design
Deep Blue Design Studio
deepbluedesign1@me.com

www.isrrt.org
Views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the ISRRT.
**ISRRT OFFICERS: BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

**PRESIDENT**
Donna Newman
donnanewman@gmail.com

**VICE PRESIDENTS**
The Americas
Terrence (Terry) Ell
terryell@shaw.ca

Asia and Australasia
Dr Napapong Pongnapang
napapong@hotmail.com

Europe and Africa
Håkon Hjemly
hakon@radiograf.no

**REGIONAL DIRECTORS**
Europe
Euthimios (Tim) Agadakos
eagadakos@gmail.com

Africa
Boniface Yao
kwame_boniface@yahoo.fr

Asia and Australasia
Tan Chek Wee
sunrisepl@hotmail.com

**TREASURER**
Philippe Gerson
philgerson@neuf.fr

**DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**
Yudthaphon Vichianin
yudthaphon@gmail.com

**DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE**
Stewart Whitley
aswhitley@msn.com

**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS**
Alain Cromp
acromp@ac-consultant.ca

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUPPORT SERVICES**
Dimitris Katsifarakis
ceo@isrrt.org

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**
Philippe Gerson
Napapong Pongnapang
Terry Ell
Håkon Hjemly
See Board of Management for Finance Committee contact.

**ISRRT COMMITTEES REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**
Europe
Ozan Tekin
tekin765@gmail.com

Africa
Hesta Friedrich-Nel
hfried@cut.ac.za

Asia and Australasia
Yudthaphon Vichianin
yudthaphon@gmail.com

The Americas
Dr Robin Hesler
lscolonel@rogers.com

**PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE**
Europe
Pam Black
pamb@sor.org

Africa
Elizabeth Balogun
kanmibalo@yahoo.com

Asia and Australasia
Naoki Kodama
n_kodama@jart.or.jp

The Americas
Christopher Steelman
csteelman@x-rayintl.org

**PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**
Europe
Hanna Kalliomäki
hanna.kalliomaki@sorf.fi

Africa
Stephen Mkoloma
stephenmkoloma@hotmail.com

Asia and Australasia
Edward Wong
wongthe@gmail.com

The Americas
Timmerie Cohen
tfcohen@vcu.edu

---

AS I write this message, I am happy to report another successful World Radiography Day around the world as you may have seen on our official ISRRT Website, Facebook, Instagram and this issue of the News & Views. ISRRT featured its member societies celebrating using ISRRT official World Radiography Day theme poster “Your Safety our Priority, The Radiographer is promoting and maintaining Safety Culture”. This year’s theme was chosen to raise awareness, help educate and shape the perception on the important role in maintaining safety culture in daily practice. ISRRT collaborated with ISRRT member experts, ISRRT member societies and regional stakeholders to create this special edition. I couldn’t be more pleased with the response we received from our members about this first official special edition that successfully reached a global audience helping to champion and promote the radiographer’s role in safety culture. ISRRT expects this educational material will strengthen safety of patient care and improve safety culture worldwide. It is available on the ISRRT website under the communication tab.

The ISRRT brings great value to its members through many channels. Firstly, ISRRT collaborates and networks to develop one global voice for radiographers worldwide. As the global voice of the radiographer profession, we represent radiographers and technologist at the international organization where strategic decisions are taking place. The ISRRT believes this is money well spent, resulting in a global impact for our profession. We attend the WHO, IACRS, IAEA and ICRP meetings ensuring representation on a global level on behalf of radiographers. ISRRT’s goal at these meetings is to assure the radiographer’s voice is heard and subsequent documents accurately reflect our views. You will read about these meetings in our News & Views issues, on our ISRRT blog page as well as through our ISRRT board member’s reports.

In these meeting we also promote global standards development by bringing standards that the ISRRT organization has developed for the profession. ISRRT takes every opportunity it can to promote ISRRT position statements. These statements can be found on the ISRRT website under the Professional Practice tab. We continue to find ways to contribute to the elevation of standards for patient care which is an essential part of the ISRRT mission. This
year the ISRRT has developed several documents on this topic that can be found on the professional practice tab.

Secondly, the ISRRT is developing and promoting health and safety standards for the professionals working in our field. The ISRRT has developed several guidance documents on Quality Control process for Imaging in Radiographer Direct Digital Radiography (DDR) and Computed Radiography (CR), DDR-CR QA/QC Flowchart, ISRRT Guidance document on QA/QC in Computed Tomography, CTQA/QC Flowchart, and finally ISRRT Best practice for Mammography Quality Assurance Guidance. You will find these available as well on the professional practice tab on the ISRRT website.

Lastly, the ISRRT is developing education standards and delivering these through our traditional workshops. Newly available for our members is the ISRRT E-Learning which was developed to strengthen our professional practice in the delivery of health care to our patients. In this issue, you will read in detail from our Director of Education, Yudthphon Vichianin. The ISRRT is looking forward to continuing to expand this E-Learning platform in the near future.

I want to bring forward to our members, the resolution that was voted on by council members at the 2018 meeting in Trinidad and Tobago council meeting and approved: “to approve a tiered-based funding model linked to annual revenues (income) of each member society”, subject to final adjustment by the Board of Directors. Society membership fees are important and vital to sustain the ability for the ISRRT to continue to represent and maintain its strategic agenda on behalf of its members. As the council, you have directed the ISRRT board to review and bring back a vital funding model that will support the annual budget of the ISRRT. We have done this work and presented it to members in attendance at RSNA. We will also bring this to the ECR Information Meeting for our members to see and support. The new funding model will be brought forward to the August 2020 council meeting in Ireland for the vote and implementation so we can adhere to the resolution that states the new funding model shall be implemented no later than December 31, 2021.

The ISRRT Board is working hard to provide long term, ongoing value to its members. We appreciate our members’ support and will continue to concentrate on projects and agendas that fit within our ISRRT strategic vision. We will continue to use your membership dues to represent you as members, providing benefit in being an ISRRT member’s society.

Donna Newman
ISRRT President

Pictured below from left to right:

- Associated Science Session on Global Health Donna Newman, Dr. Bob Walker, Sharon Wartenbee, Dr. Casey Neville, Dimitris Katsifarakis.
- ISRRT President Celebrating World Radiography Day with colleagues at Sanford Health, Fargo North Dakota.
- ISRRT President Donna Newman and ISRRT Past President Tyrone Goh meeting at RSNA, 2019.
Designed to work the way you work

Quality, Efficiency, Flexibility, Safety

LF@guerbet.com
www.guerbet.com

Guerbet
Contrast for Life

Disclaimer: These products are medical devices intended for use by medical imaging and diagnostic health professionals for injection of contrast media and saline solutions during a CT exam. For complete information about precautions and optimal usage conditions for these medical devices, we recommend consulting the instructions for use manuals. Ensure that injection from multi-dose containers and to more than one patient respects the valid rules of good practice and the marketing authorizations (MA) of the contrast agent and local regulatory requirements.

FlowSens®, OptiStar® Elite, OptiOne®, OptiVantage®, Illumena® Neo & Ready-Box® are trademarks of Guerbet & Labelle Healthcare. Patients should only inject FlowSens®, Class IB – CE0451 – Manufacturer: WECOR – 240 Avenue Jacques Head, 69800 Saint-Priest, France, OptiStar® Elite, OptiOne®, OptiVantage® & Illumena® Neo – Class IB – Ready-Box® Class IB – CE0123 – Manufacturer: Labelle Healthcare Company LLC - 2111 East Goldsboro Road, Cincinnati, OH 45237, USA.

Document revision date: January 2017. © Copyright 2017 Guerbet - All rights reserved.
DEAR READERS of the News & Views,

You all, the ISRRT family have developed robust links and connections for many years and have made the ISRRT the main hub for all radiographers and radiological technologists globally. This is the feeling I perceive looking at the statistics of the ISRRT website, the response the website - Your Response - to any news the website is uploading. The ISRRT Facebook page has thousands of followers, and this number is increasing every day.

We are very happy to see this progress, your positive response and honesty is very rewarding!

Your continuous participation and support feeds me with the feeling to work harder and to produce more for the magnificent ISRRT family.

In our effort to enrich the ISRRT files with historical data and facts, I undertook the opportunity to visit the ISRRT archives at the Manchester University Library having the support and help from Mr Steward Whitley - the ISRRT Director of Professional Practice, who lives near Manchester.

Stewart and I spent three full days in the archive section of the library with 14 large boxes of precious documents of the ISRRT. We both scanned the Board Meeting minutes since 1962, as well as the Council meeting minutes. A series of diapositives (photo slides) were found in the archived material, and 29 of them were selected to be transferred into a digital format. All this precious material is now under processing and we are planning soon to make available to Council members for their study of the history of the ISRRT.

I must deeply thank my good friend Stewart who helped me on this difficult but important task.

Another important subject in the past few weeks was the celebration of the World Radiography Day. Here is the place to express my thanks to the President Ms Donna Newman and the Director of PR and Communication Mr Alain Cromp who both accepted my idea to have a Special Edition around the WRD theme. Having seen the thousands visits of the relevant page, and the downloads the edition received, it was a successful initiative of the ISRRT Board, and we are planning to have it again the next year.

The e-learning Platform is up and running, and we are working hard to have interesting and valuable educational material on it.

We are now focusing on the World Congress in Dublin, and we are working closely with the Irish society for a successful Congress. The number of visits in the specific to the congress pages, and the number of the abstracts we receive daily are good and safe indicators for an absolute successful congress.

As you read these words we are approaching the end of the Year 2019, and I am taking this opportunity to wish you all personally and to the people around for a happy and prosperous New year, 2020.

Warm regards to all.

Dimitris Katsifarakis
Chief Executive
The ISRRT 2020 Conference Programme Committee call for abstracts is now open.

August 26–29th, 2020, the World Congress of the International Society of Radiographers and Radiologic Technologists (ISRRT) comes to Dublin, Ireland for the first time. The ISRRT represents over 500,000 members from 94 member countries as the global voice of Radiography and hosts its World Congress every two years, rotating across all the continents of the world. Returning to Europe, ISRRT 2020 offers a quality meeting together with great social interaction to bring Radiographers and Radiologic Technologist from around the world together. This is an invaluable opportunity to learn and network with colleagues from around the world, but also to enjoy the beauty and ambience of Ireland! Share your knowledge and experience by getting involved!

We are seeking current and thought-provoking topics and speakers who can engage their audiences with quality-driven content in lively and informative discussions. As well as our core of active contributors, we particularly welcome submissions from new speakers.

The Call for Abstracts will close on 17th January 2020.

Abstract submissions for both oral & poster presentations – please use the following link: https://isrrt2020.exordo.com/
Submitters will be required to create an account before accessing ‘Submit Your Abstract Now’ button.

We are looking forward to an exciting Conference in Dublin in August 2020. To Keep up to date with the conference via our website: www.isrrt.org/congress-2020

Terms and Conditions and conference leaflet to download as per the attached.

ISRRT Timeline:
• 1st June 2019 – 17th January 2020 Abstract submission open for Scientific papers (oral presentations & posters)
• September 2019 Online Registration & Accommodation Open
• 29th February 2020 Notification to abstract submitters
• 30th March 2020 Early bird Registration Deadline
• 26-29th August 2020 ISRRT 2020 Conference

Location: The congress venue’s address is: The Convention Centre Dublin, Spencer Dock, North Wall Quay, Dublin 1, Ireland.
Website: www.theccd.ie/
View the venue: www.theccd.ie/view-the-venue
Visiting Dublin: www.visitdublin.com/

Kind regards
ISRRT Conference Programme Committee
The winner of the Chesney-ISRRRT Research Fund 2019 is

Benard Ohene Botwe

A radiographer and a doctoral student at the University of Ghana.

His research title is: “Development of indication-based diagnostic reference levels for computed tomography examinations in Ghana”

Benard Ohene Botwe is a radiographer from Ghana and a Clinical Tutor at the Department of Radiography, School of Biomedical and Allied Health sciences, University of Ghana. He is also a Ph.D. student at the School of Nuclear and Allied Sciences, University of Ghana.

Benard obtained his undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in radiography from the University of Ghana and Cardiff University (UK) respectively. He is also an alumnus of the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) and has published 20 articles and successfully supervised 33 undergraduate radiography students to complete their research projects. He has broad clinical experience in fluoroscopy, CT, MRI and interventional radiography.

Currently, his research interests include Diagnostic reference levels in computed tomography, radiation dose optimization in diagnostic imaging, optimization of imaging practices, interventional radiography, forensic radiography and radiography ethics and education.

His current research project is entitled “Development of indication-based diagnostic reference levels for computed tomography examinations in Ghana”. In line with the Bonn call for action 2, Benard is trying to develop an indication-based radiation monitoring tool that can be used as a trigger to identify radiologic facilities using unusually high doses in a specified procedure, for which optimisation actions are required.
Your road to ECR 2020:

July 1 – October 10, 2019:
Abstract submission and ESR support programmes

August 31, 2019:
ESR membership application deadline for reduced ECR 2020 fees

Early September, 2019:
Online registration open

Join the biggest radiological society in the world with 112,000 members and become an ESR member NOW for €11/€0! myESR.org/Membership
ISRRT BOARD members recently attended the RSNA in Chicago, Illinois December 1-6, 2019. Over 50,000 attendees had the opportunity to visit two exhibit halls with the latest developmental medical imaging technology, as well as newly released equipment and software. Attendees had more than 400 educational sessions to choose from. The ISRRT board members took this opportunity to collaborate and network with ISRRT members during the exhibit hall hours, participate and help host the Associated Science Consortium, and represent the ISRRT members’ global voice during key stakeholders’ meetings.

The ISRRT sponsored two excellent speakers from Weber State who spoke on Globally Competent Professionals in the Workforce. Dr Robert Walker topic on Global Competencies for a Global Workforce where he underlined the importance of our next workforce needing international awareness, knowledge and understanding to truly be successful in healthcare today.

He went on to share how today we are more than ever before connected globally by social media and telecommunications, culturally through movements of people, economically through trade, environmentally through sharing one planet and politically thorough international relations and systems of regulations. Dr Walker presented that all Universities have a responsibility to create a diverse community for its students to learn. He also highlighted that incorporating this into educational programs will allow students to develop competencies to be successful in today workforce. Dr Walkers shared several stories from his previous students whose careers changed by having the opportunity to be involved in the international student experience. He shared that these students came back and told him that this program was life changing for them and that it gave them confidence to move forward in their careers. The students shared how they obtained an understanding of how diversity played an important role in health care and by this experience created new opportunities.

Dr Casey Neville then spoke on the Impact on Global Health. Interesting to the audience was the fact that Dr. Neville highlighted this topic due to his involvement he had with the international student experience. It propelled him to get his doctorate degree on Global Health. Dr Neville highlighted that disease knows no boundaries or borders and this is why everyone in healthcare needs to have an understanding of global health in all countries. Another interesting note from his presentation is that 2/3 of the world has no access to Radiologic Imaging procedures. Because of this statistic we need to move forward and become a community with common goals to assure our next generation has some knowledge and understanding of global health care. Dr. Neville shared with the audience that there are many ways to get involved in global health, through education, preventative care, service projects or professional engagement. Dr Neville ended his presentation with a very inspiring quote by Carl Jung, “You are what you do, not what you say you’ll do.”
ISRRT leadership represented the radiographers’ global voice at several key stakeholders’ meetings, one such meeting was the ISR Quality and Safety Alliance Meeting where key international stakeholder organizations get together to collaborate on quality and safety in medical imaging. As your ISRRT President, I took the opportunity to collaborate on an e-learning project about quality and safety for radiographers around the world in the form of online collaboration. I also took the opportunity to invite the ISR to participate in our public awareness campaign during our World Radiography Special addition for next year. As a note for our members, Look the new “World Radiography Day theme” is being selected in January 2020 and invitations to participate in next year special edition will go out to its members societies shortly after. I am happy to report to our membership that the ISR agreed this would give the International Radiologist society an opportunity to collaborate and promote the radiographer’s role in medical imaging worldwide. A draft outline for the ISRRT/ISR joint project relating to medical imaging teams’ (Radiologist, Radiographers and Medical Physicist) roles in safety culture was discussed at this meeting. ISR is currently reviewing our draft and choosing their members to help write the paper.

The ISRRT CEO Dimitris Katsifarakis and I attended the Imaging Gently meeting with Dr Frush presiding over the session along with other relevant professional stakeholders of the Image Gently Alliance. This year’s agenda, “reconsidering the value of gonadal shielding” was discussed in depth after a presentation on the subject with speakers bringing forward important references to the ICRP 103 report on radio sensitivity of organs. The speakers also brought forward important points about shielding asking the audience, “Why are we shielding less, sensitive organs at the expense of more sensitive organs?” An additional point presented was the fact that psychological comfort is happening with shielding despite negligible radiation protection benefit with the point being made that secondary shielding provides a false sense of security.

Also discussed during the agenda was the NCRP statement from the scientific committee (SC-4.110) which is due to be published in the very near future. The purpose of this committee is to provide recommendations and guidance through an authoritative statement, which addresses the newest information and current understanding on possible health effects of gonadal exposures for both adult and pediatric patients. The speakers presented that they recognize that radiographers are on the front line of this reform and that changes will need to be made to regulation in states within the United States. As more information comes forward the ISRRT will continue to keep it members informed.

Finally, the ISRRT is looking for new ways to communicate with its members and have implemented an informal meeting with its member societies, presidents and council members in attendance at the RSNA. As the ISRRT President I did a presentation on why ISRRT is of value to it member societies. You can find information about this on the president’s message in this issue of the News & Views. We also took the opportunity to have a lengthy discussion on the funding model that will be brought forward to the ISRRT council at the August 2020 meeting in Ireland. It was apparent from the members in attendance at this meeting, there is support in bringing a revenue model forward that would support the annual budget of the ISRRT society from its membership dues. We are happy to report that the ISRRT Board has this ready to be discussed and brought to the council for consideration this August.
RICHLY INFORMATIVE AGENDA AT TAMRT INTERNATIONAL FORUM

TAIPEI CITY, TAIWAN | NOVEMBER 1-3, 2019
REPORT BY TERRY ELL, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAS
AS A representative of the ISRRT, I was invited by the Taiwan Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (TAMRT) to speak at its 2019 Annual Meeting and TAMRT International Forum in Taipei City November 1-3. President Chia-Chi Hsiao and his planning committee organized a richly informative agenda of scientific topics.

The program began with congratulatory messages from government dignitaries and members of radiographic societies.

I presented “Using SAFRON to Report Incidents in the Administration of Therapeutic Radionuclides in Nuclear Medicine”. SAFRON (SAFety in Radiation ONcology) is a simple, integrated, voluntary global reporting and learning system of medical radiation incidents and near misses. Over the last year the ISRRT has worked through the IAEA to collaborate with a multidisciplinary team of medical radiation experts to include the ability of SAFRON to report incidents in the administration of therapeutic radionuclides in Nuclear Medicine.

Other international presentations included Dr Suwit Saekho from Thailand (“MR Technology in the Disruptive World”) and Dr Jeong-Hee Cho from South Korea (“Future Perspectives of Radiation Therapy and the Role of Radiation Therapist”). Additionally there were over 50 oral scientific reports.

On behalf of the ISRRT and myself, I would like to congratulate the TAMRT on an amazing conference and thank them for their exceptional generosity and continued support of the ISRRT and medical radiographers around the world.
VIETNAM CELEbrates 7th Annual Conference and World Radiography Day

VIETNAM | 2019

| Gala Dinner Theme – One Night in Bangkok Masquerade. |
VIETNAM ASSOCIATION OF RADIOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGIST (VART) – ACTIVITIES 2019

THE 7TH Annual Conference of Vietnam Association of Radiological Technologists conjunction with The 5th Vietnam – Myanmar – Philippines Conference of Radiological Technologists was held on August 23-24, 2019 at Ariyana Conference Center in Da Nang City, Vietnam, with the participation of nearly 500 members, including 150 foreign experts, researchers.

In the framework of conference program, we organized “Asia – Australia Education Forum for Radiological Technologists”. In this forum, we introduced and discussed about the education programs of many countries in Asia and Australia region for the purpose of exchange the curriculum, motivate the exchange teachers and students among countries to contribute and develop the education, abilities for Radiological Technologists in Vietnam as well as the development of Vietnam Association of Radiological Technologist (VART). Besides that, we also organized reports of studies by experts, radiologist and technologist from ASIAN group, Australia...about Radiotherapy and Nuclear Medicine science, Workshop of X-ray; MRI; CT; Mammography, Imaging Science.

On behalf of VART Conference Organizing Committee and all Vietnamese RTs members, we would like to thank you all participants for your shared experiences. Especially, we would like to express our sincere thanks to the contributions of experts and researchers from universities of Asia and Australia region. It was a valuable lesson for us to build Vietnam RTs in the future. Lastly, I wish all of you will have good health, good job, good finance for traveling, and happiness to your family.

WORLD RADIOLOGY DAY CELEBRATION 2019 IN VIETNAM

World Radiology Day Celebration 2019 was held on Saturday November 9, 2019 in the main hall of the Medical Imaging Technology Department, University of Medicine and Pharmacy at Ho Chi Minh city, Vietnam.

Theme of the event was “Radiological Technology Students – Self-confident toward future”.

Participants included:
- Lecturers of Medical Imaging Technology Department
- Ho Chi Minh City Association of Radiological Technology Board Management members: MSc. Thai Van Loc, Mr. Luc Thanh Vu.
- Radiological Technologists in hospitals in Ho Chi Minh city.
- The representative of medical devices companies such as Philip Healthcare Vietnam, Siemens Healthineers Vietnam, TD medical (GE Healthcare).
- Nearly 300 RT students of Medical Imaging Technology Department, University of Medicine and Pharmacy at Ho Chi Minh city, Vietnam.

Many activities were organized to celebrate such as:
- The competition of Medical Imaging Technology Department logo design;
- Foundation of student fund;
- Gameshow to celebrate WRD 2019;
- Talk show about Radiology Technology Career help students more self-confidents in the future careers. The invitees of talk show that come from Staffs in hospital and Medical devices companies.

This is the first time World Radiology Day Celebrations were held in Vietnam, through this event, many practical and useful activities were organized that help students to gather more information about their work after graduation. Furthermore, activities helped to connect RT students in our universities, to link the relationships between Universities, Association, Medical Device Companies, RT in hospitals. We had an occasion to support together toward the development of RT in Vietnam. Finally, we decided to choose the day of November 8 as the traditional day of Radiological Technology in Vietnam. We plan to celebrate this day every year with many useful activities for RT Vietnam. Wish Vietnam always work as an active member of ISRRRT house.
TANZANIA ENGAGES THE MEDIA TO RAISE AWARENESS OF PATIENT SAFETY

TANZANIA | NOVEMBER 8, 2019
REPORT BY STEPHEN SAMSON MKOLOMA, PRESIDENT TANZANIA ASSOCIATION OF RADIOGRAPHERS (TARA)
ISRRT REGIONAL COORDINATOR FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATION (AFRICA)

Mr Hemed Myanza explains how radiation safety is adhered during radiotherapy treatments.
WORLD RADIOGRAPHY Day (WRD) is a day that looks like a limb of the sun in the horizon to all radiographers worldwide. It reminds us back on November 8, 1895 when a significant scientific advancement was declared through a renowned physicist Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen’s x-ray discovery. Despite that Röntgen’s discovery occurred accidentally, a number of disciplines both in medicine as well as industry still benefit the fruit of this discovery, of which radiographers play the biggest role in the use of this discovery. Isn’t this a good reason to cheer about!

Though various scientists realized the benefits of x-ray in medicine, reports of harmful cases such as skin burns and loss of hair raised an aspect of attention towards radiation safety. The theme for this year “Your Safety, Our Priority, the Radiographers are promoting and maintaining the safety culture made radiographers in Tanzania and beyond to rethink about essence of safety most importantly to our clients, the patients.

Tanzania celebrated World Radiography Day by engaging with the media for publicity and awareness programs where two radio stations and two TV stations hosted a live talk show about the position of a radiographer and patients’ radiation safety at large. Thereafter, we had a wonderful WRD Symposium hosted at the Muhimbili National Hospital with a theme “Promoting Safety Culture”.

On his opening remarks, President of Tanzania Association of Radiographers, Mr. Stephen S. Mkoloma explained the essence of the WRD celebrations as a refresher to radiographer to take ourselves back to basics. He made an emphasis ISRRT President statement on special edition of the WRD that radiographers in all subcategories must be in a position to stand their grounds to protect patients, patient’s attendants, other hospital staff and ourselves from all unnecessary harmful radiation. That radiographer should address issues based on professional and academic evidences putting in mind patients first. Mr. Mkoloma insisted that “there are number of cases where unauthorized or unskilled personnel are caught administering radiographic procedures, this cannot be acceptable and by any means we need to take it to an end”. It is the role of a radiographer to make sure that this profession is protected and that only trained and licensed personnel are allowed to handle machines such as X-ray units and ultrasound. Radiographers at our localities must find ways to address this problem and establish a report system with collaboration with the association as well as regulatory bodies.

In his presentation with the title “Radiographic Quality: A True Way to Radiation Safety”, Mr. Mkoloma put an emphasis on radiographers to rethink about radiographic techniques and drill. He reminded the participants that despite all the technology advancement we are in, the basics in production of radiographic images remain the same. There is a tendency of ignoring the value of collimation, high exposure technique, adjustment of focal spot size as well as patient history and provisional diagnosis in patient information system. There is also a need to engage other stakeholders such as referring doctors as they play a great role in patient radiation safety. The shift from traditional information system to digitalized information system that country is in at present has also caused some setbacks with it. Adequacy and relevance of clinical information is a silent disease, and this is another area we as radiographers need to deal with. Lack of proper clinical information may degrade the quality of radiographic work, hence; indirectly increase the rate of unnecessary use of radiation. Mr. Mkoloma advised radiographers from across the country to adopt the ISRRT justification flow chart which can be found easily from www.isrrt.org when there is a need to justify and optimize the use of radiation at our workplace.

To maintain this culture, radiographers need to be passionate and zealous to take themselves into patients’ position and wear their shoes while asking themselves three important questions that define someone’s identity; who are you? Why are you here? And what are you doing?

Mr. Stewart Emmanuel, a radiotherapist at the Ocean Road Cancer Institute delivered a presentation with the title “Basic Concepts of Radiation Safety in Radiotherapy” In his presentation he mentioned that due to high exposures used in radiotherapy, the chance of deterministic and stochastic effects increase if careful safety considerations are not adhered. He highlighted that the radiation safety standards such as standards for the use of dose constrains and radiation dosimetry must always be adhered. Special attention is given to vulnerable groups such as paediatrics and pregnant women, both for patient and radiation workers. For radiation safe assurance, calibration of radiotherapy sources and machines, dose validation, quality assurance and investigation of accidental medical exposure must be done continually in our workplaces.

On the other hand, Mr. Burhani Abdul made a mostly live
presentation about “Radiation Protection in Paediatric Patients”. Mr Burhan was in no minute use the quote from one of the very child minded being Michael Jackson statement from one of his songs, “will you be there?”

Children are traditionally happy people who mostly suffer for their innocence. Radiographers were urged through this presentation not to take advantage of incapability of paediatrics to communication as the weapon to just expose them. It is not that children can’t communicate, but they have their special way to communicate with. With this in mind, radiographers who work with paediatric radiography must learn communication skills to children and how to get support from parents and guardians without unnecessarily exposure any in the course of getting the job done. Special attention is mostly needed when doing paediatric CT scan when proper protocol for children must be designed and be in place before the procedure is performed. According to Mr Burhan; attention to awareness of special needs and problems in paediatric patient positioning, the need for immobilization technique, the use of filters, image quality assessments and many more is adhered. Children cells are very sensitive to radiation, so if you wrongly expose them today, will you be there for their consequence of your failure to protect them from unnecessary radiation?

The last presentation was on “Developing Radiation Protection Plan” presented by Mr Wilson M. Ngoye. Mr Ngoye is a radiographer working with the Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission (TAEC) as Radiation Health Physics Research Officer. In his presentation, Mr. Ngoye disclosed the fact that all facilities in Tanzania do not have a well documented program on how radiation protection and radiation safety is implemented. This has led to lack of;

i. knowledge of radiation protection and regulatory requirements among radiation working staff,
ii. organized approach to radiation protection and safety matters
iii. responsibilities regarding radiation safety are not clearly assigned
iv. platform to discuss, share, advise and learn expertise on radiation protection and safety issues and build competence within the facilities
v. criteria set by radiology facility that can be used to evaluate the facilities with regard to radiation protection and safety

Mr Ngoye further urged radiographer to make sure there is a written document that addresses policies and procedures which help facility to maintain compliance in radiation safety and protection. It is very important to make sure that documents that addresses the issue of ALARA program, Justification process, optimization techniques, dose reference levels, document guide on patient awareness and consent, dose limits and dosimetry, Radiation Protection and Safety Manual, radiological controls, quality control programs, Internal Audit Procedures as well as Emergency Exposure Situations and Radiation Accident Dosimetry are in place and implementable. There must also be a documentation plan on radiation workers training program for new employees, routine training and continuous development (CPD) programs.

Mr Ngoye further urged all radiographers and radiation safety officers to initiate the idea of having the radiation protection plan (RPP) to their facilities and convince the hospital management to support the challenge. The association of radiographers was also advised in cooperation with the radiologists’ society to advise regulatory bodies to make RPP program as part of prerequisite document for licensure. “When you observe safety of your neighbour, you make your household safe...”

Parallel to WRD Workshop, radiographers across different places in the country were engaged in community radiation awareness programs. At Ocean Road Cancer Institute (ORCI) Mr Hemed Myanza used the morning session to explain the radiation protection of patients during radiotherapy treatment among the hospital staff. He explained and assured the doctors, nurses, interns and students that out patients in all ways are well protected and thus they should in their session advice patients and patients’ accompanies to be good ambassadors to their community. They should take challenge to advice the community to build a culture of doing regular health check and avail themselves early for radiation examinations if required.

At TMJ hospital, radiographers engaged patients in a morning talk. Radiographers had an opportunity to provide important information to patients and their relatives about various aspects that needs a patient to engage in course of radiation protection. Factors regarding consenting, no access areas and radiation symbols were unfolded.

Radiation safety culture is a song every radiation worker must sing, the biggest challenge remains; where will you be if you caused it with carelessly given radiation?

| Mr Burhan Abdul, radiographers radiotherapist presenting Radiation safety in children at WRD 2019 held at MNH, Dar es Salaam. |
| Mr Stewart Emmanuel presenting on radiation protection in radiotherapy. |
OFFERING HOME STUDY COURSES SINCE 1985
IN
ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY
VASCULAR TECHNOLOGY
DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL ULTRASOUND

STUDENTS FROM MANY COUNTRIES
HAVE GRADUATED FROM OUR HOME STUDY COURSES

THE COURSES PROVIDE ALL THE THEORY NEEDED TO
PERFORM ULTRASOUND IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

PELVIS
BREAST
ABDOMEN
OBSTETRICS
GYNECOLOGY
NEUROSONOLOGY
MUSCULOSKELETAL
ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY
VASCULAR TECHNOLOGY

*MOST COURSES ARE WORTH 30 CME CREDITS*

www.burwin.com

PHONE: 204-254-1439 (Central Time) or 902-634-3238 (Atlantic Time)
FAX: 204-254-7473
MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF RADIOGRAPHERS HOST SEVERAL MEETINGS

PUTRAJAYA, MALAYSIA | AUGUST 3, 2019
REPORT BY NUR HAFIZAH MOHAD AZMI, EDITOR MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF RADIOGRAPHERS

| Photo session with all the participant, speakers and delegates. |
MRI SEMINAR 2019
Auditorium National Cancer Institute, Putrajaya
3 August 2019

Warmest greeting to everyone,

On behalf of Malaysian Society of Radiographers (MSR), we are delighted to have organized the MRI Seminar 2019 on August 3, 2019, in Auditorium, National Cancer Institute (NCI), Putrajaya, Malaysia. It was attended by 250 participants from all over Malaysia. We reached the target audience through social networks i.e. MSR Website, Email and Facebook. It is a great pleasure for me to thank all participants for joining us. We are grateful for your dedication to our event.

We would like to express our special thanks to our keynote speakers i.e. Ms Hong Hye Lan, the diagnostic radiologic technologist from Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital (BAACH) Korea; Mr Tetsuo Eda, the Director of Japan Association of Radiological Technologists (JART) and Mr Yuan Hong Fan, Executive Director, Taiwan Society of Radiological Technologists (TWSRT) in working together with MSR for making this event successful. With their commitment, we are able to break down boundaries in encouraging cooperation in new learning updates as well as providing platform for international networking. You are always welcome at our conference.

We would also like to express appreciation to the company who never hesitated to support the MSR event for bringing the experts in MRI i.e. Dr Lily Lim Jooi Min, Medi-Diagnostic; Mr Muhammad Afiq bin Che Ghali, Canon Medical; Mr. Chaiwat Chaipandi, QST; Mr. Vlad Puzankoff, Elekta; and Mr Sluhudin Hamdan bin Daem, Mr Yushafizal bin Mohd Yusof, SIEMENS Malaysia; Dr Norshazriman Sulaiman and Ms Wui Ai Leng, University Malaysia Medical Centre (UMMC). We are grateful for the time and effort they took to share their thoughts and experiences.

I would especially like to thank the MRI Seminar committee for their warm hosting of this event. Last but not least, not to forget the radiographers, radiology department, NCI, who are always going above and beyond to ensure the success of this event. Since we are organizing the first international event, I believe we can benefit immediately for recruiting more members in the future with continuous educational program plan.

Thank you again for your contribution and participation.

1ST MALAYSIAN DIAGNOSTIC RADIOGRAPHERS CONFERENCE
The Everly| Putrajaya
24-25 August 2019

On behalf of Malaysian Society of Radiographers (MSR), we are captivated co-organizing the MDRC 2019 with Diagnostic Radiographers Technical Committee, Allied Health Division, Ministry of Health Malaysia on August 24-25, 2019, The Everly, Putrajaya, Malaysia. It was attended by 250 participants from all over Malaysia. We reached the target audience through social networks i.e. MSR Website, Email and Facebook.

We would like to express our special thanks to our keynote
speakers Dr Napapong Pongnapang, Vice President ISSRT (AA Region) with his topic on “Transcend Professionalism in Medical Imaging”. The event was officiated by YBrs. Puan Hajah Che Ruhani Binti Che Ja’afar, The Director of Health Sciences Division. On the same day, Standard Operating Procedure for Malaysian Diagnostic Radiographers manual book was launched.

We would also like to express appreciation to the plenary speakers i.e. Tuan Haji Daud Bin Ismail, Dr Sarawana Chelwan A/L Muniandy, Assoc. Prof. Dr Hairil Rashmizal Bin Abdul Razak, Mr Mahenthiran A/L Thanapal, Mr Saravanakumar Maniam, Mr Sawal Marsait and Assoc.Prof. Dr Akmal Sabarudin. We are grateful for the time and effort they took to share their thoughts and experiences.

We would also like to express appreciation to the special paper presenters speakers Mr Phanesh Atmuri from Fujifilm Sdn Bhd, Ja-Young Kim from Guebert Asia Pasific Ltd, Hesham EL Behairy from Philips Sdn Bhd, Ms Satvinder Kaur from WeAnsa Solution Sdn Bhd, Stephanie Tan Lee Kian from Delta Medisains, ManMohan Singh from GE Sdn Bhd. We are grateful for the time and effort they took to share their thoughts and new technology enhancement.

Special congratulations to the paper presenters. Thank you for participating in the first MDRC. You have created history and set the benchmark for the next MDRC presenters. In this event there were 16 oral and 10 poster presenters. The category of research, quality project and innovation papers has competed.

I would especially like to thank the MDRC and Malaysian Society of Radiographers (MSR) committee for their warm hosting of this event. Last but not least, not to forget the vendors who not hesitated to support radiographers event in Malaysia. Thanks to the QST medical dental technologies the QST group of companies, Carestream Sdn Bhd, Sutera rosa Sdn Bhd, Radicare, medavis, Canon medical, Siemens, Jauharymas, and Puncak Medick Sdn Bhd who always contribute to the success of this event.

Thank you again for your contribution and participation.
DR NAPAPONG Pongnapang, VP Asia-Australasia represented the ISRRT at Stakeholder workshop on ethical aspects of radiation protection in health care. A three-days meeting was held at World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland during September 2-4, 2019.

The purpose of the meeting was to get feedbacks and views from different stakeholders on the new ICRP drafted publication on Ethics in radiological protection for medical diagnosis and treatment. Napapong presented radiographers view on the specific issue including important role of radiographers in a team approach on justification of medical exposure and Crucial role of radiographers and radiation therapists in optimization.

Role of our profession was presented as an important stakeholder as a crucial way to guarantee the implementation the ethics of radiation protection is to put into evidence the role of radiographers in the scope of medical imaging and radiotherapy, as we are the final point of contact with the patients.

Priority issues from the profession were also presented. Focus was made on standards in professional education and training. How we can integrate ethics in our roles in radiation protection. Other issues raised include roles of our profession in limited resource places, where accessibility and equity are major issues influencing the practice. As representative from a global professional organization, issue of ethics is cultural dependence was presented. Practice varies from one place to another not only depends on resources but also cultural dependence. Finally, Napapong stressed the important of inter-professional communication and collaboration as radiation protection is multi-disciplinary approach, so does ethical issues relate to it.

The ISRRT thanks the World Health Organization (WHO) for financial support for attending the meeting. Also, we would like to thank all contributions from our member societies across the world.
WORLD RADIOGRAPHY DAY CELEBRATIONS - MALAYSIA

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA | NOVEMBER 8, 2019

| WRD 2019 celebration by radiographers in state of Penang. |
WARMEST greeting from the Malaysian Society of Radiographers (MSR),

Every year on November 8, World Radiography Day (WRD) promoting and celebrating the professionals that work within the field of medical Imaging. This year’s celebration of World Radiography Day, celebrating the ISRRT theme “Your Safety Our Priority”. MSR and Malaysian radiographers organised event and program on this annual celebration. MSR committee has create WRD 2019 photo frame with picture profile of the committees in order to promote WRD 2019 celebration.

On 8 November 2019, radiographers at University Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC) with MSR committee organized World Radiography Day 2019 celebrations. Several activities such as poster presentation, mobile x-ray demonstration and also educational booth were organized.

In other hospitals, radiographers at Hospital Kuala Lumpur celebrated WRD 2019 by promoting placards of ISRRT WRD 2019 poster and also MSR logo.

In others state of Malaysia, radiographers in Penang state celebrate WRD 2019 with poster presentation and campaign about radiation awareness to the public.

On 9 November 2019, MSR has organised Radiography Seminar with the topic, Radiography: Back to Basic. The seminar attended by radiographers as well as radiographers’ student from KPJUC College. The seminar starts with topic of Back to Basic: Learn, Unlearn and Relearn by MSR Educational exco, Dr. Nor Aniza Azni senior lecturer from National University of Malaysia (UKM). Others covered topic during the seminar are radiography techniques. The topic included CXR, AXR , Pelvis, Spine x-ray, upper limb and also lower limb presented by experience radiographers from various hospital in Kuala Lumpur.

There also lives online quiz session for the participants at the end of the seminar to make.

To conclude the seminar, forum on Radiographers Carrier Progression in Malaysia with the two panels which is Head of Profession for Diagnostic Radiographers, Ministry of Health, Mdm Mary Oomen Kochumen and Mr Zaimi Baharudin, Radiology Manager from the private hospital. The one day program were successfully ended at 5pm.

“Your Safety Our Priority”
WORLD RADIOGRAPHY DAY CELEBRATIONS - RWANDA

UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA, RWANDA | NOVEMBER 8, 2019
REPORT BY HABIMANA JEAN FELIX, SECRETARY GENERAL/SMIR, ISRRRT COUNCIL MEMBER

Medical imaging practitioners of ultrasound training attendees after completing a practical session.

Medical imaging practitioners of ultrasound training attendees after completing a practical session.
SOCIETY of Medical Imaging and Radiation in Rwanda (SMIR) in collaboration with Medical Imaging Sciences Department at University of Rwanda – College of Medicine and Health Science (CMHS) successfully celebrated the 124th Anniversary of discovering the X-ray by a German physicist, WC Roentgen in late 1895. November 8, 2019, was the first time to celebrate this in Rwanda after a long time disputing the development and improvement that is being undertaken by the Rwanda healthcare system countrywide. The aforementioned took place at University of Rwanda-CMHS (URI)/Remera Campus/Kigali-Rwanda.

The theme set by the organizers was adopted from the International Society of Radiographer and Radiologic Technologist and integrated into Rwandan health system context: ‘Your safety, our priority’. The radiographer is promoting and maintaining safety culture.

Participants were all medical imaging practitioners working in healthcare facilities [public, semi-public and private] from all provinces of a country; Developing partners [Stakeholders] who are investing in radiology and imaging in Rwanda, academic staff in imaging and affiliated sciences. The recognized national media and opinion leaders as well as decision makers were invited to join the radiographers’ effort in appraising the day to celebrate the profession. It was an opportunity to raise public awareness of how imaging and radiation therapy procedures play an important role in healthcare as the eye of modern medicine.

The ceremony started by cutting and sharing a special cake prepared for that day and radiographers turn around the cake province by province as SMIR members are decentralized into five provinces in the country.

Mr Bana Remy Wilson [SMIR President] addressed the challenges faced by members while they are delivering clinical care service and strategies in place including conducting a radiographers need assessment in Rwanda for making advocacy to overcome the barrier faced by imaging practitioners for achieving well-being of members as well as community entirely. It was an opportunity to empower SMIR members and collaborate with stakeholders to contribute, promote and elevate the professional practice for maintaining Safety Culture in daily practice.

Historical perspective on International Radiography Day celebration and we were lack to have Mrs Mechtilde Mukangendo (head of Medical Imaging Sciences Department at University of Rwanda) who initiated her speech by thanking organizers of event and participant and emphasized on how the current training curriculum is responding to community needs in terms of imaging services and announced the Bachelor Program has started in Rwanda and first cohort is out in October 2019 and there is a way an advanced Diploma holder in imaging should use to get Bachelor in domain.

Different regulatory bodies ensured to the SMIR and its members the positive partnership to improve imaging practice in Rwanda. The president concluded that we will be organizing this event every year and all participants expressed their happiness at this.
Radiography Day is always a great opportunity for radiographers around the world to promote radiography as a profession and to introduce themselves as key members of the medical imaging and therapy team to their community. There are many ways for this to be realized. It is often accomplished through radiation protection campaigns and thematic educational events on the days around November 8.

In our department, at General Hospital Laiko, Athens, we delivered short workshops to students on safety culture in digital radiography (DR), interventional radiography (IR) and computed tomography (CT) at the beginning of the week to mark the anniversary of the discovery of X rays by Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen in 1895. Students were pleased with the learning outcomes while educators were surprised with the increased attendance and support by colleagues. The following photos reveal the satisfaction of both students and educators holding the ISRRT poster, promoting this year’s theme “Your safety, our priority.”

While the medical imaging and therapy community was still “recovering” from the World Radiography Day 2019 celebrations, the 12th EFRS Annual General Meeting, in magnificent Riga on the 15th and 16th of November 2019 in Riga, Latvia. I was delighted to join a wonderful group of 46 radiographers and 12 educators from 24 countries who have been investing systematic effort to work together “for radiographers and student radiographers across Europe” as an observer. The meeting agenda was once again overwhelming with 22 items divided in two days.

After the opening and introductory messages by the EFRS president, Dr J. McNulty and CEO, D. Pronk - Larive, a new election model for the upcoming board elections was proposed. The board presented updates on activities since the 11th AGM and proposed the action plan and budget for the coming year. Including the EFRS Long Term Strategic Plan & activity plan 2020 and the “RERP” Radiographer Education Research and Practice 2020”.

On the second day, Dr Jonathan McNulty underpinned the EFRS - ISRRT joint project on AI and the radiography profession as part of a series of EFRS projects and co-operations with European Organizations, i.e. CIRSE, ESR, EFOMP, HERCA, COCIR. Other related activities included the ECR 2019 evaluation of ECR 2019. Professor Louise Reinford, Section Head, Radiography & Diagnostic Imaging of University College of Dublin, explained the findings and the increased number of participants compared to the initial aim. The good news is that the research hub will continue at the upcoming ECR in Vienna. Moreover, during ECR 2020, there will be 20 radiographer sessions including the 4 sessions of “EFRS meets Slovenia”, “EFRS meets the Netherlands” as well as the “ISRRT meets Canada” and the “ISRRT meets Japan”. ECR will allow for approximately 40 radiographer society booths while EPOS sessions will be conducted in one specified area only.

Before closure of the 12th EFRS AGM, I was invited by Dr J. McNulty, to deliver the ISRRT message and communicate the activities of the past year. Subsequently, I congratulated the EFRS board on the progress and work they have invested in growing and working for radiographers and student radiographers across Europe. Yet, it was important to inform them that the work will be reflected worldwide via the ISRRT network and its collaborations with international organizations and decision-making committees.

This was substantiated by illustrating the ISRRT activities within and beyond Europe.

The ISRRT activities in Europe include:

- Hakon Hemly’s, (Vice President Europe) presentations during the Nordic Congress and Swedish week; and
- Philippe Gerson, (Treasurer) participating in several congresses in Europe.
- ISRRT WRD 2019 special edition issue where the contributors from the EFRS were credited.
- Joint work on AI and professional practice with the EFRS.

Secondly, ISRRT activities beyond Europe include:

- IAEA Meeting on Cumulative CT doses, whereas the Regional Director Europe ISRRT, I was determined for stakeholders to acknowledge the need of radiography education homogeneity and CPD to practice safely. (March 2019).
- QA/QC Guidance documents on DR, CT and mammography.
- e-learning platform with free access to educational material.
- WHO book on Medical Devices review.
- Joint work with ESR on Safety Culture and CPD.

Safety Culture Workshop in DR.
The World Radiography Education Trust Foundation (WRETF) is pleased to announce our newest Ambassadors. Volunteer Ambassadors are one of the WRETF’s greatest assets. It is through the efforts of these dedicated volunteers that the Foundation fulfills its mission of increasing access to educational opportunities for radiographers and radiation therapists working in areas of the world where resources are limited.

WRETF Ambassadors are goodwill representatives who give their time and energies to represent and inform their communities of the opportunities offered by the WRETF. WRETF ambassadors are appointed to a one-year term of office in the first instance; re-appointment for additional one-year terms can be granted indefinitely. The title of Senior Ambassador is bestowed upon Ambassadors who have made outstanding contributions the program. They provide mentorship to freshman Ambassadors. Currently, three of the Foundations Trustees have emerged from the Ambassador program including it’s current chairman. The program is under the direction of Ramona Chanderballi, WRETF Guyana Trustee, and former Ambassador.

The WRETF owes a debt of gratitude to those who have served previously in this distinguished role as their efforts have contributed greatly to the recent accomplishments of the Foundation.

The Foundation welcomes our new Ambassadors

Mohammed Abd Alghani  Palestine
Jean Felix Habimana  Rwanda
Abdouli S. Janko  The Gambia
Peachy S. Luna  Philippines
Bismark Bright Ofori-Manteaw  Ghana
Stephen S. Mkoloma  Tanzania
Pradip Sharma  Nepal
Soufiane Tibermacine  Algeria
Dr Bimali Sanjeevani Weerakoon  Sri Lanka
Adam Zuberi  Tanzania

Our new Ambassadors join an outstanding team of representatives

Edward Chan  Hong Kong
Ansumana Darboe  The Gambia
Yahans De Heer  Sierra Leone
Hussien Abdelrahman Dinar  Sudan
June Downer  Jamaica
Simbarashe Gashirai  Zimbabwe
Shahed Hossain  Bangladesh
Naiki Kodama  Japan
Manish Paudel  Nepal
Khin Maung Tin  Myanmar
Solomun Ubom  Nigeria
Rahman Ud Din  Pakistan
Evelyn Wasike  Kenya

Christopher Steelman
Chairman
THE WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) was developed in response to the globalization of the tobacco epidemic. The framework was first announced at the World Health Assembly in May 1996. Due to the fact that a variety of factors including trade liberalization and direct foreign investment lead to the spread of the tobacco epidemic. Additional factors including global marketing, transnational tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship have also contributed to the increase in tobacco use. WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control available at www.who.int/fctc/text_download/en/

The core demand reduction provisions in the WHO FCTC include Price and tax measures to reduce the demand for tobacco, as well as Non-price measures to reduce the demand for tobacco, namely:

- Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke;
- Regulation of the contents of tobacco products;
- Regulation of tobacco product disclosures;
- Packaging and labelling of tobacco products;
- Education, communication, training and public awareness;
- Tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship; and,
- Demand reduction measures concerning tobacco dependence and cessation.
A publication titled The Role of Health Professionals in Tobacco Control (access via www.who.int/tobacco/resources/publications/wntd/2005/bookletfinal_20april.pdf) suggests that “the International associations have great potential to show leadership by sending a clear message to their national counterparts that tobacco control is at the top of the agenda.” Thus, one high priority task of the ISRRT is geared to support on the WHO’s Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO-FCTC) by initiating an ISRRT-WHO Tobacco Control Project. The ISRRT had put great effort in presenting its leadership in supporting the WHO’s FCTC as one of the ISRRT top priorities.

Working for the ISRRT as the Director of Education, I put great emphasis on the ISRRT’s President Donna Newman direction for improving the “Education, communication, training and public awareness” regarding the non-smoking habit to our new generations of radiographers and radiological technologists.

This year on November 8th at the Faculty of Radiological Technology, Rangsit University www2.rsu.ac.th/home and https://bit.ly/2K2CLTZ. The ISRRT-WHO Tobacco control project was organized during the Thailand’s World Radiographer Day 2019 activity. Games and photos sessions were organized around the concept of RT non-smoking profession. These activities were presented to all participant especially the new generation of the radiographers and radiological technologists. More than 360 participants were enjoyed and learned that radiographers and radiological technologists are aiming at the non-smoking profession. This was a such successful event with great fun.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Asso. Prof. Manus Monkolsuk, the dean of Faculty of Radiological Technology, Rangsit University and Mr Umpolprot Wongpiem [M.Sc.] for their countless support to the ISRRT activities. The Faculty of Radiological Technology at Rangsit University was founded in 2015 as the first private institute in Thailand that produces graduates with professional expertise in radiological technology. Rangsit University is the only private university that has been assessed on education standard quality by the Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (Public Organization) and rated ‘Very Good’. The Bachelor of Science (Radiological Technology) program accredited by the Thai Radiologic Technologists Professional Board since 2016.
THE headline “Pathways, Practitioner, Promotion: The role of the radiographer.” was the title of an annual evening seminar organized by InHealth in the UK in October 2019. InHealth is the UK’s largest private provider of imaging diagnostics, and has a large group of reporting radiographers that they lease to more than 40 public radiology facilities. These account for more than 500,000 x-ray reports per year and is an important factor in meeting ever-increasing demands for acceptable response times and quality of service.

In the UK, over the last 25 years, the role of the radiographer has seen a significant development. Health care demands more and more, and the evolution of healthcare has necessitated role changes for the entire workforce. Especially the health professions at the bachelor level, including radiographers, have had to adapt to new demands and streamlined processes, all due to significant capacity problems that radiology has and is facing. This is in addition to the UK labor crisis in radiology, so how do they handle this demand?

They do this, among other things, with the facilitation and follow-up of reporting radiographs and by inviting to free seminars like this one in Manchester last October. Reporting radiographers in the UK are now a well-established part of radiology and the meeting discussed further opportunities to leverage this expertise to develop the services to the benefit of patients. The InHealth
Reporting seminar, in collaboration with SCoR (Society and College of Radiography) & BIR (British Institute of Radiology), had the theme “Pathways, Practitioner, Promotion: The role of the radiographer.”

As in previous meetings, an excellent panel of speakers was assembled and shared their expertise and insight into what is required of our profession to meet the requirements of today’s NHS (National Health Service). The lecturers were challenged by chair of the meeting, Dr Nick Woznitza and the audience to answer how the 3 “P’s” (in the heading) can enable radiographers to influence the results of the main P in all this ... The patient!

As with all previous seminars on the topic of reporting radiographs, this was also very popular and quickly sold out. In addition to myself and the president of the Norwegian Society of Radiographers, Bent Ronny Mikalsen, there were also other international participants at the seminar. Two radiographers from Canada had this meeting as one of their stops on a study trip to Europe to learn more about reporting radiographers. As in many other countries, they are also struggling in Canada to handle all necessary diagnostic imaging exams and to keep waiting times at an acceptable level, and are looking into change how they are organized and the distribution of tasks.

This year’s lecturers presented more general and strategic management perspectives than the case has been in previous meetings. No research work or details on figures and developments were presented, as we remember in previous meetings. Now there was more focus on how to eliminate unwanted variation in the use of reporting radiographers, and reduction in waiting times by means of more streamlined patient processes. It was argued that reporting radiographers and radiographers in general, to a greater extent, must be able to be responsible for streamlining patient processes. One of the lecturers was a professor of pulmonary medicine and had reorganized the patient track for those suspicion of lung cancer, where, among other things, better use of radiographer skills had managed to cut waiting times to half without downgrading other patient groups. The professors also believed that politically or administratively determined time limits in patient care, such as diagnosis and treatment of cancer worked against their intent. These were always minimum deadlines on a piece of paper, that in practice become management tools for the use of resources which one then aims to precisely manage. In practice, this also means that these deadlines are often not met either. In case of suspected lung cancer, the time limit in the NHS was 14 days from visit to the GP to the appointment for imaging diagnostics, and 62 days time limit to start treatment. Two months to wait for those who know they have a deadly disease that reduces the chances of survival for each passing day!

After the meeting, we are left with a reinforced belief that radiographers, reporting as others, must stand up and take greater responsibility for the services they are actually a key part of, should we come any way in solving the challenges we see both in UK and here at home in Norway.

---

**E-LEARNING PROJECT**

*Digital Imaging: Issues in Quality and Radiation Safety*

Developed by Vesna Balac Ed. D., R.T.(R)(MR) Indiana University Northwest Gary, IN

**THE ISRRT** ISRRT e-Learning project is now in the process of being developed and will be lunched soon. Dr Vesna Balac is currently contributing, she is an educator in radiologic sciences and has been successful in designing academic courses. She is one of the authors for the 6th edition of the nationally recognized textbook, Carlton, R., Adler, A., & Balac, V. (2019). Principles of radiographic imaging: An art and a science. (6th ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage. She shared with ISRRT an e-Learning video as well as assessment questions in the topic of “Digital Imaging Issues in Quality and Radiation Safety” to be presented in the ISRRT e-Learning platform. The instructional video will be created as a course in the e-Learning platform with the objectives as following:

- Differentiate between various terms and definitions related to digital imaging.
- Describe digital dose parameters and their optimization
- Discuss the impact of technical factors on patient dose and image quality
- Differentiate between the principles of technical factor selection for digital imaging systems.
- Describing assessment of digital exposure technique
- Recognize the scale of deviation index values and their impact on radiation safety
- Analyze elements of digital imaging processing and describe how they impact image quality
- Differentiate between digital image artifact types, their causes, and remedies

The course will support the e-Learning project goal in order to develop our profession by sharing the knowledge in needed to the professionals around the world. The course is in the integration state into the e-Learning platform. After completion, it will be opened to registered member for online access via the ISRRT website [www.isrrt.org](http://www.isrrt.org)
pleased to report that ISRRT continues to play an important role in representing the radiography profession and by being engaged with various activities of the WHO and IAEA help shape the safety culture and professional standards for all our diagnostic and therapy activities.

IAEA Safety Culture competition

Stewart acted as a judge to find three winners out of 19 on a short list to select digital presentations to support the IAEA efforts to provide training material in strengthening safety culture in medicine. Initially IAEA narrowed down the submittals (54 total) to the 19. The top 3 presentations will receive a travel grant to Vienna to present their work in February 2020. For more information and details see details below.

WHO list of priority medical devices for management of cardiac diseases, stroke, and diabetes

ISRRT along with other HGOs on official relations with the WHO have been invited to participate in this Priority Medical Device project which has been convened by the World Health Organization (WHO) which has the purpose of improving global access to medical devices by producing a list of priority medical devices needed for the management of high-burden diseases.

The WHO stated: 'With the growing health burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), including cardiac disease, stroke, and diabetes, there is a need to determine clinical interventions and priority medical devices required for the effective assessment, treatment, monitoring, and rehabilitation of these diseases.'

This project falls as part of the ISRRT’s workplan with the WHO and is an essential part of our ongoing commitment with WHO. WHO recognise the valuable contribution of radiographers and radiological technologists play in the diagnosis and treatment of patients who suffer from cardiac disease, stroke and diabetes.

I’m pleased to say that following extensive help from colleagues around the world that ISRRT have contributed towards the WHO book of ‘Priority Medical Devices for management of cardiac disease, stroke, and diabetes’. This will be similar to the WHO list of priority medical devices for cancer management in 2017 which ISRRT made valuable contributions.

WHO Medical Devices - Decommissioning of Medical devices

The WHO Medical device technical series is being updated to include ‘decommissioning of medical devices’ with a publication date of 2019.

In the Preface to the draft document WHO states:

Medical devices are essential components of the healthcare system and are crucial in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of disease.

Recognizing the importance of health technologies, the World Health Assembly adopted resolution WHA60.29 in May 2007. The resolution covers issues arising from the inappropriate deployment and use of health technologies, and the need to establish priorities in the selection and management of health technologies, specifically medical devices. By adopting this resolution, delegations from Member States acknowledged the importance of health technologies for achieving health-related development goals, urged expansion of expertise in the field of health technologies, and requested that the World Health Organization (WHO) take specific actions to support Member States. One of WHO’s strategic objectives is to “ensure improved access, quality and use of medical products and technologies.”

To meet these objectives, WHO has been working towards devising an agenda, an action plan, tools and guidelines to increase access to appropriate medical devices. This document is part of a series of reference documents being developed for use at the country level. The series include the following subject areas and the guidance were published since 2011 as follows:

- Development of medical devices policies, 2011
- WHO Model Regulatory Framework for Medical devices including in vitro diagnostics medical devices, 2017
- Health technology assessment of medical devices, 2011
- Health technology management, 2011
  - needs assessment of medical devices, 2011
  - medical device procurement, 2011
  - medical equipment donations, 2011
  - medical equipment inventory management, 2011
  - medical equipment maintenance, 2011
  - computerized maintenance management systems, 2011
  - decommissioning medical devices (present publication, 2019)
– safe use of medical devices (under development for 2020)

- Priority and Essential medical devices

**Interagency list of priority medical devices for essential interventions for reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health**

ISRRT has been invited to comment on this comprehensive document covering the various aspects of equipment usage including:

- Medical device life cycle
- Decommissioning
- Decontamination
- Removal of patient data
- Waste management system
- Single- use medical devices
- Reusable medical devices
- Special care devices
- Implants
- Computer software and hardware

The document provides two useful Appendices; Appendix 1 a comprehensive list of WHO and Non-government and other organisation related to the topic and Appendix 2 giving details on Health care waste labelling and colour coding. The WHO-recommended segregation scheme is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of waste</th>
<th>Colour of container or bag</th>
<th>Type of container</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highly infectious waste</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>Strong, leak-proof plastic bag or autoclave compatible container</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other infectious waste</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>Plastic bag or container</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharps</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>Puncture-proof container</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical and pharmaceutical waste</td>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Plastic bag or container</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radioactive waste</td>
<td>Marked with the radioactive symbol</td>
<td>Lead box</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General health care waste</td>
<td>Black</td>
<td>Plastic bag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is a specific section on Radioactive sources (section 8.3)

This states:

Radioactive sources are used in nuclear medicine, radiotherapy, medical research, and diagnostic imaging. Examples include cobalt therapy, single-proton emission computed tomography (SPECT) and positron emission tomography (PET). A prime example of radioactive waste is material contaminated with radionuclides which can be present in solid, liquid, and gaseous forms. Short half-life radioactive materials can be classified as single-use devices while long half-life radioactive materials as reusable devices. Long half-life radioactive materials are usually used in radiotherapy procedures and conditioned as a sealed source. The sealed source should be disinfected before reuse and stored in a container with a lead shield.

When decommissioning radioactive sources, their final state is normally ‘disposal’. To dispose radioactive materials, their activity level should meet clearance level before it is released from the health facility to be processed further. According to International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), clearance level refers to a value of activity concentration and/or total activity at or below a source of radiation may be released from a regulatory body. When the activity of radioactive material has reached the clearance level, it can be disposed by normal methods.

Methods for different types of radioactive materials in medicine or medical services can be found in IAEA-TecDoc-1183: Management of Radioactive Waste from The Use of Radionuclides in Medicine. When radioactive sources have not met clearance level, they should be stored within the health care facilities with proper handling until it reaches clearance level. They must be stored in a lead container or in a lead-shielded room to prevent transmission of harmful radiation to the environment.

Radioactive sources indicated for storage to allow decay should be stored in suitable places or containers which prevent them from dispersing before being transported to a central facility to be disposed or to the vendor. Plastic bags or other containers designated for radioactive material waste can be used for storage. Criteria for proper containment can be found in IAEA-TecDoc-1183. Clear labelling containing information of types and activity at given date or period of radioactive material should be included. These containers should be stored in a lead shielded room to prevent radiation dissemination into the hospital environment. WHO recommends lead boxes for storing radioactive waste labelled with appropriate hazard symbol shown below.

---

**Radioactive symbols.** The new radiation symbol was adopted by the United Nations in 2007 but the older symbol is still widely recognized and expected to remain in common use for many years.
Radioactive sources in large-built devices, such as the cobalt-60 which is used in teletherapy, should not be stored inside the hospital when it is decommissioned. When these devices are designated for donation, trade-in, refurbishment, or relocation, the transport process should be conducted carefully especially when there is still high activity. The responsible person should make sure the device will not emit harmful radiation into the environment. Proper sealing, usually made from lead, should be used. Large-built radioactive sources might include housing; however, it should be noted that housing is not appropriate for transportation or long storage of the devices. When radioactive sources are designated for disposal, they should be sent to an authorized institution or the manufacturer.

ISRRT’s comments along with other organisations’ comments will be evaluated and it is anticipated that a final document will be published by the end of 2019.

REGIONAL COORDINATORS REPORTS

The ISRRT Regional Coordinators for Professional Practice continue to monitor and report on activities in their respective Regions. I am pleased to include reports from Christopher Steelman, Regional Coordinator for The Americas, and Elizabeth Balogun, Regional Coordinator for Africa.

REGIONAL REPORT CHRISTOPHER STEELMAN (USA) REPRESENTING - THE AMERICAS

The American Society of Radiologic Technologists Board of Directors Provides Update on Gonadal and Fetal Shielding

The issue of gonadal and fetal shielding continues to be one of the foremost topics within the United States radiologic technology community as these are longstanding practices for facilities and radiologic technologists.

In April 2019 the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) released a Position Statement on the Use of Patient Gonadal and Fetal Shielding recommending the discontinuation of gonadal and fetal shielding during x-ray procedures. The AAPM position statement “reflects the consensus among medical physicists that the routine use of patient gonadal and fetal shielding, once a mainstay of patient radiation protection, may no longer be best practice for protecting our patients.” Since its release, the AAPM statement has been endorsed by the American College of Radiology, the Canadian Organization of Medical Physics, and the Health Physics Society.

However, the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) is taking these changes very seriously as changing radiation safety best practices that have been in place for decades would require amendments to educational programs, state statutes, certifications, facility protocols and patient expectations.

The ASRT has carefully reviewed the AAPM statement to evaluate how the findings would affect Societies 156,000 members and patient care. At its June meeting, the ASRT Board of Directors held extensive discussions about the emerging issue of ending the use of patient gonadal and fetal shielding during medical diagnostic x-ray procedures and decided not to endorse the proposal to remove gonadal and fetal shielding. The Board believes the imaging community needs to conduct more research, review the science and participate in further discussions to determine if the recommendation benefits patients and the radiologic technology community.

In an open letter to the medical imaging community published Aug. 19, the AAPM clarified its position statement of April 2. In the letter, AAPM President Cynthia H. McCollough, Ph.D., FAAPM, FACR, FAIMBE, shared that the AAPM statement was intended to be the beginning of a much larger conversation that includes many other stakeholder organizations and individuals. It believes that the purpose of the statement is “to educate the imaging community that these shields provide no tangible benefit to patients, slow down workflow, and in a small number of cases, compromise an exam by blocking important patient anatomy or increase patient dose when detected by an automatic exposure control system.” Dr McCollough also called for “continuing the conversation within the stakeholder community and working together to develop educational information about the use of patient shielding.” Dr. McCollough also recognized that “different opinions, perspectives, and recommendations have been voiced as to what constitutes best practice with regard to the use of patient gonadal and fetal shielding.”

In an effort to facilitate these discussions, the AAPM formed the Communicating Advances in Radiation Education for Shielding (CARES) committee. The committee brings together stakeholders from throughout the field to discuss potential changes in the use of patient shielding. The AAPM the committee name was to recognize that everyone involved in these conversations has the common goal of using imaging safely and effectively to guide clinical care. The goal of the CARES committee is to continue the conversation within the stakeholder community and to develop educational information about the use of patient shielding, including suggestions for facilities that choose to re-evaluate or change their current patient shielding practices.

At its fall meeting, the ASRT Board of Directors discussed the recommendation by the American Association of Physicists in Medicine to discontinue patient gonadal and fetal shielding during x-ray procedures. A key part of the Board’s discussion focused on a National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements committee that is investigating recommendations, based on scientific evidence, on whether gonadal shielding should continue to be used routinely. The NCRP’s findings, expected to be released in early 2020, will be crucial as its guidelines are woven into existing educational curricula and certification exams. The NCRP’s pending recommendations will affect future curriculum and certification exams. The ASRT continues to receive questions about the proposal, and the Board continues to monitor the issue and keep the profession updated as more information becomes available.
Radiologic technologists who have comments, questions or concerns about the AAPM recommendation may contact the organization directly at cares@AAPM.org


REGIONAL REPORT ELIZABETH BALOGUN – AFRICA

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) regional workshop on Establishment of Diagnostic Reference Levels for African Member States held June 10-13, 2019, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

IAEA RAF 9059 Project is a research project pioneered by the United Nations agency to reach Africa by collaborating with key stakeholders in African member states to establish a Regional Diagnostic Reference Levels (DRLs) for Adult Computed tomography examinations in African.

The project head is Debbie Gilley from the International Atomic Energy Agency. The workshop was full of briefings and reports of research work conducted by country representatives. The meeting gathered experts and major stakeholders who also trained participants on quality control in computed tomography (CT), data collection methods and analysis.

Results were collated and detailed report is to be submitted to the international regulators who will come up with a guidance document on Diagnostic Reference levels for African Region. At the end of this project Radiographers were highly recognized as key stakeholders and professionals in Establishing Regional DRLs for Africa and emphasized the need for a more intense and effective training on Optimization and Justification of medical exposures for Radiographers in Africa.

Three Radiographers from Zimbabwe, Cameroon and Nigeria were in attendance at this important project.

NEWS FROM THE IAEA AND WHO MEDICAL DEVICES SECTION OF WHO

Some important pieces of news reported in the IAEA’s Radiation Protection of Patients (RPOP) E-newsletters (RPOP.RPoP.Contact-Point@iaea.org) for September 2019 include:

Winners in IAEA competition highlight how to strengthen radiation safety culture in medicine

Three digital projects that showcase how healthcare professionals building a strong radiation safety culture won the top prizes in the IAEA competition Towards a Strong Radiation Safety Culture in Medicine. The winners, from Greece, the United States and New Zealand, were selected among more than 100 submissions.

Debbie Gilley, IAEA Radiation Protection Specialist commented and organiser commented “We have received many innovative and engaging submissions from all corners of the world. The high interest indicates a wide understanding of the need to use creativity to prevent errors in radiology, nuclear medicine and radiotherapy’

The competition entries were judged on their relevance to safety culture, on the clarity of their messages and on innovation in their presentation of the content. Anastasia Sarchosoglou from Greece placed first, followed by Leah Kayomi Schubert from the United States and Darin Steven O’Keeffe from New Zealand. All three will be invited to travel to Vienna in January 2020 to present their projects at the launch of a new IAEA training course on radiation safety culture in medicine.

The first was titled ‘Keep effective communication’ with the winner highlighting the importance of safety communication in her project. “We created a video related to this particular trait because we strongly believe that without effective communication, a safety culture could not be developed at all,” she said. Her entry highlights how communication barriers can lead to misunderstandings and offers communication tips for health professionals.

The other two winners focused on leadership and the importance of a questioning attitude. Schubert showed the impact of her hospital’s habit of designating one month per year as Safety Month. During that month, annual safety training is conducted, and safety topics and new initiatives communicated.

O’Keeffe used his project to underline the importance of challenging colleagues’ assumptions and offer contradicting views when something appears to be wrong. In some cases, he recommends that a time-out be called to improve safety.

The other traits of safety culture in medicine are: personal accountability, decision-making, respectful work environment, continuous learning, problem identification and resolution, environment for raising concerns, and functioning work processes in place.

Full details and access to the three video presentation can be found at: www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/winners-in-iaea-competition-highlight-how-to-strengthen-radiation-safety-culture-in-medicine
Some important pieces of news reported in the IAEA’s Radiation Protection of Patients (RPOP) E-newsletters (RPOP RPoP.Contact-Point@iaea.org) for October 2019 include:

- New E-learning in Spanish: Safety and Quality in Radiotherapy Webinar: Justification and optimization of the use of CT in nuclear cardiology – in Spanish 19 November 2019, 3 pm CET
- Poster: IAEA radiation protection safety standards and guidance at a glance Now available for download
- Joint ICTP-IAEA Workshop on Establishment and Utilization of Diagnostic Reference Levels in Medical Imaging 18-22 November 2019, Italy
- Recorded panel discussion: improving radiation safety culture in medicine Discussion with a medical director, a cancer survivor, a radiologist, and a radiation protection specialist
- FAMPO Workshop: Advances in Medical Imaging, Treatment and Radiation Protection 18 - 22 November 2019, Kenya

All these important items can be found at RPoP.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Some important pieces of news reported in the WHO Medical Devices Newsletter for September 2019 include:

WHO Patient Safety Day – No one should be harmed in healthcare.

This took place on September 1, 2019 and highlighted the facts that:

1. 134 million adverse events occur each year due to unsafe care in hospitals in low- and middle-income countries, contributing to 2.6 million deaths annually
2. 15% of hospital expenses can be attributed to treating patient safety failures in OECD countries
3. 4 out of 10 patients are harmed in the primary and ambulatory settings; up to 80% of harm in these settings can be avoided

Details about the initiative can be found at www.who.int/campaigns/world-patient-safety-day/2019

There you will find a Patient Safety Fact Sheet which can also be found at www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/patient-safety and 10 facts about Patient Safety which is found at www.who.int/features/factfiles/patient_safety/en/. These Facts include:

1. One in every 10 patients is harmed while receiving hospital care.
2. The occurrence of adverse events due to unsafe care is likely one of the 10 leading causes of death and disability across the world.
3. Four out of every 10 patients are harmed in primary and outpatient health care.

4. At least 1 out of every 7 Canadian dollars is spent treating the effects of patient harm in hospital care.
5. Investment in patient safety can lead to significant financial savings.
6. Unsafe medication practices and medication errors harm millions of patients and costs billions of US dollars every year.
7. Inaccurate or delayed diagnosis is one of the most common causes os patient harm and affects millions of patients.
8. Hospital infections affect up to 10 out of every 100 hospitalized patients.
9. More than 1 million patients die annually form complications due to surgery.
10. Medical exposure to radiation is a public and patient safety concern.

With reference to the Medical exposure concern the article states:

Worldwide, there are more than 3.6 billion x-ray examinations performed every year, with around 10% of them occurring in children. Additionally, there are over 37 million nuclear medicine and 7.5 million radiotherapy procedures annually. Inappropriate or unskilled use of medical radiation can lead to health hazards, both for patients and staff.1

Radiation errors involve overexposure to radiation and cases of wrong-patient or wrong-site identification. A review of 30 years of published data on safety in radiotherapy estimates that the overall incidence of errors is around 15 per 10,000 treatment courses.2

References


Some important pieces of news reported in the WHO Medical Devices Newsletter for October 2019 include:

New publication: Technical specifications and guidance for oxygen therapy devices

November 12 was World Pneumonia Day - Pneumonia accounts for 15% of all deaths of children under 5 years old and much work has to be done.

To download the publication and specifications visit www.who.int/medical_devices/publications/tech_specs_oxygen_therapy_devices/en/
Review of the Global Atlas of Medical Devices for 2020

BACKGROUND. In reference to WHA60.29 resolution, a survey was done in 2011, and updated 2014 and 2017 on Health technologies, specifically on medical devices which are essential for a functioning health system. Considering that Medical devices are indispensable in the prevention, screening, diagnosis, monitoring, treatment and rehabilitation of disease or in different health conditions.

All country data retrieved so far can be found in www.who.int/medical_devices/countries/en/

The last version of the Global Atlas for medical devices was published in 2017, and the update of information for the next printed version is planned for 2020.

Nomenclature of medical devices, survey for further analysis

BACKGROUND

- Nomenclature, coding and classification of medical devices has not been standardized globally and there are many systems that co-exist among countries and within countries and agencies.

- Information on this topic can be found in www.who.int/medical_devices/priority/mde_nomenclature/en/

- In October 2018 WHO was requested to provide a report on medical devices nomenclature to be discussed in the WHO Executive Board in May 2019. http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB145/B145_3-en.pdf?ua=1

- Due to the discussion in the Executive Board meeting, member states requested further analysis of nomenclature of medical devices. www.who.int/about/governance/executive-board/executive-board-145

- WHO has been having different consultations and will continue to do studies and analysis, in order to provide a report for the next Executive Board meeting of Member States in 2020.

Launch of the report of the Second WHO Model List of Essential In Vitro Diagnostics and survey for electronic version

The launch event took place on November 5.

BACKGROUND

- The Essential Diagnostics List (EDL) is a compendium of priority in vitro diagnostics that form an integral component of the management of high burden and priority diseases and health conditions.

- The first edition of the list was released in 2018, and the second edition was released in July 2019.

- The second WHO model list of essential in vitro diagnostics was developed based on proposals made by a large number of stakeholders including academia, industry, and humanitarian organizations.

- The proposals were reviewed by a representative multidisciplinary group of experts known as the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on In Vitro Diagnostics (SAGE IVD), who met in March 2019. The evidence reviewed by the SAGE, as well as the details of their deliberations, and final recommendations are now available in the form of a technical report. The publication can be found at: Report of the second meeting of the SAGE IVD including Second EDL

ONGOING PROFESSIONAL ISSUES

I’m pleased to say that, as part of our commitment to the WHO which enables ISRRT to function as a ‘Non-State Actor’ (formerly non-government organisation NGO) we have now finalised and published general guidance on several quality control documents relating to: Mammography, General radiography and Computed Tomography.

We are grateful for the feedback received from colleagues – please visit the ISRRT website.

Additionally, all the ISRRT Position statements are in the process of being standardised and these can be found on the ISRRT website. Don’t forget to look for the respective Tabs with relevant drop-downs to find what you are looking for.

As stated before and will be continually stated ISRRT is committed to continuing to raise the profile and importance of implementing the Bonn Call for Action Joint Position Statement by the IAEA and WHO - Setting the Scene for the Next Decade following the meeting in Bonn, Germany, in December 2012, with the specific purpose of identifying and addressing issues arising in radiation protection in medicine. To this end the ISRRT board have updated its action plan at the ISRRT Board meeting in Paris January 2019. Various tasks have been allocated and we will continue to engage with many stakeholders and sister organisations in raising the profile of the Bonn Call-for-Actions.

As indicated last time one of those Actions is Action 2 which calls for the establishment, use of, and regular update of diagnostic reference levels for radiological procedures, including interventional procedures, in particular for children. Hence the development of a Position Statement on Diagnostic Reference levels (DRLs).

Readers are encouraged to use following IAEA and ICRP links to gain information on the use and establishment of DRLs.

IAEA – About Diagnostic Reference Levels [DRLs] www.iaea.org/resources/rpop/health-professionals/radiology/diagnostic-reference-levels/about-diagnostic-reference-levels

We plan to develop a DRL guidance document once the DRL position statement is approved.

KEEPING OUR EYES AND EARS OPEN

As ever it is the ISRRT’S objective in advancing the science and practice of radiography and radiotherapy and allied subjects by the promotion of improved standards of education and of research in the technical aspects of radiation medicine and radiation protection. This means that we all need to keep abreast of developments and advancements promoted by the various Regional and World agencies such as the WHO and the IAEA.

We must be diligent as we see developments such as the introduction of Artificial Intelligence (AI) being introduced into many aspects of the patient journey and imaging process.

The ISRRRT Board will be working with the EFRS to prepare a joint paper on the radiographers/technologists’ role in the application of AI. More to come on this subject.

All of us have a professional responsibility to maintain clinical competence and knowledge. To aid in this resolve the IAEA has a wealth of information on radiation protection including online training courses in radiation protection. Available courses and information packs include:

Medical Imaging: The Right Test at the Right Time - A new short video on justification of medical procedures
Webinar: Computed Tomography simulator
E-learning: Radiation Dose Management in Computed Tomography (CT) - Now available in Spanish
Tips & Tricks: Radiation Protection in Radiography
Safety and Quality in Radiotherapy
New Cases Mapped in SEVRRA-SAFRON - 583 probabilistic safety analyses added in IAEA online tool: Safety in Radiation Oncology
For further information clink on www.iaea.org/resources/rpop/resources/online-training

Additionally there are free posters and leaflets which available at the IAEA website www.iaea.org/resources/rpop/resources/posters-and-leaflets
These include with their respective links the following:
Poster - Building awareness in pregnancy
Trifold - Delivering Safe Radiotherapy is in your Hands
Poster - 10 Pearls: Radiation protection of patients in CT
Poster - 10 Pearls: Appropriate referral for CT examinations
Poster: 10 Pearls: Radiation protection for children in interventional procedures
Poster - 10 Pearls: Radiation protection of patients in fluoroscopy
Poster - 10 Pearls: Radiation protection of staff in fluoroscopy

To benefit from the vast IAEA resource why not sign up to receive the IAEA to receive the Weekly News and the IAEA Radiation Protection of Patients (RPOP) for their monthly E-Newsletter – for further information look up (www.iaea.org/newsletter and the www.iaea.org/resources/rpop/newsletter

We continue to encourage suggestions and ideas for position statements so please forward your suggestions to Stewart Whitley at aswhitley@msn.com

Keep up-to-date with all the latest ISRRT news through:

ISRRT Website at www.isrrt.org
ISRRT Facebook at www.facebook.com/isrrt.org/
ISRRT Twitter at twitter.com/isrrt

For a full list of the names and addresses of member societies & ISRRT Council Members please go to the link at: https://www.isrrt.org/national-societies
Since the last issue of the News & Views I am pleased to report the main activities of the committee.

We have produced the WRD 2019 poster and Facebook template. For the first time we have produced a World Radiography Day ISRRT special edition magazine on the theme: Your safety our priority. This first issue was a real success and I would like to thank the following contributors for their articles:

- Message from the ISRRT President, Donna Newman
- The radiographer is promoting and maintaining safety culture, Elizabeth Balogun
- Quality and safety for the patient by radiographers, Edward Chan
- The radiographer is promoting and maintaining safety culture, Kathy Colgan
- Patient safety in interventional suite, Roberta Gerasia
- Radiation safety culture in nuclear medicine, Fozy Peer
- ALARA from a different perspective, Tercia Monette October and Nazlea Behardien Peters
- The use of low radiation and iodine dosage techniques for CT new patient safety in diagnostic imaging, Purwanto Kasbullah and Isaak Sugiyanto
- Your safety our priority: the radiographer is promoting and maintaining safety culture, Adrian Brady (ESR)
- Effective communication by radiographers: at the heart of patient safety, Matteo Migliorini and Jonathan L. Portelli (EFRS)

Starting in January we will be working on the WRD 2020 theme and poster. Following the theme and the acceptance by the board of the theme and poster, we will be working on the second edition of the World Radiography Day ISRRT special edition magazine.

In 2020 we will also be launching the Newsletter in between the News & Views issues.

Look for the first issue in 2020!

Alain Cromp
Director of Public Relations and communications

---

**News & Views Editorial submissions & deadlines**

Deadline for the three times a year issues 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 the ISRRT Chief Executive Officer: Mr Dimitris Katsifarakis, ceo@isrrt.org
I AM very glad to announce the 2019 Chesney-ISRRT Research Fund awardee. This year the award was given to the study titled “DEVELOPMENT OF INDICATION-BASED DIAGNOSTIC REFERENCE LEVELS FOR COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY EXAMINATIONS IN GHANA” by Benard Botwe, a radiographer and a PhD student from University of Ghana. I would like to thank our team in the ISRRT regional coordinators of education from all regions including: Ozan Tekin (Europe), Dr Hesta Friedrich-Nel (Africa), Dr Robin Hesler (The Americas) who are devoting their time to support all educational-related activities from the ISRRT.

Additionally, I would like to report my work for ISRRT under the president, Donna Newman. First, the ISRRT e-Learning platform development is my first priority task. The aim of the e-Learning platform was to provide radiographers and radiological technologists around the world access to free educational materials. The project was approved by the ISRRT Board and guided by our CEO, Dimitris Katsifarakis and president Donna Newman. The project was initiated at the beginning of the 2019 and was announced seeking for professionals in various fields including: Conventional imaging, radiation safety, CT, MRI, paediatric imaging, radiation therapy, nuclear medicine, and ultrasound. Fortunately, I would like to thank to ISRRT Board member for their contribution developing online material to share in the ISRRT e-Learning platform. Also, my deep thanks go to Dr Vesna Balac, a clinical Assistant Professor at Indiana University Northwest who is one of the course authors on the topic of Digital Imaging: Issues in Quality and Radiation Safety. You all can access to the online material in the ISRRT e-Learning platform by going to www.elearning.isrrt.org/

Free registration is required in order to access to the content. The registration process is very simple and straightforward. Just accepting the privacy and cookie policies, then provide information to create a new user. A confirmation email will be sent to your email and you can log-in to the system in a minute!

The ISRRT has also provided an introduction course to the e-Learning platform via the “Introduction to ISRRT online asynchronous courses” which provides all necessary information to the new users in order to start using the platform. New courses are regularly developed and added to the ISRRT platform. Please check it out and use it at your convenience.

This ISRRT e-Learning platform is aiming to provide ease of access to learning materials for radiographers and radiological technologists around the world. This initiative helps to develop our professions by providing access to knowledge for our friends who have limited access to the professional developments.
A tutorial course for an introduction to ISRRT online Asynchronous course.

Technologists Association (KRTA) in Jeju island, Korea on September 27. As a representative from the Thai Society of Radiological Technologists (TSRT) I had the chance to participate in this meeting to report the Thai’s IABSRT examination results to the board members. On the other hand, as the ISRRT Director of Education.

I would like to summarize that, until now, a grand total of 7,551 radiological technologists from Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Thailand, Hong Kong, and Macau had passed this specialized track exams. I would like to congratulate to the IABSRT and all successful examinees.

2020

March 11-15, 2020
ECR 2020
Vienna, Austria

March 15-16, 2020
AISTR 20th National Congress
Bari, Italy

March 14-16, 2020
53rd TWSRT Annual Meeting and 27th East Asia Conference of Radiological Technologists
Tainan, Taiwan

August 26-29, 2020
ISRRT World Congress
Dublin, Ireland

October 28-31, 2020
ICR Congress
Muscat, Oman

October 8-10, 2020
7th SEARC and 8th ARTs and MSR Golden Jubilee
Penang, Malaysia
http://msradiographer.org/

2021

May 19-21
NCR: Nordic Congress of Radiology
Helsinki Finland.
Congratulations to the ISRRT with the publication of the World Radiography Day Special Edition magazine. Providing an opportunity for individuals to focus on their priority for safety brings colleagues around the world closer together. It was exciting to see some of the amazing activities that radiographers and radiation therapists were involved in and the fantastic advertising of the profession that occurred on World Radiography Day. Within New Zealand we once again saw lots of radiation themed goodies being shared with colleagues as way of celebration.

The NZIMRT held its annual conference in Rotorua at the end of August. Rotorua is the hub of Maori culture and it was a wonderful opportunity to share with locals and visitors alike. “Tiaho Atu – Your Chance to Shine” was the conference theme and guest speakers and members provided much encouragement for delegates to realise their potential within their own workplaces. Dennis Bowman as invited speaker provided some excellent reminders as to why the basics of our craft are so important, especially when thinking about the safety aspects of radiation. The NZIMRT thanks him for his huge enthusiasm and generosity in his sharing of his knowledge.

In 2020 the NZIMRT will join with ASMIRT for a joint conference in Melbourne in May with the theme “Vision”. The joint conference committee are working tirelessly to ensure an excellent event and the NZIMRT looks forward to these wonderful opportunities to work together with our close neighbours. I would like to extend our thoughts and prayers to the Australian community who are beset by such devastating bush fires at the moment.

As the year draws to a close on behalf of the NZIMRT I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our international colleagues a safe and happy Christmas and New Year season.

For more information see www.nzimrt.co.nz

Kathy Colgan
NZIMRT ISRRT Director

SINGAPORE

The Singapore Society of Radiographers focused on organising academic sessions this year, providing a richer calendar for continuous professional development. Topics ranged from image interpretation to research updates and included a session on how to write and submit abstracts; tailored for the students and younger radiographers and radiation therapists in our profession to encourage more submissions to upcoming conferences. We were delighted that our neighbouring colleagues from PARI were able come over from Batam Indonesia to join us at our local session as well.

To increase the awareness of our role in the international radiography scene, SSR invited Dr Napapong Pongnapang to share more about the ISRRT at a session with the young student leaders of the radiography and radiation therapy institutions. Dr Napapong shared the key initiatives of the ISRRT and the significance of the work that the ISRRT does around the world with other key international bodies such as the WHO and IAEA.

We rounded up the year of activities with a bang at our World Radiography day celebration, held on the weekend of WRD. We started the Saturday with a radiation therapy symposium on head and neck imaging - beyond matching. It was a very informative session that was interactive between therapists and our invited radiation oncologist. It was a wonderful platform for the exchange of ideas as different choices of techniques for head and neck imaging across the various therapy centres were discussed.

SSR also took the opportunity to organise a community outreach event to bring awareness and highlight the importance of breast cancer screening to the public entitled: Payudaraku Tanggungjawapku – My Breasts, My Responsibilities. With the aim of boosting the uptake of screening mammograms as part of the Breast Screen Singapore program, the outreach event was tailored to the Malay community. We organised a forum conducted in the Malay language
featuring a medical oncologist, radiation oncologist, a radiographer, radiation therapist as well as a breast cancer survivor who was kind enough to share her experience and survival story with the attendees. Our panel of invited speakers shared valuable information on the signs to look out for when doing self assessment, explained the mammogram procedure as well as what radiation treatment may entail. This way we hoped that the women would better understand breast cancer as a whole and appreciate the importance of early screening.

We were fortunate to be supported by National Healthcare Group Diagnostics who drove their new Mammobus, a mobile mammogram service to the location and provided on site mammograms during the event. In addition, Singapore Cancer Society, Breast Cancer Foundation and National Cancer Centre Singapore kindly supported this event by providing educational material for the attendees.

We would like to thank all parties who supported our events this World Radiography Day!

In the coming months, SSR will be preparing for our 4th Annual Scientific Meeting and the election of the 62nd executive council.

For more information, visit www.ssr.org.sg

Denise Choong
SSR Vice President
ISRRT Council Singapore Representative

This year, MRI courses were held in Malaysia and Indonesia. This was also the first time to hold the stat-of-the-art MRI seminar in two countries on two consecutive days, trying to make a proper arrangement of the schedule and considered the location and

Taiwan

MRI courses sponsored by Asia supporting fund

The Asia supporting fund is raised by TWSRT, KRTA, and JART. This fund has been continuously supporting Asian countries coming other than Taiwan, Korea, and Japan, and the courses provided by the fund were focused on radiology technologist related knowledge and practical experience sharing.

Through international exchange with other countries, all of us can build up our friendship with one another.

Our friends from PARI who joined us at the image interpretation session held at the Parkway College of Nursing and Allied Health.

Attendees at the WRD Breast cancer and screening awareness forum – My Breasts, My responsibilities.

Our Guest of Honour Prof Fatimah Lateef (third from the left) with the NHGD Mammobus.
transportation, we finally chose both Kuala Lumpur and Jakarta city, from August 2-5, 2019.

The TWSRT, KRTA, and JART provided one hour course separately, and the courses including special MRI, neuro MRI, and abdominal MRI. There were many participants, and the discussions between them were unbelievably exciting. We were so gratefully thanked hosting countries for everything.

Asia supporting fund will persist on sponsoring these meaningful educational courses for all Asia friends in the rim of radiology technologist.

**TWSRT CONFERENCE 2020**

A warm welcome to one and all for the 53rd Annual Meeting of the Taiwan Society of Radiological Technologists (TWSRT) and 27th East Asia Conference of Radiological Technologist will be held from March 14 to 16, 2020 at Tainan City, Taiwan. The theme of this annual meeting is "Smart artificial intelligence and Radiation dose management", the preparation of the upcoming annual meeting is ongoing.

We eager to receive an abstract from you, and please submit the abstract before January 15, 2020. The abstract should state the “Purpose” of your study, “Material and Methods”, “Results (important findings)”, principal “Conclusion” and “Keywords”. The oral presentation is 10 minute, include 7 minutes of speech and 3 minutes of question and answer. The poster should be printed out in a specific size for presentation. Submit to: service@twsrt.org.tw

If you have any question about this call for paper or about 53rd Annual Meeting of TWSRT and 27th East Asia Conference of Radiological Technologist, you are welcome to ask for any cooperation. (Email: service@twsrt.org.tw)

Website: www.twsrt.org.tw/meeting/index.asp

Director, TWSRT International Affairs, Vincent Wang
I had the privilege to attend the Associated Sciences Consortium Meeting on September 9th, 2019 as a representative of the ISRRT. The one day meeting was held at the RSNA Headquarters Office in Chicago, Ill. The ASC is a working group of the RSNA representing several professional societies in radiologic sciences, technology and administration. The organizations represented at this meeting included: Association for Medical Imaging Management (AHRA), American Institute of Architects-Academy of Architecture for Health (ALI-AAH), Association of Educators in Imaging and Radiologic Sciences, Inc. (AEIRS), American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT), Association of Vascular and Interventional Radiographers (AVIR), Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT), College of Radiographers (CoR), International Society of Radiographers and Radiologic Technologists (ISRRT), Radiology Business Management Association (RBMA), Society for MR Radiographers & Technologists (SMRT), Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging-Technologists Section (SNMMI-TS).

The objective of the meeting is to promote and conduct educational programs for associated sciences personnel attending the annual RSNA meeting. Topics were discussed and speakers were suggested for the 2020 meeting. The ASRT and ISRRT are coordinating a joint effort to present on the topic of ‘Artificial Intelligence.’ Speakers are being secured on this informative and interesting subject.

The 2020 program promises to be an outstanding educational and networking opportunity for all attendees. Make your plans to attend RSNA in Chicago. You will not be disappointed!

Sharon Wartenbee

ASRT unveils new commemorative logo, big plans for centennial anniversary

The world’s largest radiologic science association is counting out 100 candles and making big plans for its anniversary in 2020. The American Society of Radiologic Technologists, founded in 1920, will mark its 100th birthday with a yearlong series of programs, initiatives and celebrations that pay tribute to the organization’s role in shaping the radiologic sciences and supporting the dedicated professionals who perform medical imaging and radiation therapy procedures.

To heighten awareness of the ASRT Centennial, the Society designed a special commemorative logo that promotes ASRT’s rich history as well as its future.

The new logo incorporates the iconic blue lower-case ASRT acronym and surrounds it with the figure “100.” Stylized waves and beams emanate from the logo as a depiction of the powerful, invisible energy sources used in radiologic procedures. The logo also highlights the Centennial theme, Leading the Profession Into the Next Century, which points to the association’s century-long focus on professional innovation and improvement.

ASRT Centennial initiatives include an expanded annual meeting and educational session in Albuquerque, New Mexico, June 24-28. The organization is also producing two extensively researched books on the history of ASRT, its state affiliate societies and the profession. In addition, members will experience new displays, exhibits and two new educational films at the ASRT Museum and Archives.

“It’s my honor to lead ASRT into this historic milestone year,” said ASRT President Stephanie Johnston, M.S.R.S., R.T.(R)(M)(BD)(BS), FASRT. “The positive impact our organization has made over the past century is undeniable. ASRT still leads the way in championing patient safety, spearheading high-quality education and improving the professional status of all medical imaging and radiation therapy personnel. I’m so proud to celebrate ASRT’s enduring legacy.”


The average salary of a radiologic technologist rose by 5.3% over the past three years and now averages $69,266, according to the American Society of Radiologic Technologists Wage and Salary Survey 2019. The survey shows that all radiologic technology disciplines and specialty areas saw average annual increases since 2016, with some areas showing greater gains than others.

“Compared to the 2016 wage and salary survey, the 2019 survey shows varying gains across all practice areas,” said John Culbertson, M.A., M.Ed., ASRT Director of Research. “Although this is a welcome improvement, we

Sharron Wartenbee and colleagues during the Associate Sciences Meeting in Chicago.
should point out that the overall average increase is lower than the inflation rate of 6.8% over the same time period.”

Nuclear medicine technologists experienced the largest average gains at 10%, from a $75,819 average annual salary in 2016 to $83,385 in 2019. Radiation therapists followed with a 7.7% increase, moving from $82,798 to $89,159. Magnetic resonance imaging technologists experienced a 7.2% increase from $71,063 to $76,177. Radiographers saw a 3.2% increase over the period, from $56,071 to $57,865.

**Vacancy rates rise for radiographers**

The vacancy rate for radiographers increased to 8.5% in 2019, according to the ASRT Radiologic Sciences, Staffing and Workplace Survey 2019. The vacancy rates represent the number of positions that are open and actively being recruited. This year’s radiographer vacancy rate is an increase from the 4.2% rate reported in the 2017 staffing survey. In 2019, many disciplines’ reported vacancy rates reached their highest levels in more than a decade, and almost all were higher than their 2017 level. Only cardiovascular interventional technology dropped slightly from 8.7% to 7.3%.

- Mammography increased from 2.7% to 5.6%.
- Bone densitometry increased from 1.7% to 3.7%.
- Computed tomography increased from 4.5% to 10.1%.
- Sonography increased from 4.3% to 9%.
- Magnetic resonance increased from 3.9% to 8.7%.
- Nuclear medicine increased from 2.3% to 5.2%.

“This year saw an increase in the vacancy rates across most of the disciplines that we are tracking,” said ASRT Director of Research John Culbertson, M.A., M.Ed., “However, caution should be taken when interpreting and generalizing this data as a sustained increase. The ASRT will conduct the survey again in 2021 to see if this is indeed a trend.”

In addition to vacancy rates, the report highlights information about workforce turnover and demographics. For example, the average number of full-time radiographers per medical imaging facility remained at 8.7, the same as in 2017. The average number of sonography, nuclear medicine, cardiovascular-interventional, and computed tomography technologists per facility increased slightly, while the average number of mammographers per facility fell somewhat from 2017 levels. The average number of full-time MR technologists per facility has remained the same since 2015 at 4.1.

**Licensure Bill introduced in Pennsylvania General Assembly**

House Bill 1811, was introduced September 6 in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. The Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Health and Safety Act would establish regulations and licensure for medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals and a board of examiners to institute requirements and develop standards. Rep. Ted Nesbit, of Grove City, is the bill’s sponsor.

Current technical personnel standards in the state of Pennsylvania can vary widely based on the type of examination or even the type of facility in which the exam or treatment is performed, often leading to inconsistent quality of care and potential lapses in patient safety. The American Society Radiologic Technologists, the Pennsylvania Society of Radiologic Technologists, the Philadelphia Society of Radiologic Technologists, Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging Technologist Section and the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists support the proposal and urge all radiologic technologists in the state to contact their legislators and ask for their support. The ASRT supports the measure, as it would establish consistent education and certification standards for the state’s medical imaging and radiation therapy personnel.

**Public libraries, ASRT team up to promote x-ray science**

When the world’s largest radiologic science association wanted to spread the word about the dedicated health care professionals who perform medical imaging and radiation therapy procedures, it didn’t employ national television or digital billboards. It turned to public libraries. A program that builds connections between libraries across the country and the American Society of Radiologic Technologists is breaking new ground in educating the public about the nation’s more than 340,000 registered radiologic technologists. This year, the ASRT’s National Library Partnership facilitated hundreds of book displays and funded the purchase of thousands of relevant book titles to mark National Radiologic Technology Week®. Nov. 3-9.

“What a unique opportunity to tell the story of our profession through a collaboration with one of America’s most trusted institutions — the public library,” said ASRT President Stephanie Johnston, M.S.R.S, R.T.(R)(M)(BD)(BS), FASRT. “Our members know libraries have a positive and inspiring influence on their communities. I think it’s an ideal way to let the public know about the importance of our profession in health care.”

Since 2016, nearly 300 public libraries, large and small, in every state in the nation, have received grants from ASRT of up to $2,000 to purchase books and other educational materials related to medical imaging and radiation therapy, and the pioneers of radiologic technology. Many of the libraries received grants through recommendations from ASRT members who are local library patrons. During NRTW, the libraries host displays that include books, posters and information on the profession and its history. In addition, to spread the word about the program, ASRT developed the #ASRTLovesLibraries hashtag to encourage libraries and their patrons to share information about the program on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

National Radiologic Technology Week takes place each year during the week that includes Nov. 8th to commemorate the discovery of the x-ray by Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen on that date in 1895. The week-long observance brings heightened awareness to the valuable work of radiologic technologists and their
role in providing patients with high quality care. Their expertise in producing high quality medical images or performing intricate radiation therapy treatments is crucial in helping physicians diagnose injuries and treat diseases.

Donna Long
Council Member

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
Radiographer's Week Report
Firstly the SRTT would like to extend greetings to all our colleagues around the World. Our celebration of the profession was extended nationally in every department around the country. It extend from the students in the radiography program hosting an evening dinner with a small appreciation to colleagues who has contributed to the profession in Trinidad and Tobago. Some of the major hospitals had events such as staff appreciation awards, games, giveaways and photoshoots. All staff wore T-shirts with messages conveying messages on radiation and radiation safety, banners and brochures was displayed in the departments for the public with information explaining radiation and radiation safety to patients. All members off staff not just the radiographers got into the mode of celebrating radiographers week. It was great to have the entire radiology team (radiographers, radiologists, doctors as well as all axillary staff) working together and celebrating our great profession. Please visit our website as well as our facebook page for pictures and updates on past, present and future events.

www.soradtt.com
www.facebook.com/Society-of-Radiographers-Trinidad-and-Tobago-188679944589842

EUROPE
ITALY
"AITRI", the Italian Association of Interventional Radiographers, is a landmark for all Italian radiographers to build, increase and spread the knowledge of interventional techniques in the radiological procedures for almost twenty years. In the last year it has promoted and shared many initiatives and projects. After the AITRI annual meeting, which took place in Milan last May, the association supported the "Mad Heart" Cardio-Radiology Congress in Rieti (Lazio), with Francesco di Basilio [Board Member] as Scientific Director and Simone Panci [AITRI’s President] as moderator of the session for radiographers and nurses. During the conference, radiologists, nurses and radiographers discussed on the future of the diagnostic imaging in the management of patients with heart disease, who play the real challenge of the health system in terms of time and efficiency. The role of the radiographer was considered totalitarian for preoperative, postoperative patient investigations and also for the active role played in the cath lab during cardiological interventional procedures. Important was also the Joint Symposium between the Italian Society of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery-SICVE and AITRI during the XVIII National Congress in Florence (Tuscany), supervised by AITRI’s President Simone Panci and Rossella Trenti [Board Member] [Fig.1]. Here, the combined experience of radiographers and nurses has shown the importance of inter-professional collaboration in the multidisciplinary intervention-radiology teams for the quality of healthcare offered to the patient, mostly for radiation protection and dose optimization (59/2013 Euratom). The responsibility of radiation protection for patients and operators, dose
optimization and specific technical and professional skills within the interprofessional teams, are those principles that characterize the role of the radiographer and for which AITRI always lent great attention. There is a key issue that unifies these principles and can renew this role not only from the professional, deontological and technological sphere, but also from the human one: the emotional involvement.

This is why “Well-being at work” is the main theme chosen in honor of the next International Meeting, where AITRI celebrates its 20th anniversary since its foundation, and will take place in Bari (Puglia) on 15–16 May 2020 at the National Cancer Research Center «Giovanni Paolo II».

Today modern medical oncological therapy uses interventional oncology for the diagnostic and minimally invasive treatment of oncological pathologies and AITRI wants to share the experiences achieved in this field and all future technological advances.

Next appointment will be at the European Congress of Radiology (ECR), from 11–15 March in Vienna (Austria).

Here, Diego Catania, AITRI’s CEO and founder, will moderate the “Voice of Epos Italian session”, where all the Italian radiographers will be able to manage their scientific contributions. Here you can find AITRI stand among the Scientific Associations and AITRI’s board members will be happy to show you all the initiatives and projects that it holds.


Come to share moments of SYNTHESIS BETWEEN ART, CULTURE, TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE.

We are waiting for you!!!

**POLAND**

The association PSTE (Polskie Stowarzyszenie Technikow Elektroradiologii) is one of the five associations representing the radiographers in Poland. It is the largest and it organizes twice a year a congress. This year, it was in the small town of Paprotnia, close to Warsaw, that this event took place.

I have been invited as a representative of the ISRRT. I have presented a topic on the ISRRT activities, translated simultaneously by the president of the association Mr Artur Synowiecki.

On this occasion, I was able to meet my friends (Bartek Bak, Jolanta Tomczack, Dorotha Wojtusik) from the PTE

**Member Countries**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symposium between SICVE and AITRI, supervised by Rossella Trenti [Board Member], AITRI’s President Simone Panci and Elisa Flavi [Interventional Nurse].</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Congress of Radiology [ECR], from 11–15 March in Vienna [Austria]. Here, Diego Catania, AITRI’s CEO and founder, will moderate the “Voice of Epos Italian session”, where all the Italian radiographers will be able to manage their scientific contributions. Here you can find AITRI stand among the Scientific Associations and AITRI’s board members will be happy to show you all the initiatives and projects that it holds. See you at ECR and at the 20th AITRI International Meeting in Bari, May 15-16, 2020. Come to share moments of SYNTHESIS BETWEEN ART, CULTURE, TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE. We are waiting for you!!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland: Philippe Gerson presents ISRRT during the PSTA Congress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland: Philippe Gerson presents ISRRT during the PSTA Congress.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(Polskie Towarzystwo Elektorradiologii) association who has been invited to take part in this meeting.

PSTE and PTE are both members of ISRRT and have good relationship to work together for our profession and for radiographers in Poland.

Another association attend the congress the society of electroradiology represented by her president Mrs Dorota Uchman

A scientific program covering all aspects of our profession was presented to the 130 attendees.

I thank again President Artur Synowiecki, and Vice President Zofia Siewierska for their warm welcome. Hoping to see many polish colleagues in Dublin next year.

Philippe GERSON
ISRRT Treasurer

AFRICA

MALI

WRD celebrations
On 8th November in Mali the technicians celebrated the International Day of Radiology. The theme was "Your safety is our priority".

The opening ceremony was chaired by the representative of the Minister of Health and Social Affairs with the presidents of SOMIM and ATIR Mali.

The activities of the day started by welcoming the representative of the Minister of Health to the participants and invited to full participation.

The recognition to the elders retired by the certificates ended the opening ceremony.

After the opening the lecture was on the organization of medical imaging services, radiotherapy and the role of the technician.

The contrast products, reception and HRM, radiological techniques and radiation protection was the main questions and responses through some presentations.

The day also brought the contribution of the partners of radiation protection and tele radiology.

Questions focused on the role of the Malian radiation protection agency on the dosimetry monitoring but also on the regulation of public services in terms of radiation protection which must be reviewed according to the representative of AMARAP. The Malian radiation protection agency agrees about the lack of an authorized structure in Mali for dosimetry reading.

The day was spent in the morning on the issue of radiation protection in the services in general, and particularly that of Sikasso attracted the interest of personnel training.

Finally, the day was closed by the last president of the session after advice for an improvement of the oral communications and recommendations of the president ATIR-MALI to support the technicians training including one in Togo very soon, Mali will be represented by three participants.
NIGERIA

World Radiography Day is usually celebrated in Nigeria as an association event rather than a singular hospital event. Radiographers in a particular state are gathered to have lectures, reach out to young school leavers or do a community service by organizing free ultrasound scans in rural areas within the state. I was privileged to visit two states that are within one hour, forty-five minutes’ drive to each other.

It was all great fun as radiographers came out in their number to celebrate themselves and gave back knowledge of radiation protection to their surrounding society.

SOUTH AFRICA

World Radiography Day celebrations in the Western Cape

The Society of Radiographers of South Africa (SORSJA) in the Western Cape arranged an informative symposium on 9 November 2019 to celebrate World Radiography Day. The event was attended by members and non-members. The theme aligned with that of the ISRRT: ‘Your safety, our priority’. Emphasis was placed on ethics. The speakers were professionals from dentistry, physiotherapy, radiotherapy and education. Each presentation was from their perspective on ethical considerations.

Professor Myburgh discussed diversity and made us realise how awareness and tolerance of diversity can be a catalyst for a changing future. Dr Burgess discussed end of life treatment as well as withdrawal of treatment and how healthcare workers need to be aware of diversities in culture, religion and societal paradigms to approach this in an empathetic manner. These topics resulted in robust discussions.

Challenges and past experiences can direct how diversity is approached by an individual; these life journeys can guide the future for more positive changes, as highlighted by Ms Schroeder. The ethics of non-judgemental listening and communication was emphasised as a positive means to address imbalances of the past; stories and experiences can be used to build resilience within communities.

The presentations allowed the delegates to reflect and learn about ethics. The speakers underscored ethics responsibilities from different perspectives. Reflection and awareness
of how we act and react to diversity is a choice each healthcare worker must consider, whilst not forgetting the importance of attentive listening and mindful communication when having to make difficult clinical decisions when dealing with clients on a daily basis.

The celebration reflected on the theme your safety, our priority from a different point of view!

Nazlea Behardien-Peters