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INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY OF
RADIOGRAPHERS
& RADIOLOGICAL
TECHNOLOGISTS

APR 2022

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FROM AROUND THE WORLD

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RETIRES**



**CONGRESS
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



DONNA NEWMAN
ISRR PRESIDENT

DEAR ISRR MEMBERS,

ISRR Board of Management (BOM) continues to participate and collaborate on behalf of its ISRR members as the global voice for radiographers/radiological technologists around the globe. As ISRR's President I am so proud the ISRR Board of Management as well as the ISRR committee's work is being viewed and used throughout the world. Although we are still not meeting in-person many on-line meetings are happening and much work is being accomplished for the elevation of healthcare worldwide.

This time is a very busy time for the ISRR BOM members with many participating, collaborating and representing your voice at international and regional stakeholder meetings. The months between January and May tend to be very busy time for meetings with the WHO and IAEA that will impact our radiology profession. This pandemic will surely continue to persist in challenging healthcare systems and professional organizations, stakeholder meetings and medical conferences. Until such times as vaccine programs reach all countries, we will continue in the hybrid fashion representing our profession.

I would like to take a few moments to highlight some of the great work the ISRR BOM, CEO Support Services and myself as ISRR President have been working on since our last *News & Views* issue.

As your ISRR President myself and the ISRR Support Services Dimitris Katsifarakis attended the 150th Session of World Health Organization Executive Board on behalf of ISRR on January 24-28, 2022. Updates were discussed and updated relating to the WHO Pillar One – 'One billion more people benefiting from universal health coverage', Pillar Two – 'One billion more people better protected from health emergencies', Strengthening WHO preparedness for and response to health emergencies, and Implementation Road map 2023-2030 for the global action plan for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases were hot topics covered during the 5-day session.

It's also an important meeting for the ISRR as it is at this meeting that the Executive Committee determine which organizations will renew and keep their non-governmental organization status in official relations with WHO. The ISRR's official collaborative plan with the WHO



| Facebook Live session.

has been reviewed to determine if we had met our obligations. I am pleased to say that the ISRRT received a letter stating that they will maintain their non-governmental status in Official relationship with the World Health Organization (WHO) for the next three years.

As your ISRRT President, I am again excited to say this renewal will allow the ISRRT to continue to be the global voice of radiographers/radiological technologists around the world.

Myself and Dimitris Katsifarakis also attended the World Health Assembly 75th Informal Pre-Planning meeting with Non-State Actors in Official Relations on February 28, 2022 representing the ISRRT global voice. The purpose of this meeting was to consult Non-State Actors in official relation on the planning for the informal pre-meeting and the constituency statements for the 75th World Health Assembly which will take place in May, 2022. The ISRRT along with other Non-State Actors were asked to give input to their top agenda items that should be discussed in side meeting at the 75th World Health Assembly. More details will follow regarding a survey of member States which will be discussed at side events at this year's WHA.

ISRRT Director of Professional Practice Stewart Whitley also represented the ISRRT at the 6th meeting of the Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies as they agree an Interim Report to the WHO Executive Board 150.

ISRRT Vice President Asia/Australia Napapong Pongnapang and ISRRT Director of Professional Practice, Stewart Whitley, represented and presented on behalf of the ISRRT on March 7-9, 2022 at a three-day IAEA virtual technical meeting on Radiation Protection in Fluoroscopically Interventional Procedures. They provided the radiographers voice on issues of radiation safety and responsibility for the safety of patients and staff.

Myself and Dimitris Katsifarakis met with the BIR on March 9, 2022 to discuss collaborative projects for the upcoming year as well as to thank the ISRRT for their contributions to this year's collaboration.

I want to thank the Singapore Society of Radiographers (SSR) for the invitation to speak at the virtual 8th Southeast Asia Radiographers conference in conjunction with the 9th Asia

Radiotherapy Symposium (ARTS) and SSR's 5th Annual Scientific Meeting on March 25-27, 2022. I was invited to present in the Plenary Session 2: Theme Leadership in Radiology. I presented on the topic, "Preparing Future Radiographers /Radiological Technologist Leaders for Emerging Challenges."

Another important project in which the ISRRT is in collaboration is the WHO, ISR-QSA, WFPI and Image Gently pilot project to implement the "Impact Accelerator project" which is a project that supports 24 champions from 23 countries from all continents, to progress in the implementation of action plans relating to quality and safety in pediatric medical imaging and the benefit/risk communication which involves Radiologists, Radiographers/Radiological Technologists and Health Care professions.

The project is being supported by the Geneva Learning Foundation.

The International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists (ISRRT) has kindly agreed to assist with the identification of radiographers/radiological technologist in different regions of the world who could act as mentors for the radiographers/radiological technologists participating as the champions. ISRRT BOM wants to thank the 20 council members that were nominated to participate as mentors and who have been accepted. One of the ISRRT's key strengths is the diversity and expertise of its members and leadership around the world and the willingness to help when asked.

As your ISRRT President, I was invited to represent the ISRRT at the March 15th session of this initiative, to give a welcome and introduce our ISRRT mentors to the champions working on their projects. I was inspired by the work that these professionals had undertaken relating to important topic of risk communication in nuclear medicine, computed tomography, conventional radiography, ISRRT Justification Flowchart implementation, discontinuation of Gonadal shielding just to mention a few projects that were being undertaken. I look forward to the outcome of these projects and our input from our ISRRT mentors.

As your ISRRT President I am excited to announce a new ISRRT publication Radiographer reflections on the COVID-19 pandemic' - a first for ISRRT. As the ISRRT President and on behalf of the ISRRT Board of Management we thank Emeritus Professor Peter

Hogg and Ken Holmes for undertaking this global project for the ISRRT called, 'Radiographer reflections on the COVID-19 pandemic'. Radiographers/radiological technologists from around the world helped to create this 29-chapter e-book. This collection of individual and collective authors gives a snapshot describing the personal impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the radiographers/radiological technologists' daily practice including the impact on universities delivery of education and training as well as research. They also write about how they adapted clinical practice in health intuitions to deliver a first-class imaging service while preventing the spread of the virus.



| BIR meeting March 9, 2022.



I am immensely proud of the work that has been undertaken and thank each author for their valuable contribution and reflections to this historic journal in the history of ISRRT. I also want to thank ISRRT Director of Professional Practice Stewart Whitely and ISRRT Director of Education Yudthaphon Vichianin for serving as reviewers for chapter content.

The ISRRT has begun preparing their World Radiography Day forth special book edition for 2022. The ISRRT is beginning to prepare for World Radiography Day, 2020. A special thank you to our ISRRT Member Experts, ISRRT Member societies and regional Stakeholder that have accepted our invitations to contribute to ISRRT's 4th World Radiography Day special edition. This year's World Radiography Day theme is "Radiographers at the Forefront of Patient Safety" The ISRRT hopes to feature each of the specialty areas in our profession and to promote how radiographers have adapted and incorporated change in practice to ensure radiation Safety and other safety concerns that affect patients and frontline healthcare professionals.

Please mark, your calendar to join the ISRRT on May 31, 2022 for our ISRRT-WHO- Framework convention Poster Campaign on tobacco control's (FCTC) Social Campaign again tobacco Use. As special thank you to ISRRT Director of Education Yudthaphon Vichianin and ISRRT Director of Public Relations Alain Crompt for their contribution and ideas as they are busy preparing our poster for the social campaign. The theme for ISRRT-WHO-FCTC social campaign for 2022 is, "Tobacco: Threat to our profession." As a profession the ISRRT believes your contribution to our campaign will help to contribute to moving our next generation of radiographers to a non-smoking profession.

I also encourage our members to consider applying for the ISRRT Chesney Research Award. The theme this year is 'Safety Culture in Action: Enhancing access to safety and appropriate imaging devices in Practice'. Information may be found on the ISRRT's Website. Please remember that all applications must be received

no later than August 28, 2022 to be considered.

As we move from our last issue of *News & Views* our Facebook page continues to gain followers moving from 15,226 today having 17,238 people now following. I attribute some of this success to our continued use of our ISRRT Social media platform. I am proud of the expansion and the ISRRT partnership with Fujifilm FAHLA to provide a series of Facebook live sessions. Our second session was held on February 26 on Adaptive Radiography. A special thank you to ISRRT Director of Education Yudthaphon Vichianin and Vice President Napapong Pongnapang for hosting and running this ISRRT program. The Facebook live sessions have created opportunities to network and share new technology with members who do not have access to the continuing education programme.

The launch of the 22nd International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologist World Congress, co-hosted with the Thai Society of Radiological Technologist, is being held in Bangkok Thailand this December 15-17, 2022. The Congress website is available at www.isrrtbangkok2022.org and abstract submission is now available for our members. Myself as ISRRT President Donna Newman, Mr Sala Ubolchai President of the Thai Society of Radiological Technologist, Dr Napapong Pongnapang ISRRT Congress Chairman and Yudthaphon Vichianin Scientific Committee Chairman invite you register and join the ISRRT in Bangkok this coming December.

As you read these highlights and the newsletter articles on the ISRRT's collaborations you can see that the ISRRT Board of Management, ISRRT members experts and ISRRT mentors are truly living and addressing the ISRRT Key messages: Impact Change, Influence change and create change within your own countries, regionally and international and any chance that comes before you. ■

Donna Newman
ISRRT President

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MESSAGE



DIMITRIS KATSIFARAKIS
CEO

DEAR READERS OF THE April 2022 issue of the *News & Views*,

What a strange time to write the chief executive's message for the 2022 first issue of our Newsletter! As I type in these lines on my computer screen the sirens of the Ukrainian war echo through my ears.

In the European continent, as in many other parts of the modern world, people have been shocked by this war, as they most probably never expected another in Europe after the end of World War II. What a false belief ...

The ISRRT is the organization which has society members from all continents and must continue its mission and vision. Patients receive imaging and radiation therapies from radiographers/RTs and radiation therapists, and the ISRRT is in close collaboration with our societies' members for support and encouragement on the delivery of quality services to patients.

ISRRT is in a good position, keeping its close links with the Society's members, and communicating regularly with all the council members.

Since the first month of this year we are operating with a new funding model, and I am pleased to inform you on the positive results of the wise decision the Council made during the Council Meeting last August.

Societies' members have agreed on their dues as they have been re-calculated by the new funding model and this can be proven by the number of societies who already have fulfilled their financial dues to the ISRRT.

I take this opportunity to ask those few who have pending dues to make their reimbursement very soon.

The ISRRT continues its close relationships with the international organizations and walk the path begun by the founders/fathers of this great organization. According to their will, ISRRT has maintained and renewed the non-governmental status in our official relationship

with the World Health Organization (WHO) for the next three years, a procedure that demands devotion, close and prompt collaboration and the development of working plans/project with them.

Radiographer/RTs' voices are clear and desire to be heard by the IAEA, thus ISRRT always has a place in the discussion panels of the IAEA meetings.

In the inner pages of the current issue you will read the reports on the IAEA meeting in which ISRRT delegates participated earlier this year.

As part of my role, I have jointly participated in the 150th WHO Executive meeting, past January, with the president, Ms Donna Newman. A report from both of us has been included in this issue.

The Collaboration with the BIR is progressing rather well and an update meeting took place a couple of weeks ago, strengthening our good relationship with this important educational organization.

If the pandemic permits, in the upcoming May, I will have the honor and pleasure to host a face-to-face board meeting for the ISRRT Board in Athens, the city I live in.

What we all have discovered during the two past years is, despite the effectiveness of a virtual video meeting, the in-person meeting is unrivaled. I do hope and believe a dynamic meeting will also be viable at the end of this year for the Council meeting and the World Congress in Bangkok, December 15-17.

Our local organizing committee and its president, Dr Napapong Pongnapang, and his colleagues are working intensively toward this, and I am encouraging all of you to include it in your travelling and educational plans. So do make a note on that very important event.

We have missed each other so much! ■

Sincerely yours,

Dimitris Katsifarakis
Chief Executive ISRRT

EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF RADIOLOGY

ECR 2022



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THE ANNUAL MEETING OF

ESR EUROPEAN SOCIETY
OF RADIOLOGY

EFRS EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF
RADIOGRAPHY SOCIETIES

ESHIMT MOLECULAR TRANSLATIONAL
HYBRID IMAGING

CPD IN AN IRISH CONTEXT

REPORT BY SINEAD O'SULLIVAN, IIRRT CPD OFFICER

Introduction

CORU is the state regulator responsible for the regulation of health and social care professionals in Ireland. Statutory regulation for radiographers and radiation therapists commenced in 2013. "CORU's role is to protect the public by promoting high standards of professional conduct, professional education, training, and competence amongst the designated professions" (CORU, 2019). Following a two-year grand-parenting period, mandatory CPD was introduced as a condition of state registration for all radiographers and radiation therapists in 2015. The current mandatory CPD regulations stipulate that radiographers and radiation therapists must accrue 30 CPD credits annually across a two-year audit cycle. Internationally, the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) requires the same number of credits as CORU but refers to the credits as continuing education units (CEUs). This differs from the mandatory Australian Medical Radiation Practice model and New Zealand, where the CPD audit period covers a triennium and radiographers must gain 60 credits over this time. Following the first successful CPD audit of radiographers and radiation therapists, the CORU regulations were updated to reflect the additional knowledge ascertained.

Updates to Irish CPD Regulations

One of the most notable updates in the Irish CPD regulations was the change in how registrants evidence their work. CORU eliminated the requirement to submit certificates of attendance to prove participation in a CPD event. This differs from the UK, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand where registrants must evidence their CPD by submitting certificates of attendance or transcripts to prove their participation in their learning activities. (Van de Venter et al 2017; MRPB, 2020, MRTB, 2015) CORU's new adapted model is output-focused with evidence now required of the impact and integration of your chosen learning activity on your professional role, your department, and service users. It has stipulated as in previous CPD regulations that registrants must be able to validate their new knowledge through written reflections. The chosen CPD activity must constitute additional new knowledge and skills or the revision of existing skills. Registrants must consider the context of their professional practice concerning their identified personal learning needs in addition to their service and organisational needs. In November 2021, we commenced the second year of the CORU CPD audit cycle (CORU, 2019).

Radiographers and radiation therapists must self-assign CPD credits based on their personal experience of a learning activity. This is another notable difference to the Australian and New Zealand

CPD models where the activities have associated accredited points or credits. CORU recognises that there is a multitude of learning opportunities within our daily clinical roles that can contribute to radiographer's and radiation therapist's professional development. Learning opportunities can be formal or informal, planned or unplanned, and can include a registrant's personal experience. CORU does not stipulate the types of CPD activities that must be included in a portfolio, simply that a range of activities should be engaged with. This is another differentiation from the UK, New Zealand, and Australian CPD model where the regulator has outlined different types of CPD activities and associated credits which must be gained in each category.

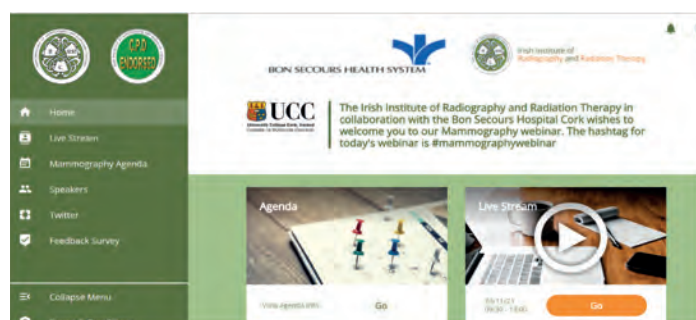
One of the fundamental goals of the IIRRT is to provide its members with a multitude of CPD opportunities to fulfill their career goals and also to meet the ongoing mandatory CPD requirements. The IIRRT has a strong commitment to CPD with a dedicated CPD Officer to lead and coordinate a comprehensive programme. This provides numerous professional development opportunities to help radiographers and radiation therapists maintain their key competencies and skills to perform their professional roles within their scope of practice.

"My Rad CPD" -The IIRRTs online CPD Portfolio management system

The IIRRT supports members with the provision of resources such as our bespoke online CPD management system. "My Rad CPD", aids members plan, record and reflect on their CPD. The IIRRT's "My Rad CPD" can be accessed at any time through any device. Members have a dynamic CPD record that can be used for CORU audits, interview skills, and performance appraisal purposes.



IIRRT Platform for live-streaming CPD Events



With the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ceasing of all face-to-face events, the IIRRT needed to continue to provide CPD opportunities for members of our professional organisation. The IIRRT sought an online solution to live stream CPD events nationally for radiographers and radiation therapists. A study of Irish radiographers identified the need for developing more flexible, online CPD opportunities to help make CPD more accessible for all (Grehan et al., 2017). Sourcing an online solution to professionally live stream CPD events of an optimal quality was no easy task.

The IIRRT CPD Officer, engaged across many interprofessional networks and stakeholders to seek a live stream provider, navigating many obstacles along the way such as hospital firewalls, poor broadband, audio issues, and out-of-date browsers. The platform needed to be robust to overcome these limitations and provide professional technical support to speakers to ensure seamless delivery of our CPD webinars. The IIRRT found a sustainable solution with end-to-end support to extend the delegates and speaker reach. The platform also provided a safe gateway for radiographers and radiation therapists to access our webinars. It was imperative delegates could log into a user-friendly bespoke platform that offered the ability to easily interact with speakers and be allowed to take notes during the educational sessions. The IIRRT CPD events are delivered as a blend of interactive style workshops and didactic presentations, of both shorter and longer durations. The delivery style is varied depending on the theme and subject matter and the number of delegates. Retaining delegate's interaction was one of the desired features of the IIRRT live streaming platform with features such as live chat, polls, and an interface to input questions for our question and answers sessions.

Following extensive research into different providers, the IIRRT commissioned Crowdcomms to build a bespoke platform to live stream all our CPD events. The first webinar was hosted via the IIRRT platform in December 2020. Since then, the IIRRT has seen a dramatic 200% increase in the number of delegates attending our CPD events. The IIRRT had run numerous successful webinars with excellent delegate and speaker feedback before staging the ISRRRT Congress in August 2021. This was the first time in the history of the ISRRRT that the whole congress would be live-streamed with delegates and speakers all having the ability to log in simultaneously across the globe.

Alignment of IIRRT CPD programme to National Health context and Radiographers/Radiation Therapists learning needs

The IIRRT assesses the training needs of radiographers and radiation therapists through delegate feedback and training needs analysis. The CPD programme consists of events funded by our National Health and Social Care Professional Office and IIRRT member only events funded by the professional body. The IIRRT aligns their CPD programme to national health strategy together with emerging population needs, trends, and learning requirements of radiographers and radiation therapists. The IIRRT applies for funding to the HSCP office annually to help fund our CPD programme for members and non-members alike.

Sláintecare is Ireland's ten-year health service plan for delivering a health care service that meets the population's needs. Sláintecare fundamental focus is shifting care from the acute hospital setting and providing care in the community (Sláintecare, 2021-2023). Currently, in Ireland, the health service is developing community ambulatory hubs across multiple settings that will provide community-driven services.

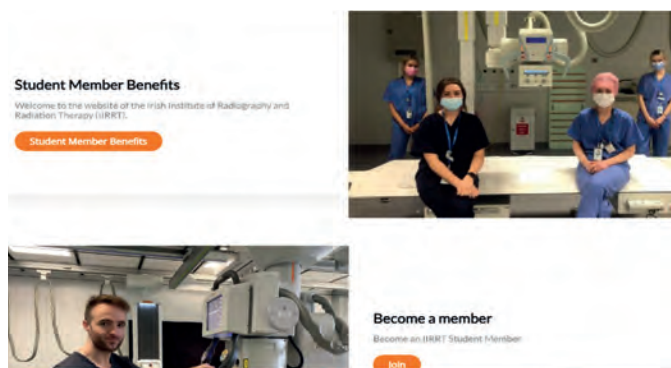
The impetus for the development of community ambulatory hubs is strengthened with the Irish strategy of "learning to live with covid". In this government lead initiative, there is a strong emphasis on the vulnerable population such as our elderly and patients with chronic diseases. The fundamental aim of Sláintecare is to provide patients with chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, COPD, and asthma their care in the community thus ruling out unnecessary hospital visits and admissions. Globally people are now living longer. "Over the last 100 years, average life expectancy at birth in Ireland and Northern Ireland has risen by several decades. Life expectancy at birth in ROI is 80.4 years for men and 84.0 for women (Eurostat, 2017, ICP)

The current and future impact of these chronic diseases posed a massive challenge to Irish health care. Under the Integrated Care Programme for the Prevention and Management of Chronic Disease Strategy, there will be 18 Ambulatory Care Hubs providing services to treat chronic diseases within the community setting. The 18 hubs will be associated with 11 prioritised hospitals across Ireland.

Within the ambulatory hubs, there will be community-accessible diagnostic facilities. To prepare for the future community expansion of services and to align with Irish health care strategies. The IIRRT is hosting an event in April entitled "Preparing for the future expansion of diagnostic imaging services in the community". This webinar will include an update from the HSE about the progress in implementing the ambulatory care hubs with the acute hospitals. It will also update radiographers in the necessary steps to setting up and running a community diagnostic facility as part of the new hubs.

IIRRT Student Hub and Student Focus Month

Another current focus of the IIRRT is the dedicated student hub accessible via the website. The student hub will provide a host of student resources that will be available to both student members



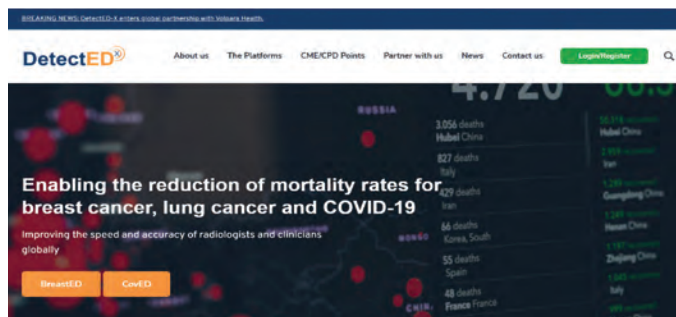
and non-members. The IIRRT successfully re-launched the dedicated student hub in December 2021. Following on from this, the IIRRT is now running a student focus month over March. This is the first IIRRT student focus month which will see several free student events focusing on student well-being, interview skills and research skills over the month of March.

New IIRRT CPD Resources



The IIRRT also have commissioned several exciting new resources for our members. They have collaborated with Primal Pictures, UK to provide a 3D anatomy resource for our members. Primal Pictures is the leading 3D Anatomy resource for educators, students and practitioners. Members now have access to 3D Atlas and Cross-Sectional anatomy modules.

DetectED-X



The IIRRT is also just about to launch access to image interpretation modules for our members through DetectED-X.

This is a powerful and personalised online training programme in image interpretation. DetectED-X has an international presence is

currently being utilised in Australia, New Zealand, Asia, the Middle East and Europe.

Conclusion

As of the 28th of February in Ireland, the Covid restrictions are easing and this will see the introduction of face-to-face and hybrid CPD events in the latter half of 2022. The online webinars have improved accessibility not only from a delegate perspective but have also afforded the IIRRT a new opportunity to seek international experts in particular subject matters. The future for the IIRRT CPD programme is certainly bright and exciting with the addition of our wonderful platform which has dramatically increased the number of delegates capable of attending all events. Something that may have seemed impossible at the start of 2020 became a reality in late 2020, with 2021 seeing a full host of CPD events and the ISRRRT congress live-streamed through the IIRRT platform.

CPD is personal professional development and the onus is on each professional to engage in CPD. There are many opportunities to gain CPD credits and a lot of free resources widely available. The IIRRT and other CPD providers have worked tirelessly to provide flexible and accessible CPD. This facilitates members to have multiple CPD opportunities to ensure their skills and competencies are kept up to date and in line with the ever-changing work environments. Follow the IIRRT social media platforms through Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook to keep up to date with the IIRRT CPD opportunities.

To conclude with a quote "The primary feature of CPD activity should be the resulting impact to patients, the service, the profession, and the individual; with all stakeholders working in partnership. CPD activity must be flexible/multi-modal to support the changing growth/dynamic workforce" (Wareing et al, 2017).

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HSE (2021-2023) Sláintecare Implementation Strategy and Action Plan

ICP for Prevention and Management of Chronic Disease ICP for Prevention and Management of Chronic Disease - HSE.ie

Institute of Public Health (2020) Ageing and Public Health - an overview of key statistics in Ireland and Northern Ireland Executive Summary Institute of Public Health

Integrated Model of Care for the Prevention and Management of Chronic Disease

Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (2015) Guidelines: Continuing Professional Development

New Zealand Medical Radiation Technologists Board (2020) CPD for Annual Recertification of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Practitioner

R van de Venter¹, H Friedrich-Nel, L. Munro, H. Friedrich-Nel², L. Munro the South African Radiographer Continuing professional development services and management structures of the Society of Radiographers of South Africa: a survey and respondents' opinions, *The South African Radiographer* volume 55 number 1 pg7-13 ■



The banner features a night-time photograph of the illuminated Wat Arun temple in Bangkok, Thailand, with its multiple spires reflecting in the water. In the top left corner, there is a logo for ISRRRT (International Society of Radiographers & Radiological Technologists) and a circular seal of the International Society of Radiographers. The text 'December 15-17, 2022' is written in red above the large, stylized 'ISRRRT' logo. Below the logo, it says 'World Congress' and 'Bangkok 2022' with a decorative floral motif. At the bottom, the tagline 'NEW NORMAL IN MEDICAL IMAGING AND RADIATION THERAPY' is displayed in blue capital letters.

ISRRRT
INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY OF
RADIOGRAPHERS
& RADIOLOGICAL
TECHNOLOGISTS

December 15-17, 2022

ISRRRT
World Congress
Bangkok
2022

NEW NORMAL IN MEDICAL IMAGING AND RADIATION THERAPY

ISRRT PARTICIPATES IN TWO IMPORTANT WHO MEETINGS: WHO 150 EXECUTIVE MEETING AND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY 75 INFORMAL PRE-PLANNING MEETING WITH NON-STATE ACTORS IN OFFICIAL RELATIONS

GENEVA, JANUARY 24-29, 2022 (virtual)
FEBRUARY 28, 2022

REPORT BY DONNA NEWMAN, ISRRT PRESIDENT AND DIMITRIS KATSIFARAKIS, ISRRT CEO SUPPORT SERVICES

The ISRRT participated in two important WHO Meetings:
WHO 150 Executive Meeting - Geneva 24-29 January 2022 (Virtual)
and World Health Assembly 75 Informal Pre-Planning meeting with
Non-State Actors in Official Relations February 28th 2022

The northern winter was a busy time for the ISRRT Board of Management with several WHO meetings. President Ms Donna Newman and Dimitris Katsifarakis CEO Support Service attended two important WHO meeting leading up to the 75th World Health Assembly which is scheduled to be held in May, 2022. The first meeting we attended on behalf of the ISRRT was the 150 WHO Executive meeting which took place virtually due to the COVID-19 circumstances.

The Executive Board is composed of 34 technically qualified members elected for three-year terms. At this annual Board meeting the members agree upon the agenda for the World Health Assembly and the resolutions to be considered including WHO policy which is also reviewed, developed and established.

The ISRRT's invitation and participation to this Executive Meeting, as a Non-State Actor, happens yearly as our organization stands enjoys a Non-State Actor status in official relationship with the WHO.

It's also an important meeting for the ISRRT, as it is at this meeting that the Executive Committee determines which organizations will renew and keep their non-governmental organization status in official relations. The ISRRT's official ISRRT/WHO collaborative plan for 2019-2021 was reviewed and assessed if we had met our obligations according to the WHO's strategic plan.

It was at this meeting that the WHO Executive Board admitted the International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists into continued official relations with the WHO for a 3-year period (2022-2024). The official relations are governed by the Framework of Engagement with Non-State actors. The Executive Board, through its programs, Budget and Administration Committee review the collaboration with each Non-State actor in official relations and decides on the desirability of maintaining official relations or to defer the decision on review to the following year. This official relations with the WHO has served our international

members well as this enables us to work together with the WHO to elevate healthcare around the world. Dr. Maria Del Rosario Perez is the designated Technical Officer who is responsible for the collaboration with the ISRRT. Maria ensures facilitates the designs collaboration and well as coordinating the review of the WHO/ISRRT Collaboration plan.

As your President, the following is a summary of the agreed current WHO/ISRRT collaborative plan for 2021-2024:

Overview

"The ISRRT will assist WHO for implementing its General Programme of Work GPW13 and the achievement of the SDG3.4 on NCDs and SDG3.8 on UHC, towards implementing relevant, accessible and cost-effective education and training in radiation medicine to low- and middle-income countries, focusing on the roles of radiographers and radiological technologists to ensure safe and appropriate use of radiation in health care. This will be done by providing technical input to support WHO towards the development of guidance and tools and provision of workshops in low- and middle-income countries in topics related with radiation risk management and communication, protection of patients and staff, equipment use and maintenance, with emphasis on justification and optimization of medical exposures."

Specific areas: ISRRT/WHO three areas of collaboration included:

1. Support WHO's work on health technologies regarding identification and appropriate use of radiation in the management of infectious diseases (e.g., TB, COVID-19, post COVID-19 condition); NCDs (e.g. cancer, CVD, COPD), trauma and other health conditions (linked to WHA 60.29 on health technology, WHA 67.20 on medical products and WHA 72.26 on patient safety)
2. Support WHO's work on the Global Initiative on Radiation Safety in Health Care Settings to enhance justification and optimization of medical imaging, thereby contributing to implementing the International Radiation Basic Safety Standards (BSS) in health facilities, focusing on the role of radiographers and radiological technologists to ensure safe and appropriate use of radiation

in health care (linked to WHA 60.29 on health technology, WHA 67.20 on medical products and WHA 72.26 on patient safety).

3. Support the implementation of the WHO's resolution 'Global action on patient safety' and the 'Global Patient Safety Action Plan 2021-2030', with special focus on role of radiographers and radiological technologists to support elimination of avoidable.

ISRRT received a letter stating that they will maintain their Non-Governmental status in Official relationship with the World Health Organization (WHO) for three years. As your ISRRT President, I am again excited to say this renewal will allow the ISRRT to continue to be the global voice of Radiographers/Radiological Technologists around the world.

Additionally at this meeting in the opening speech the WHO Director-General outlined five priorities for the world and for the WHO going forward: WHO commitment in the coming year (2022) and in the coming five years – is to dramatically strengthen our ability to deliver results in countries.

First, to support countries to make an urgent paradigm shift towards promoting health and well-being and preventing disease by addressing its root causes. The pandemic has demonstrated that the WHO must elevate protecting and promoting health as top priority, with significantly increased investment in countries, and at WHO.

The second priority is WHO to support a radical reorientation of health systems towards primary healthcare, as the foundation of universal health coverage. That means restoring, expanding and sustaining access to essential health services, especially for health promotion and disease prevention, and reducing out-of-pocket spending.

The third priority is to urgently strengthen the systems and tools for epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response at all levels,

underpinned by strong governance and financing to ignite and sustain those efforts, connected and coordinated globally by WHO.

The fourth priority is to harness the power of science, research innovation, data and digital technologies as critical enablers of the other priorities – for health promotion and disease prevention, for early diagnosis and case management, and for the prevention, early detection, and rapid response to epidemics and pandemics.

The fifth priority is to urgently strengthen WHO as the leading and directing authority on global health, at the center of the global health architecture.

The Executive Board unanimously voted to nominate Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus for a second term as Director-General. With nominations due last fall, it was clear that Dr. Tedros did not face any competition for the post.

Nevertheless, it's an important signal of trust among Member States for his leadership, which has been marked largely by the pandemic over the past two years. The Executive Board's nomination will go to the World Health Assembly in May; if elected, Dr. Tedros will be invited to serve another five-year term.

World Health Assembly 75 Informal Pre-Planning meeting with non-State Actors in Official Relations

On February 28, 2022 both myself and Dimitris also attended the World Health Assembly 75 Informal Pre-Planning meeting with non-State Actors in Official Relations.

The purpose to this meeting was to consult non-state actors in official relation on the planning for the informal pre-meeting and the constituency statements for the 75th World Health Assembly which would take place in May, 2022.





ISRRT CEO Support Service (top left) attending the WHO Executive Meeting.

The ISRRT along with other Non-State Actors were asked to give input to their top agenda items that should be discussed in side meetings at the 75th World Health Assembly. Dimitris, and I as your ISRRT President discussed the agenda items that would relate to health and our profession which were voted to have them considered at side events. Also at this meeting was the opportunity to speak to these items to help Member States understand the importance related to each item. This was the first time this event has happened since the request had happened at last year's meeting to try and reform and incorporate the Non-State Actors voice into the process in a more formal process.

All member states in attendance as well as Non-State Actors were asked to complete a survey to help determine the top topics for discussion for the agenda of side events at the World Health Assembly. The outcome of the survey with the top three agenda item being:

Top Item was Pillar 2 :15.2 Strengthening WHO preparedness for and response to Health emergencies, Second, Pillar 1:14 Human resources for Health and Third Pillar 1 13:1 Follow-up to the political declaration of the third high level meeting of the general Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable disease and draft implementation at road map 2023-2030 for the global action plan. The ISRRT was happy with the opportunity to participate and have input into the items that would be considered as side events at the 75 World Health Assembly in May, 2022. The ISRRT is also happy with the final three items that will become the agenda items for the side event. We found this meeting an improvement from the older process allowing for more voices to be heard.

For those that are unaware of history WHO's engagement as 'Non-State Actors' and how it was developed and implemented through the WHO this process was developed at the first and second World Health Assembly in 1948 and 1949 when the assembly debated on the "Principles Governing relations between WHO and NGO's". The process was implemented and it stayed as was until 1987 when it was revised after Alma Ata.

There was never a full agreement around working with Private

sector engagements. WHO reform, initiated in 2012, and models of engagement with Non-State Actors were addressed while respecting the inter- governmental nature of WHO's decision making process with member states. Finally in 2015-2016 member states intergovernmental negotiated and led to the Framework for Engagement with Non-State Actors (FENSA). This new FENSA provided the WHO a basis to become strategic and proactive on their engagement plans with non-state actors.

This new FENSA articles 55 entities in official relations which are invited to participate in sessions of the WHO's governing bodies. The privileges include an appointed representative to participate but can't vote as members state do in governing bodies or in meetings of the committees and conferences convened under its authority. The engagement also allows Non-State Actors to make statements if the chairman of the meeting invites them to do so. This also allows the submission of statements in advance of the debate for the secretariats to post on a dedicated website.

At the Executive Board meeting held in February 2020 at the 146th session included involvement of Non-State Actors in the WHO governing bodies including details of the proposed informal meeting between Non-State Actors, Member States and the Secretariat. It was at this meeting that the idea for Non-State Actor constituency statements should be introduced on a trial basis for a limited number of agenda items.

At the January 2021 meeting the Executive Board at the 148th session noted the report by Director -General on WHO governance reform with Non-State Actor in official relations to allow for their voice to be heard and to allow Member States to hear from experts to allow for better strategic planning, budgeting and better outcomes. It was recognized that Non-State Actors sometimes possess expertise that is needed.

The 13th general programme of Work, 2019-2023, states that the "WHO is and will remain a member state organization: however current conceptions of global governance also include a range of non-state actors. "Participation of non-state actors in WHO governing bodies is regulated through official relations, which is a privilege that the Executive Board may grant to nongovernmental organizations, and continue to have a sustained and systematic engagement of interest of the Organization.

Also, a part of this plan it was recognized that was important to increase meaningful engagements and interactions between Non-State Actors, Member States and the Secretariat. It is proposed to continue organizing informal meetings for interested Non-State Actors in official relations, Member States, and the Secretariat. The respondents to the consultation showed a preference for having the meeting spread over two to three weeks during a period ahead of the World Health Assembly. Most respondents preferred the meeting to take place in a hybrid format, combining in-person and online attendance. ■

Donna Newman, ISRRT President

Dimitris Katsifarakis, ISRRT CEO Support Services



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It is my pleasure to announce the

2022 ISRRT Chesney Research Fund

Call for Grant Application 2022 in the theme of:

“Safety Culture in Action: Enhancing access to safe and appropriate imaging devices in practice”

The aim of the **ISRRT Research Fund** is to promote research that helps encourage evidence-based practice and improve the standards of delivery and practice in medical imaging and/or radiotherapy. Starting in 2016, to commemorate the Chesney sisters who left in their will a legacy to ISRRT, the fund names was changed from the ISRRT Research Award to the **ISRRT Chesney Research Fund**.

You are invited to propose a research project/proposal. The project may include improved or newly developed methodology or modification to standard protocols and procedures which may result in a sustainable or improved quality service in the respective discipline of medical imaging and radiation therapy. Applications with other themes are also welcome but priority will be given to applications following the proposed theme for 2022.

The grant is £1.500 (1 year project) £3000 (2 year project).

Full details of the Research Fund Guidelines and application form can be found at www.isrrt.org.

Additional information can be requested from the ISRRT's CEO at ceo@isrrt.org

The closing date for submission of grant application is August 31, 2022.

Funding decision will be announced by late September 2022.

Yudthaphon Vichianin. Ph.D.
ISRRT's Director of Education

IAEA MEETING

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

MARCH 7-9, 2022 (virtual via Webex)

REPORT BY STEWART WHITLEY, DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND
DR NAPAPONG POGNAPANG, VICE PRESIDENT ISRRT ASIA/AUSTRALASIA

Technical Meeting on Radiation Protection in Fluoroscopically Guided Interventional (FGI) Procedures held at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna, Austria

Both Dr Napapong and I represented the ISRRT and the radiography profession at this important virtual meeting attended by over 92 delegates. We were given the opportunity, along with other international organisations and professional societies, to comment on the status of radiation protection in FGI procedures including problems, challenges, and ongoing efforts to reduce doses.

Background

Fluoroscopically guided interventional (FGI) procedures provide an excellent alternative to many surgical interventions. These procedures are increasingly performed by physicians of different medical and surgical specialties who do not always have sufficient training in technology and radiation protection. The increase of variety, frequency and complexity of these procedures pose many challenges for radiation protection of patients and medical staff, including risks of tissue reactions such as skin injuries and eye lens opacities, as well as elevated stochastic risks from these relatively higher dose procedures. The International Basic Safety Standards, published in the IAEA Safety Standards Series No. GSR Part 3, set the basic principles for ensuring radiation protection of patients and staff in FGI procedures. Guidance for their practical implementation is provided in the IAEA Safety Guide SSG-46, and further resources, including training and information material, are provided by the IAEA through the specialised website on Radiation Protection of Patients. Other international organizations and professional bodies also provide guidance and training resources for radiation protection. The IAEA established two international online databases relevant to facilities performing FGI procedures. The online system Safety in Radiological Procedures (SAFRAD) is for reporting cases of patient exposure exceeding defined trigger levels. Using SAFRAD, interventional facilities will learn how to set their own follow-up programme for patients with higher dose to timely detect skin injuries and improve safety and quality of service. The module on interventional cardiology (IC) in the Information System on Occupational Exposure in Medicine, Industry and Research (ISEMIR) was created in response to the concern of higher doses of staff in interventional procedures, and

especially those performed in cardiology. Since the establishment of SAFRAD and ISEMIR-IC, technologies developed rapidly, including better standardization of patient dose reporting with the DICOM Radiation Dose Structured Report (RDSR), improved assessment of patient skin doses, including software tools for real time or post-procedure skin dose maps, as well as improved developments in staff dosimetry through active and passive dosimeters and software tools. Also, automatic radiation exposure monitoring systems have become available in many clinics around the world, including national automatic dose index registries. These and other ongoing developments provide more opportunities for using this information on a global level for improving radiation protection and the need further consideration.

Objectives

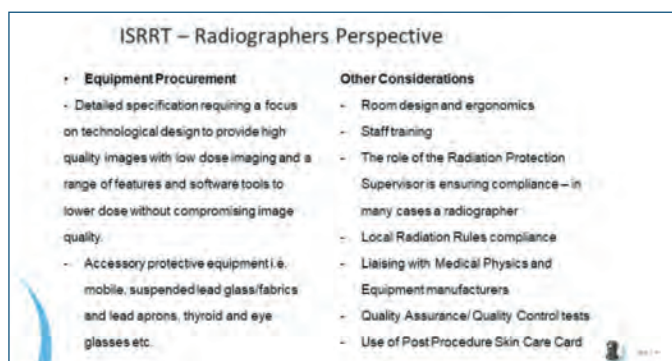
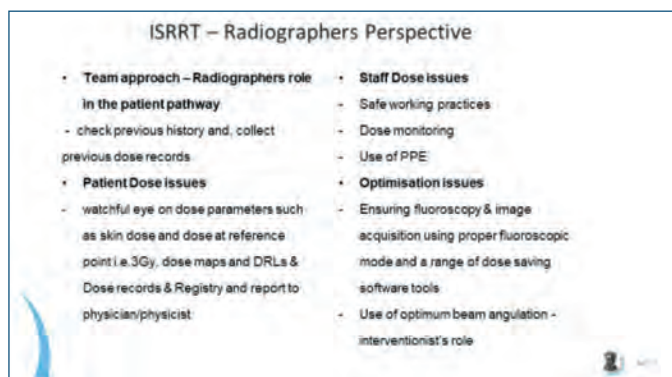
The meeting had the following objectives:

- To review existing guidance, information and training resources for the optimization of radiation protection of patients and staff and for prevention and management of unintended medical exposures and identify a need for additional resources in response to the new aspects of radiation protection in FGI procedures;
- To inform participants of the preparation of a new IAEA-coordinated international study of patient doses and tissue effects from FGI procedures and increase participation; and
- To evaluate the status of the reporting and learning systems SAFRAD and ISEMIR-IC and their further development and promotion of their use for benchmarking and learning from best practices around the world and thus improving patient and staff radiation protection.

Meeting Programme Content

Day 1 identified the current state and challenges for the radiation protection in FGI procedures with talks from the IAEA, UNSCEAR, ICRP and WHO. A number of organisations presented their perspectives on matters relating to problems and challenges and ongoing efforts.

I shared a couple of slides pointing out some of the many aspects that the radiography profession has to offer.



Day 2 consisted of two main sessions with a focus on the 'Management of tissue reactions for patients' and the 'Management of stochastic risks for patients'.

Day 3 consisted of two sessions addressing 'Management of occupational risks for interventionalists and improving their radiation protection competence' and a closing session addressing How the discussions of the meeting would have an impact on clinical work and patient management.

What was striking about the event was the lack of radiation protection knowledge outside the Imaging Department where there is no data to understand the extent of the number of patients being irradiated and the numbers of staff requiring radiation protection training and collecting dose information.

My lasting memory of the meeting was the talk of a patient Mr Hal Workman who spoke eloquently from the patient perspective having received a major skin injury as the result of an excessive radiation dose linked to a cardiac interventional procedure.

An official report of the meeting will be published by the IAEA in due course when you will be able to view and read the presentations.

IAEA study of Patient Dose and Tissue Reactions as a result of Fluoroscopically Guided Interventional (FGI) Procedures. Presented at the meeting

The IAEA are seeking involvement of those active in FGI procedures. For more

details and the methodology click on the new International study of patient doses and tissue reactions from fluoroscopy guided interventional procedures which is currently in planning. Please read the study methodology, if you are interested to participate, kindly complete the online feedback form.

Rationale

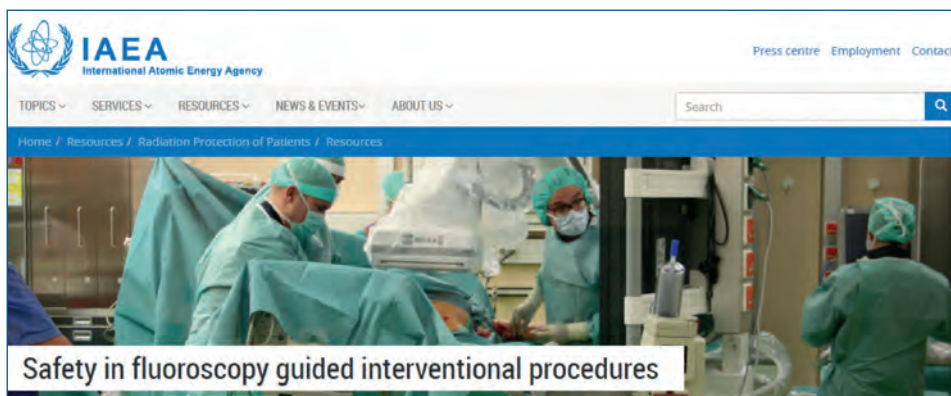
In recent years, minimally invasive medical interventions performed under fluoroscopy and other types of imaging guidance have been extensively replacing the open surgery for many medical interventions. Further, the number of image-guided interventional procedures performed by physicians of different specialities has also dramatically increased. The growth in the variety, frequency and complexity of these sometimes relatively higher radiation dose procedures and the involvement of staff who may have insufficient radiation protection training, pose challenges for patient dose management and occupational safety. Patients may be at risk of tissue reactions, and both patients and staff may be at increased risk of a stochastic effect.

The overall objective of this project is to make the best use of the international collaboration coordinated by the IAEA, to collect and analyse information on patient and staff dose and exposure metrics in FGI procedures for various practices and settings worldwide. The project will be implemented in phases.

First project phase (2022-2023): International study of patient doses and tissue reactions from fluoroscopy guided interventional procedures

The IAEA will be launching an International Study of Patient Doses and Tissue Reactions from Fluoroscopy Guided Interventional Procedures in 2022, with the following objectives:

- Improve the information about the frequency of occurrence of tissue reactions in patients from different type of FGI procedures (cardiac, neuro, and body) performed in different parts of the world.
- Study the relationship between the tissue reactions and the radiation exposure metrics, procedure factors and patient related factors.
- Use the results of the study to update trigger level values for patient follow up for skin reactions.



- Update recommendations for improving radiation protection of patients.
- Provide feedback for the needed development of the IAEA reporting and learning system SAFRAD.

The duration of this phase is one calendar year.

Who can participate?

Participation in the project is voluntary, and withdrawal is permitted at any stage of the project.

Medical facilities performing FGI procedures from all IAEA Member States can participate. There is no limitation on the number of facilities that can participate.

Different departments/ functional units of the same hospital may register independently or may provide a coordinated response. The same applies to facilities from a region or a country – coordinated data submission from the existing local, national or regional registries is also welcome.

A participating medical facility should perform complex FGI procedures of at least one of the following groups/ types of procedures on a regular basis:

- **Cardiac interventions**, such as: percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI); and especially chronic total occlusion (CTO); transcatheter valve implantations; cardiac ablation; percutaneous repair of septal defects.
- **Neurovascular interventions**, such as: intracranial or spinal embolization; intracranial and extracranial angioplasty, stenting and stent-assisted coiling; endovascular treatment of stroke; vertebroplasty/ kyphoplasty and vertebral augmentation with an implant; radiofrequency spine tumor ablation.
- **Abdominal and thoracic interventions**, such as: endovascular aneurysm repair (EVAR); transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt (TIPS); transcatheter embolisation in the abdomen and pelvis; hepatic chemo/radio-embolization (TACE and SIRT); treatment of arterial stenoses or occlusive disease in the abdomen or pelvis; percutaneous transhepatic biliary drainage (PTCD) and stenting; bronchial artery embolization; endovascular central venous reconstruction.

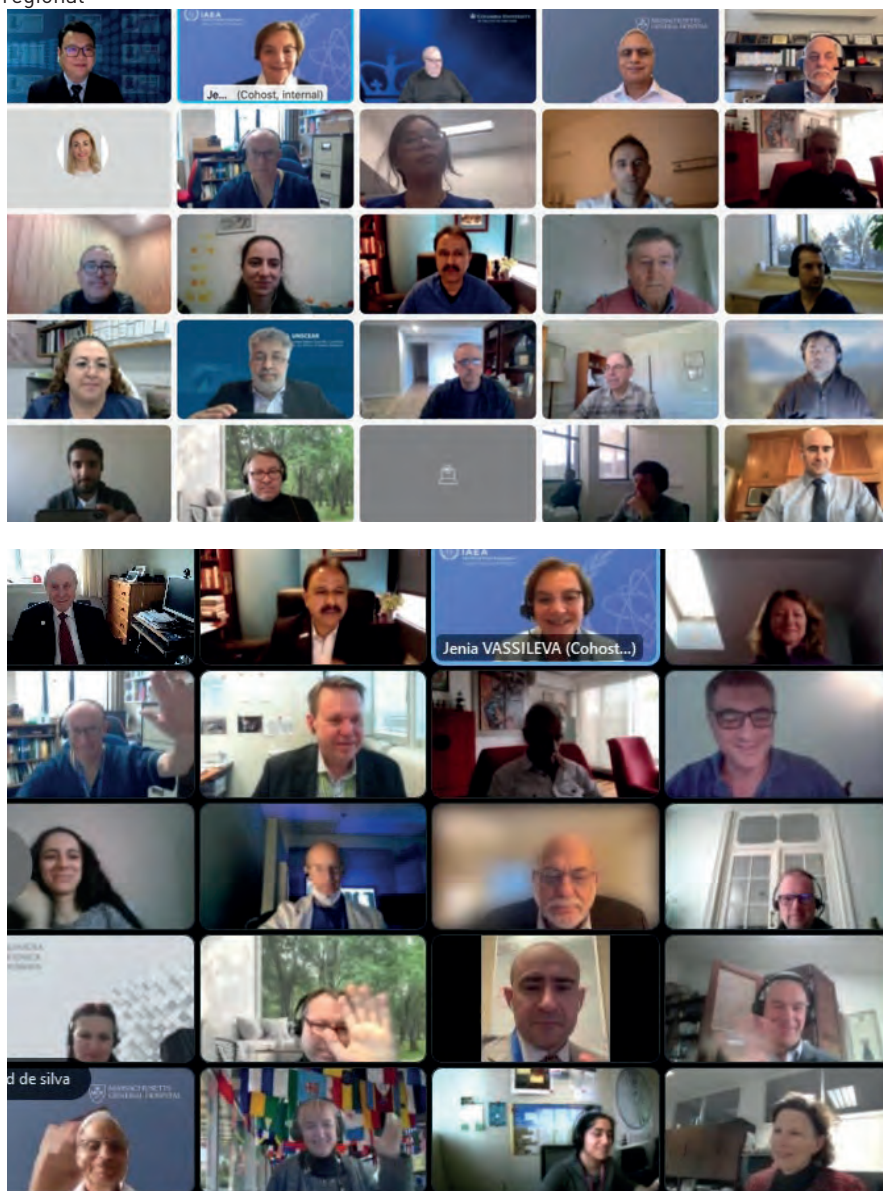
A participating medical facility should nominate a Facility coordinator who will coordinate data collection within the facility and be responsible for submission of deidentified data to the IAEA. Facility coordinators will receive detailed instructions and online support from the IAEA coordinator. They will also be invited to attend

trainings and meetings organized by the IAEA. As the trainings and data submission will be in English, coordinators should have sufficient proficiency in this specific language.

The medical facility is responsible for adhering to the local rules and obtaining needed ethical approval for participation in this study.

ISRRT members are encouraged to participate in this important study. For more information please use the links listed above.

Representatives attending the IAEA Technical Meeting on Radiation Protection in Fluoroscopically Guided Interventional (FGI) Procedures. ■



ECR OVERTURE

MARCH 2-6, 2022 (virtual)

REPORT BY HÅKON HJEMLY, ISRRT VP EUROPE AFRICA AND MANAGER OF POLICY FOR THE NORWEGIAN SOCIETY OF RADIOGRAPHERS

The European Congress in Radiology (ECR) was one of the first big events in radiology that was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic led to delays and cancellation to both the 2020 and the 2021 congress. There was put together digital meetings, but no one got to meet in person in Vienna. The same thing also happened with ECR 2022, the congress in March was decided to be an online event only. But it is planned as on-site congress July 13-17. This will also allow online attendance and will be the first true hybrid ECR.

The ECR in March 2022 was called ECR Overture and took place March 2-6. The presentations and sessions were given live during the congress but are also available as ECR Overture recordings in the ECR On Demand platform. Access to this platform is restricted to members and to those registered for the online congress.

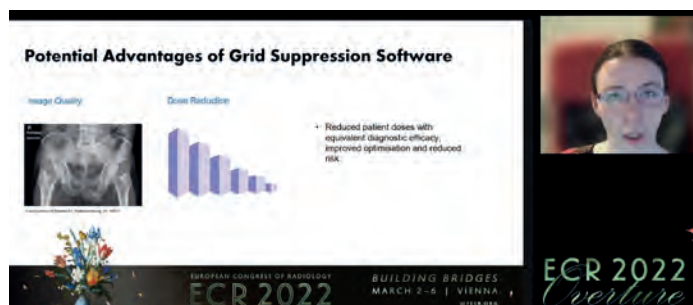
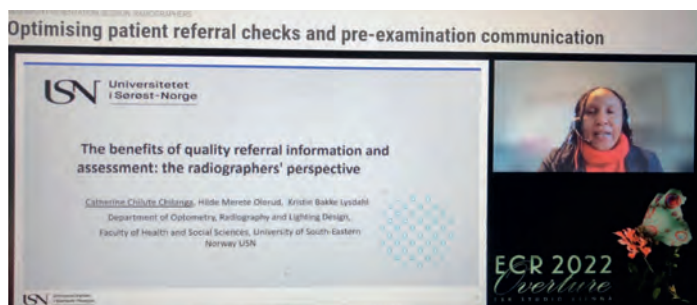
As previous years the program was rich in content and offered a big variety of presentations. There was less presentations and sessions than at a normal ECR congress, but I believe more than enough for an online event since many find it harder to stay focused over time at online presentations than at physical events.

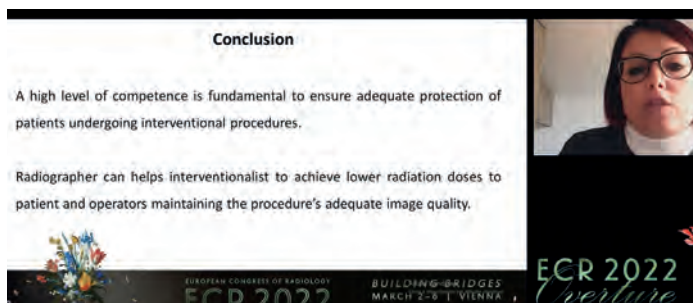
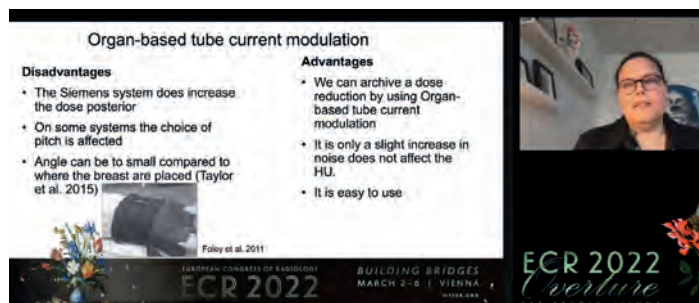
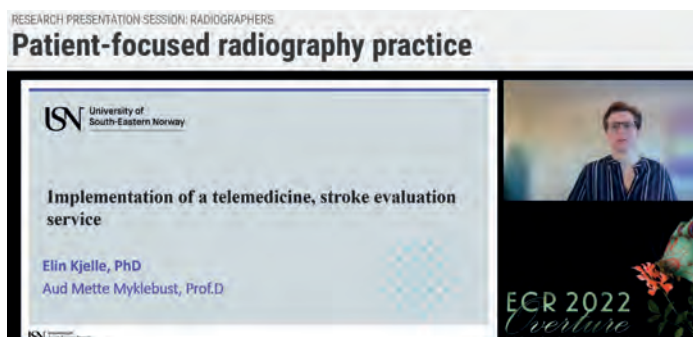
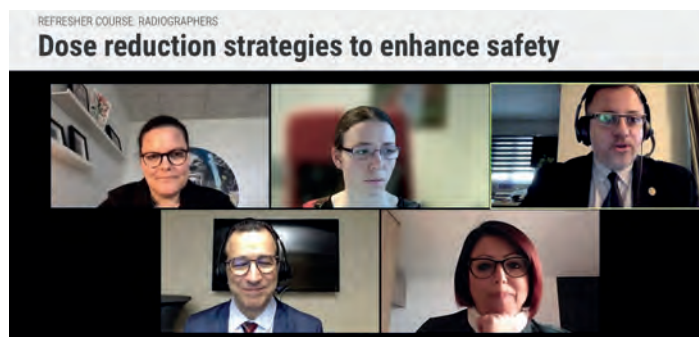
There was no formal session organised by the ISRRT at this online ECR, like the successful ISRRT Meets sessions in the previous physical events, but we were in a way represented by the ISRRT Regional Coordinator for Europe Euthimios Agadakos. He moderated a very good refresher course session named "Dose reduction strategies to enhance safety". In this session there was three different but related presentations in addition to the Chairman's introduction part. First was given by Rachel Toomey from Ireland, which spoke about the application and advantages of virtual grids in general x-ray exams. The second presenter was Svea Deppe Mørud from Denmark, who gave us CT dose



optimisation updates. The last presenter before the panel debate at the end was Roberta Gerasia from Italy. She gave a very good update on safety improvements in interventional imaging.

I also prioritised to follow another radiographer targeted session called "Patient focused radiography practise" where a fellow Norwegian radiographer presented from her research. Dr Elin Kjelle gave a very interesting presentation on the implementation of a telemedicine stroke evaluation service in a rural part of Norway. The project she spoke about is looking at how radiographers can operate a CT modality from a remote hospital several hours away, with the support from specially trained paramedics at the CT location. The aim with this study is to try improving early diagnosis and treatment of brain strokes, and by enabling high quality care in rural areas that normally don't have radiographers on site. This project is also something that the Norwegian Society of Radiographers follow very closely because it may affect radiographers future practise in several parts of the country. For the society it will be important that implementing such solutions as Kjelle presented is safe for the patients and people in the CT gantry area and that the radiographers operating from remote are comfortable and confident doing this.





Another interesting session involving radiographers was named “Optimising patient referral checks and pre-examination communications” and chaired by Louise Rainford from Ireland. There was several very good presentations on the topic and Catherine Chilanga from the USN in Norway emphasised the benefit of quality referral information and assessment from radiographers perspective. The discussions after the presentations demonstrated the role of radiographers in quality of patient care, as well as the importance of an multi disciplinary approach.

If you did not get to follow the ECR Overture yourself you can still get access to all presentations, just go to www.myesr.org and find out how. I also hope to see many of you in Vienna in July, it will be a strange experience being there in middle of summer though. The ISRRT will then be officially back at the congress, organising the ISRRT Meets session with our American radiographer society ASRT as guest. ■



DR MARIA DEL ROSARIO PEREZ

An important ISRRT Collaborator and supporter of radiographers/radiological technologists worldwide retires from the World Health Organization (WHO)

REPORT BY DONNA NEWMAN, ISRRT PRESIDENT

With Dr Maria Del Rosario Perez's retirement in May, 2022 the ISRRT will be losing a wonderful collaborator and advocate for radiographers/radiological technologists all over the world. The ISRRT has a long history with Dr Maria Perez and have collaborated and participated with her in many projects throughout her career with the WHO. Dr María del Rosario Perez is a medical doctor, will be retiring from the Radiation and Health Unit (RAD), Department of Environment, Climate Change and Health (ECH), Division of Healthy Populations (HEP) of the World Health Organization (WHO) this May 2022". Dr Perez started with the WHO in April 2007 serving as the technical coordinator of the WHO Global Initiative on Radiation Safety in Health Care Settings. Her work at WHO also includes the development of guidance, norms and standards on ionizing radiation and human health and the provision of technical support for preparedness and response in radiation emergencies. Dr Maria Del Rosario Perez is the designated Technical Officer from the WHO to collaborate with the ISRRT who designs, collaborates, coordinates and reviews the WHO/ISRRT Collaboration agreed projects.

ISRRT has worked with Dr Perez on many international initiatives over her career with the WHO. Dr Perez is a hug advocate of including all members of the Imaging team (Radiologist, Radiographer/Radiological Technologist and Physicist) ensuring that all voices are heard and included when developing standards and guidance documents related to any committee she is heading, collaborating and participating in within her role with the WHO. The ISRRT News and Views describe many of these collaborative projects.

Dr Perez is responsible for setting targets, identifying overlaps, gaps and requirements that are vital for cooperation and interaction to achieve desired success.

Over her 15-year career with the WHO Dr Perez has purposefully included the radiographer's voice in any work she is involved with. There are so many international projects, stakeholder meetings and international conferences that we could highlight. There are so many projects that I could talk about I will just highlight a few over the years.

ISRRT was invited to collaborate on the revision of the International Basic Safety Standards (BSS) in 2007 with involvement of the WHO and the IAEA. Dr Perez began with the revision of this document helping to try and define the terminology used to represent the

radiographer/radiological technologist.

The ISRRT *News & Views* reported on an invitation from Dr Perez in December of 2008, 'WHO, Technical meeting Global Initiative Radiation Safety Health Care Settings.' The outcome of this meeting was to collaborate and coordinate to avoid duplication and to concentrate efforts. The ISRRT participated in three working groups to prevent unintended exposures (priority given to children), Human resources (education, training and staffing) and reducing unnecessary medical exposures. In 2009 we also attended the first meeting of the Global Steering Group which ISRRT is a permanent member representing the radiographers/radiological technologic voice where Dr Cynthia Cowling ISRRT Director of Education at the time represented the ISRRT with our Secretary General Dr Sandy Yule. These meeting gave wonderful opportunities for the ISRRT to collaborate with Dr Maria Perez.

In May 7-9, 2009 ISRRT Director of Education Cynthia Cowling and Secretary General Sandy Yule attended a WHO consultation meeting on the Role of the WHO in Diagnostic Imaging based on the World Health Report 2008 in Primary Health Care, "Now More than Ever". With 26 other stakeholders from around the globe. It was at this meeting that it was reported out that only 0.05% of the WHO's budget was used for diagnostic Imaging and that 80% of all expenditures on diagnostic imaging happened in 20% of the world. One outcome of this stakeholder meeting was the need for better training in Quality Assurance and equipment maintenance and the ISRRT was asked to collaborate on this issue.

In December 15-17, 2009 ISRRT participated in setting up a workshop called, "Second NIRS Kids Workshop"- WHO Satellite Meeting Radiation Risk Assessment in pediatric Healthcare in Chiba, Japan. Dr Maria Perez who headed the initiative expressed the importance of radiographers and technologists and indicated the ISRRT was the best and most appropriate source for this connection. Dr Perez stated the WHO had funded the ISRRT representative Cynthia Cowling, ISRRT Director of Education to this meeting and stated that she had funding to develop a document on risk commination for pediatric imaging at all levels. Dr Perez involved the ISRRT to represent the Radiographers voice in the project.

In September 20-22, 2010 Dr Maria del Rosario Perez convened a three-day session to prepare the document and tool kit which communicates the radiation risks in pediatric Imaging.

Reflection of the many memories made with Dr Maria Perez and the ISRRT over the last 15 years.



RETIREMENT

Dr Maria Perez continues to invite the ISRRT to participate among the 24 participants which included eight radiologists and one radiographer, Cynthia Cowling, ISRRT Director of Education. Cynthia presented on behalf of the ISRRT on the role of the radiographer in disseminating information of this nature. Also presenting from Image Gently was Dr Donald Frush, Dr Madan Rehani from the IAEA presented as well as Susan Sheridan the President of Consumer Advancing Patient Safety. The preliminary document has been circulated and the session centered around this draft. The draft included components of overview of radiation and reasons for safe actions and methods that could be used to impact this information. The features of risk communication in patient safety were outlined to the group.

In November, 2012 the ISRRT reviewed draft document "Medical devices Unit/Information request form." The document was going to be used to increase access to safe, appropriate, affordable and quality medical devices to population in need. The documents were divided into three areas which included expert, guideline and product information. The form was going to be used to standardize request and link support from collaboration with stakeholders and professional organizations.

In December 2012 Dr Maria Perez invited the ISRRT to participate the radiographers voice at the 2nd workshop Radiation Risk Communication in pediatric. As ISRRT Director of Professional Practice Donna Newman was invited to speak on the radiographer's role in risk communication with pediatric Imaging.

In 2014, Dr Maria Del Rosario Perez was invited to give the Hutchinson Lecture at the 18th ISRRT World Congress held in Helsinki, Finland. This honorary lecture is preserved for Individuals that emulate the traits our Pioneer and Past Secretary General of the ISRRT

In 2015 Dr Maria Del Rosario Perez, as our designated Technical Officer for the ISRRT, helped to coordinate the involvement of the ISRRT at the side event at the 68th World Health Assembly on 'Imaging for Saving Kids The inside Story about patient safety in pediatric radiology' and how the WHO related to radiology and patient safety. Donna Newman, ISRRT Director of Professional Practice presented on behalf of the ISRRT.

In 2015 Dr Perez invited the ISRRT to Collaborate on the WHO to define Priority medical Devices for Cancer Management targeting low- and middle-Income setting. The ISRRT was a part of the team that provided input into the document on: 'Priority Medical Devices for Cancer Management'. The WHO identified the need for member states to have access to resource documents that identified appropriate basic and priority medical devices to use as a reference. This specific list provides the general medical devices that are required in clinical units, the priority medical devices required in cancer.

In 2015 the ISRRT worked with the IAEA and Dr Perez as an invited expert's part of the drafting group that revised the "Radiation Protection and Safety in Medical Uses of ionizing Radiation" document during the week of July 6-10, 2015. The writing group came together again and worked with Dr Perez to review

the comments that were submitted. The group included two technologists Mary Coffey (Ireland) from the Radiation Therapy writing group along with myself Donna Newman (USA) from the nuclear medicine writing group. Also invited to the consultancy group was Dr Maria Perez from the WHO, representing the physician's voice, and two Physicists from the core writing group, Anthony Wallace (Australia) and Cari Boras (USA). Jena Vassileva coordinated the meeting and acted as the technical officer to incorporate the accepted comments back into the draft DS399 document.

In November 2-6, 2015 ISRRT collaborated with IAEA and WHO to delivered a training course designed to meet the basic requirements of the International Basic Safety Standards for Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources. (IEA Safety Standards Series No. GSR, Part 3) in cooperation with WHO, PAHO and ILO at United Nation. As Director of Professional Practice, Donna Newman helped deliver the nuclear medicine section of the course working with Dr Maria Perez in the workshop. More than 50 representatives from member states including regulatory representatives, health authorities, radiologists, Radiographers/ Radiological technologist and physicists participated and exchanged practice experience and approaches on how to implement the new safety guide. The five-day course was divided into in departmental training on roles and responsibilities and competencies of each professional groups including how to collaborate with regulatory bodies and health authorities.

In 2019, Dr Perez invited the ISRRT to attend the 20th Regular meeting of the InterAgency Committee on Radiation Safety (IACRS) at the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. The main focus of the meeting was to focus on the BSS and its implementation to determine what types of education and training was needed for radiographers and radiation therapists in the era of modern technology including Artificial Intelligence (AI). Dr Napapong Pongnapang represented the ISRRT at this meeting.

In June, 2020 Dr Perez invited the ISRRT to contribute to the development of Annex 1 of the 'WHO document 'COVID-19 Use of chest imaging in COVID-19 – A RAPID ADVICE GUIDE. This rapid advice guide examines the evidence and makes recommendations for the use of chest imaging in acute care of adult patients with suspected, probable or confirmed COVID-19. Imaging modalities considered are radiography, computed tomography and ultrasound. Donna Newman and Stewart Whitley were invited by Dr Maria Perez, WHO Radiation and Health Unit, to join colleagues from the International Society of Radiologists (ISR), the World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (WFUMB) and other WHO agencies to join a Working Group on the 16th April 2020 to develop a Technical Brief on infection prevention control (IPC) to support the WHO rapid advice guide on chest imaging.

In the Spring of 2020, ISRRT collaborated with Dr Maria Perez from the WHO and the IAEA on the development of a technical document 'COVID-19 Pandemic: Technical Guidance for Nuclear Medicine Departments'. The IAEA asked the ISRRT, in cooperation with the European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM) and World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology (WFNMB) to

work together to develop this guideline as a response from nuclear medicine departments in several of the IAEA member states. As the ISRRT member societies had also been asking for information relating to nuclear medicine the ISRRT was very happy to support this working group. Donna Newman ISRRT President, who is also a nuclear medicine technologist, represented the ISRRT on the working group.

In March 2nd 2021, Dr Perez invited ISRRT Director of Professional Practice Stewart Whitley, and ISRRT President to join a panel of radiographers, radiologists, referring physicians and physicists during the WHO/Geneva Learning Foundation Special Event, “Communicating Radiation Risks in Paediatric Imaging” as part of the launch of the pilot WHO Scholar Level 1 course on radiation risk. Over 3,000 participants from around the world joined the event to hear testimonies of radiographers from around the world highlighting the importance of effective pediatric benefit and risk communication

In June 2022, Dr Perez invited the ISRRT to a virtual meeting on Medical Imaging in Africa in which Dr Maria Perez asked the ISRRT to collaborate with WHO headquarters in Geneva and the WHO African Regional Office (AFRO). This will enhance access to quality and safety in medical imaging in Africa as part of the WHO AFRO Strategy towards achievement of Universal Health Care Coverage.

Maria also represents the WHO at the Inter-Agency Committee on Radiation Safety (IACRS), and serves as WHO observer to the ICRP Committee 3 on Medical Exposures

There are so many collaborations to reference. These examples show just how Dr Perez has always advocated and promoted the important role of radiographers/radiological technologists worldwide. The ISRRT will miss Dr Perez but wish her all the happiness in her retirement.

A few members of the ISRRT Board of Management has this to say about Dr Perez:

Dimitris Katsifarakis, Chief Executive, ISRRT

I met Dr Perez about 10 years ago during an IAEA meeting in Vienna. Later there was a meeting in Geneva, where I was participated on behalf of the ISRRT. The most important meeting where I really admired Dr Perez’s clear view to the facts and her loudly statements was during the IEAE meeting in Vienna March 2016 on the Justification of medical exposures. Dr Perez addressed the issue and promoted the active radiographer’s involvement to the Justification process by giving facts: She informed the audience, who I can admit there was not so friendly to the idea radiographers to perform justification procedure, that there were in Fiji island only 8 radiographers but no radiologist.

Who can perform the justification procedure there? Dr Perez’s question was a game changer to the meeting and a turning point to the ISRRT to actively involve the Radiography profession on to that pillar of the Radiation Protection of the Patient. Maria’s focus consistency exceeds our expectations with her clear views on Patients’ needs and medical community goals.

ISRRT Vice President Asia/Australasia Napapong Pongnapang

I have been working with Dr Perez since 2013. She has been a great support to our radiography profession. Dr Perez always value the voice of our profession. I truly thank her for all the works she has done for the ISRRT and radiography profession.

ISRRT Director of Professional Practice Stewart Whitley

Dr Maria Perez is a talented and enthusiastic WHO leader who has engaged in a remarkable and constructive way with the ISRRT to ensure that the voice and experience of the radiography profession is heard loud and clear.

She is a lady full of energy and experience whose knowledge and skills has helped shape and improved standards in diagnostic imaging and radiotherapy. She has always incorporated the experience and knowledge of many radiographers and radiological technologists identifying them as a pivotal member of the radiology team.

She leaves a legacy of many published technical WHO guidance documents which incorporates the input of ISRRT. Her recognition of the important role of the radiography profession in establishing and advancing radiation protection is testament of her insight to the realities on the ground when the only gatekeeper is the radiographer.

Maria will be greatly missed. We have enjoyed her partnership and continual advice and she encouraged us and respected our contribution to advancing the radiation protection of patients and staff.

ISRRT President Donna Newman

I met Dr Perez in 2012 at the Bonn meeting. I will always be appreciative of Dr Perez as she recommended my name to the IAEA as a writer for the Nuclear Medicine Chapter, in the draft “Radiation Protection and Safety in Medical Uses of ionizing Radiation”. As a professional I gained so much insight about global health from that experience. I am so fortunate to have been involved in many collaborations on behalf of the ISRRT with Dr Perez and WHO. Dr Perez was always an advocate for the Radiographer/Radiological Technologist during all International Stakeholder meetings.

As ISRRT President, I appreciate Dr Perez’s philosophy of a team approach to collaboration. This has benefited our Healthcare Systems and patients’ healthcare in countries all over the world. Her ability to bring people together and to actively listen and ensure that all members of the team are represented and involved is a trait that will be hard to replace with her successor. I believe the work done with Dr Perez’s involvement is far reaching in healthcare because of this trait. I will miss our opportunities to collaborate and work toward the mission of elevating health care for our patients worldwide. Please know, I admire you as a professional and wish you a happy retirement. The ISRRT will greatly miss you Dr Maria Perez. ■

SAL MARTINO, ASRT CEO

REPORT BY DONNA NEWMAN, ISRRT PRESIDENT AND DONNA -THALER LONG, ASRT COUNCIL MEMBER

ASRT CEO and Executive Director Sal Martino, Ed.D., R.T.(R), FASRT, FASAE, CAE, will be retiring on January 3, 2023. I, as ISRRT President, and Donna Long, ASRT Council member, would like to take a moment to honor and reflect on the great contributions Dr Martino has made during his 13 years as ASRT CEO. We want to particularly recognize his contributions and support to the ISRRT and global health. Sal has been a leader, mentor and friend to many of our ISRRT family, and he will be greatly missed.

Sal has been a longtime supporter of the ISRRT mission, which is, "To improve the standards of delivery and practice of medical imaging and radiation therapy throughout the world by acting as the international liaison organization for medical radiation technology and by promoting Quality Patient Care, Education and Research in the radiation medicine sciences." Sal has served the ISRRT in many capacities during his time with the ASRT including personal contributions and professional volunteer time in his role as ASRT CEO.

As ASRT CEO, Sal has pledged his support to the ISRRT in many ways. For example, the ASRT has continued to support the ISRRT financially and by being a long-standing member society in addition to being the largest national professional member society in the ISRRT.

Sal has attended every ISRRT World Congress since 2002, with the last being in Trinidad and Tobago in 2018. He presented lectures in 2002 in Amsterdam and 2005 in Hong Kong. Sal was a keynote speaker at the 15th ISRRT World Congress held in Durban, South Africa, in 2008. His presentation, "International Survey on Role Extension/Advanced Practice," was timely and contributed to global research and the development of advanced practices in many countries, which ultimately contributed to elevating standards for patient care worldwide. From 2010 through 2018 he has acted as a scrutineer several times at ISRRT Council meetings.

As a supporter of global education in 2010, the ASRT, along with several other societies, contributed to an ISRRT international travel fund that enabled radiographers from around the world from developing countries to have an opportunity to attend a World Congress. Sal also graciously offered the ASRT office to the ISRRT Board of Management in 2011 and 2013 to host the ISRRT board meetings. Sal has showed his dedication and support to the ISRRT by having ASRT staff provide IT support, coffee breaks, lunch, dinner and transportation. In addition, Sal's executive staff introduced the ISRRT board to some New Mexico traditions

while they were at the ASRT office. Sal also made sure the ISRRT board was aware of new ASRT projects such as giving the ISRRT board a tour of the new ASRT Museum and Archives space during its development stages. Sal's vision for museum was to deepen the appreciation and understanding of the radiologic technology profession and to inspire further learning. The ISRRT is grateful to have this kind of dedication to our profession.

Sal and the ASRT co-sponsored the Radiation Protection Workshop held at the World Congress in 2018 in Trinidad and Tobago. The ASRT provided speakers from the ASRT Board of Directors and for the first time at one of these pre-Congress workshops, provided lunch for both the Education and Radiation Protection workshop participants. This was such a nice touch as we had never been able to afford this during our workshops at previous ISRRT World Congresses.

Sal is a strong supporter of all education and each time the ISRRT has asked for a speaker, he has provided an expert to contribute to any project. Sal helped the ISRRT launch one of our first ISRRT Facebook live sessions by providing a speaker to help get the ISRRT Board's idea and vision off the ground. Sal has also been supportive by providing speakers for the Associated Science Consortium meetings held annually at RSNA to help ISRRT with travel costs. ECR 2022 ISRRT Meets ASRT will be held this summer in Vienna where Sal will personally contribute along with two other speakers.

Sal is willing to help in any capacity needed to elevate health care around the world. The ISRRT is grateful for his expertise these past several years as an original member of the Funding Model Committee, which developed a tiered system that would financially sustain the ISRRT. Without the expertise of Sal and several other CEOs from around the world, the funding model wouldn't have found success so quickly.

[Dimitris Katsifarakis, CEO ISRRT](#), stated Sal is a thoughtful leader who produced the best for his society and profession. He has been devoted to the idea of a global radiography profession and supported his idea with an undistracted view and devotion.

Sal's co-workers and colleagues speak highly of him and his willingness to share his knowledge and help, even when he has tight deadlines to work to.

I feel honored to have met and worked closely with Sal and collaborated with him as ASRT's CEO. His leadership by example has created a school of professional behavior for future leaders."

A look back at some ISRRT memories with Dr Sal Martino, “ISRRT thanks you and you will be greatly missed”



RETIREMENT

Several longtime friends of Sal had this to say regarding his retirement:

Richard Evans, Chief Executive Officer,
The Society of Radiographers

"I am ashamed to admit that Sal and I have had a great deal of fun in our subservient roles as observers at ISRRT Council Meetings over the years. The fact that UK and USA sit closely together around the alphabetical table has provided the opportunity for collaboration and comment. Our respective Council members have probably wished that we were at opposite sides of the room! It is of course a privilege to be present and to advise the process within these important meetings. I have learned a great deal from Sal and benefitted, as have we all, from his strategic vision and passion for our profession. It has been great to work with him as scrutineers in the ISRRT election processes and to collaborate with other colleagues in advising the Board on its financial sustainability and sustainable fee structure. Sal Martino is generous with his time and his expertise as a leader. His kindness, energy and commitment to radiographers everywhere are an inspiration. I am going to miss him from the ISRRT meetings but wish him every happiness in his retirement."

Sally Kincaid, Chief Executive Officer,
Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy

"Apart from being a font of wisdom and experience, Sal is also great fun. I have very fond memories of him at the lively and colourful ISRRT meeting in Trinidad where he enlightened me to the complex mechanisms of ISRRT Council voting - and was generally the life and soul of the Caribbean meeting."

Donna Long, ASRT Appointed Council Member

"I've known Sal for more than 30 years. I first met him when he served on the Board of Trustees for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. Over the years I have had the privilege of working with him on professional projects and then serving on the ASRT Board of Directors with him as ASRT CEO. I had the opportunity to learn board development from Sal and saw him grow the ASRT from 130,446 members to almost 158,000. He helped me learn how to be a more engaged board member and focus on strategic initiatives. To Sal, global awareness and advancement of the profession has always been his passion and he encouraged me to learn more about the ISRRT and become involved as a Council member. During all those years he also became a dear and trusted friend who never ceases to make me laugh. He will be missed in his professional capacity, but I wish him all the best in his retirement."

Donna Newman, ISRRT President

"I have been lucky to have known and served with Dr Sal Martino over many years in my professional career. First, when I was ASRT president and then as the ASRT-appointed ISRRT council member, as ISRRT Director of Professional Practice and now as ISRRT President. Sal has been so supportive of the ISRRT and myself as President. I contribute the success in my term as Director of Professional Practice to Sal's encouragement for me to run for the position even when I wasn't sure I was ready. Without his encouragement, I would never have been elected as ISRRT President. During my term as President Sal has been a beacon of encouragement, a mentor and fully supportive of all my ISRRT presidential initiatives. The ISRRT will truly miss this great leader and believe he leaves a legacy nationally and internationally through his contributions to international education, research, standards and guidelines to elevate global healthcare. You will be missed and thank you for all you have done for our profession." ■

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

REPORT BY STEWART WHITLEY ISRRT DIRECTOR PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

I am pleased to report that ISRRT continues to play an important and pivotal role in representing the radiography profession on the world stage. ISRRT is constantly engaged in various activities of the WHO and the IAEA helping to shape the safety culture and professional standards for all our diagnostic and therapy radiography professionals. This has been particularly true and important during and after the COVID-19 pandemic period.

At the time of writing ISRRT has been active in producing and circulating several helpful guidance documents, taking part in many virtual meetings and contributing to many WHO and IAEA initiatives.

This report highlights some of those activities and involvements.

ISRRT Draft Position statements sent to Council for approval

Just recently two more Draft position statements have been sent to Council members for their consideration:

- [The role of Radiographers/Radiological Technologists in Dual Energy X-Ray Absorptiometry \(DXA\) scanning](#)

The ISRRT considers that radiographers and radiological technologists should take a prominent role in the delivery of DXA scanning both in medical and non-medical conditions.

- [Keeping Radiographers/Radiological Technologists in good Mental Health and free from Burnout](#)

The ISRRT considers that radiographers and radiological technologists should have suitable working conditions to facilitate good mental health and kept free from Burnout. Additionally employers have a duty of care to assess the prevalence of burnout amongst their staff and to facilitate measures to promote recovery including regulations on maximum hours of shift work and consecutive shifts with nights and the number of hours of rest after night shifts.

These are important issues with the radiography profession taking leading roles in DXA scanning as well recognising the importance of looking after the mental health of the profession.

Once comments have been received and amendments made these position statements will be presented for formal approval at the next Council Meeting at the ISRRT World Congress in Bangkok December 2022.

WHO meetings

WHO – Sixth meeting of the working group on strengthening who's preparedness and response to health emergencies

January 10-12, 2022

I represented ISRRT at this virtual meeting dedicated to discussion and agreement of a report of the working group to go to the 150th Executive Board meeting January 24, 2022.

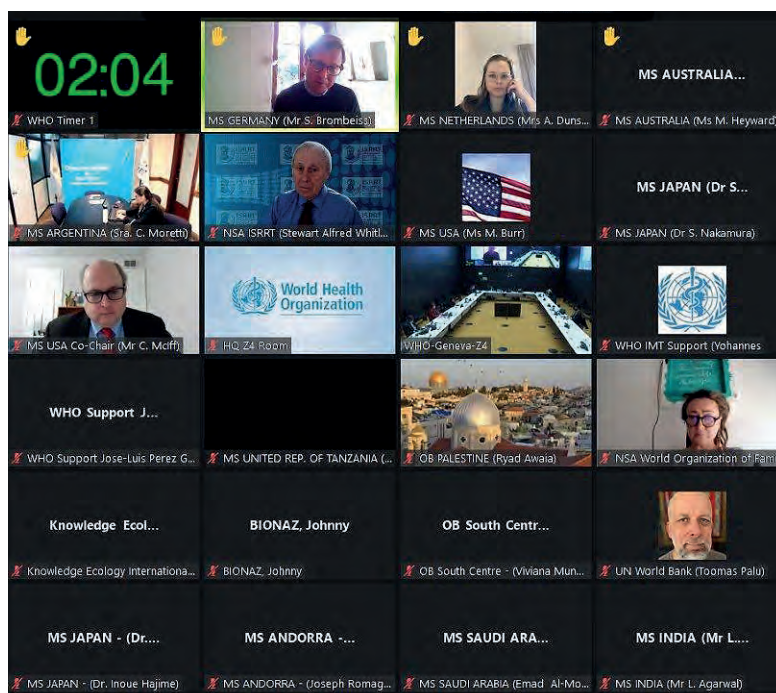
This three day meeting was dedicated for member state representatives to come to a consensus on the wording of the 'WGPR interim report to EB150'. A great deal of work had been undertaken by member states preciously.

There was a discussion on a survey sent to Member States and Non State Actors the final date of responses is expected end of January 2022. As far as I know ISRRT was not asked to participate in this survey.

I had the privilege of listening to the many discussions which concluded in almost finishing the task. A final draft will be circulated to Member States for sign off.

Background

1. The Member States Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies (WGPR) was established with a mandate derived from resolution WHA74.7 (2021) and by decision WHA74(16) (2021). 1 The latter mandate has been fulfilled with the submission of the Report (A/WGPR/5/2) which was adopted by consensus at the WHA Special Session (WHASS) 29 November – 1 December 2021.
2. This report is developed to fulfil the mandate derived from WHA74.7 and will focus primarily on that mandate to: consider the findings and recommendations of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response, the Review Committee on the functioning of the International Health Regulations (2005) during the COVID-19 Response and the Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee for the WHO Health Emergencies Programme, taking into account relevant work of WHO, including that stemming from resolution WHA73.1 (2020) and decision EB148(12) (2021), as well as the work of other relevant bodies, organizations, non-State actors and any other relevant information; and to submit a report with proposed actions for the WHO Secretariat, Member States, and non-State actors, as appropriate, for consideration by the Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly through the Executive Board at its 150th session;



I Some of the many delegates attending the sixth meeting of the working group on strengthening WHO's preparedness and response to health emergencies.

3. This report will serve as an interim report submitted to the 150th Session of the Executive Board (24–30 January 2022).

Since this meeting at the 7th meeting in the series was held March 21-23 to continue the process of evaluating Member States responses to the questionnaire and to firm up recommendations for the May 2022 WHA General assembly meetings.

World TB Day Webinar on WHO Guidelines on the management of TB in children and adolescents & the role of chest radiography

Tuberculosis (TB) infection is extremely common: an estimated one-quarter of the world's population is infected. People with TB infection risk developing TB disease and this risk depends on multiple factors, the most important being the state of their immune system.

TB preventive treatment stops TB infection from progressing to disease in those who are infected and can protect both the individual and the community from TB. WHO develops guidelines and operational handbooks to accelerate increased treatment coverage in countries. Tools such as the Prevent TB platform support national health systems to strengthen their strategic information.

In addition, WHO supports countries to prevent TB infections through guidance and implementation of infection prevention and control measures. These measures are critical in situations where the risk of TB transmission is high, such as health-care facilities, congregate settings and TB-affected households.

WHO also promotes preventive action through early screening and treatment for active TB, by addressing co-morbidities and health risks as well as social determinants of the disease, and by

promoting access to universal healthcare.

Additionally, WHO advises and guides the TB vaccine development activities of the global research community through scientific consensus-building, guidance on vaccine evaluation, and assessment of the evidence base for policy recommendations.

At the time of writing ISRR has been informed that WHO we are planning to organize a virtual symposium on the World TB Day (24th March 2022; between 17:00h and 19:00h C.E.T.) – in collaboration with the ISR and the World Federation of Pediatric Imaging (WFPI). It will be focusing on the updated WHO Guidelines on management of TB in children and adolescents and the role of pediatric radiology to support its implementation.

There will be a Panel Discussion in which they would like to include the radiographers' views on behalf on the ISRR. This would allow addressing challenges and opportunities to enhance quality and safety in pediatric imaging and support the implementation of the new WHO recommendations (which will be released on the week of the World TB Day).

Radiographers and Radiological technologist play an important role in the diagnosis of disease and your thoughts and comments are welcome.

I will be able to report back in the next edition of News and Views and will give a brief report on the ISRR's website.

IAEA Meetings

Technical Meeting on Radiation Protection in Fluoroscopically Guided Interventional (FGI) Procedures held at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna, Austria March 7-9 2022 (Virtual via Webex)

At the time of writing I am pleased to report that both Dr Napapong Pognapang, Vice President ISRR Asia/Australasia and I represented the ISRR and the radiography profession at this important meeting. We were given the opportunity, along with other international organisations and professional societies, to comment on the status of radiation protection in FGI procedures including problems, challenges, and ongoing efforts to reduce doses.

A report of the meeting is included in a separate article in this edition of *News & Views*.

IAEA study of Patient Dose and Tissue Reactions as a result of Fluoroscopically Guided Interventional (FGI) Procedures.

The IAEA are seeking involvement of those active in FGI procedures. For more details and the methodology click on the new [International study of patient doses and tissue reactions from fluoroscopy guided interventional procedures](#) which is currently in planning. Please read the [study methodology](#), if you are interested to participate, kindly [complete the online feedback form](#).

IAEA free materials – webinars in radiation protection

There is a raft of many resources which can be found at the IAEA website including free webinars on the radiation protection topics in medical uses of ionizing radiation, you can take the opportunity to learn from the world's leading radiation protection experts.

Available at [Webinars in radiation protection | IAEA](#)

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 a report from Christopher Steelman, Regional Coordinator for The Americas.

Regional Report – The Americas

Christopher Steelman (USA)

ASRT Survey of Education Program Enrolments

According to a survey conducted by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists, radiography educational program directors report that the number of enrolled students declined marginally in 2021, while educational programs in nuclear medicine and radiation therapy saw a slight increase. Entering class enrollments and year-over-year enrollment data are among the findings released this month in the *ASRT Enrollment Snapshot of Radiography, Radiation Therapy, and Nuclear Medicine Technology Programs – 2021*. The survey also tracked the continuing impact of COVID-19 protocols on educational programs.

According to the survey results, an estimated 15,477 students were enrolled in radiography programs in 2021, down slightly from 15,620 in 2020. However, nuclear medicine and radiation therapy programs saw an increase over the same period. Nuclear medicine programs grew from an estimated 1,076 students in 2020 to 1,300 students in 2021. Radiation therapy program enrollments grew, but only slightly, from 1,182 students enrolled in 2020 to an overall estimate of 1,275 students in 2021.

ASRT Associate Executive Director, Myke Kudlas shared “We also surveyed educational program directors about the effect of COVID-19 protocols on their programs,” “When we asked whether their program allows students to perform exams on known or suspected COVID-19 patients, 61 percent said yes. That’s down from 74 percent in October 2020.” ASRT sent the survey to all 961 directors of radiography, radiation therapy, and nuclear medicine technology programs currently approved by the ARRT. In all, 277 participated, with a response rate of 28.8 percent. ASRT has conducted the survey every year since 2001.

ASRT Enrollment Snapshot of Radiography, Radiation Therapy and Nuclear Medicine Technology Programs – 2021.

www.asrt.org/docs/default-source/research/enrollment-snapshot/enrollment-snapshot-of-radiography-radiation-therapy-and-nuclear-medicine-technology-programs-2021.pdf?sfvrsn=be82cdd0_8 8 ■



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HONORARY SECRETARY & EDUCATION LEAD

Keith Piper

WRETf Celebrates Second World Radiography Students' Day

On November 19, 2021, hundreds of students from over 30 countries joined the second international conference celebrating the radiography student. The conference was made possible by the generosity of the Weber State University School of Radiologic Sciences in Ogden Utah, USA. The theme of this year's conference was "Preparing Future Students for Emerging Challenges".

The virtual conference committee was another outstanding achievement of the WRETf Ambassadors led by trustee Mohammed Abd Alghani (Palestine) and Evelyn Wasike (Kenya). This year's event was chaired by Peachy Luna (The Philippines). Students were excited to hear presentations from some of the leading voices in the world of medical imaging and radiation therapy. The WRETf extends its heartfelt gratitude and thanks to all the following professionals who made this day possible.

Hesta Friedrich-Nel
 Dimitris Katsifarakis
 Anthony Mamati
 Donna Newman
 Mark Okeji
 Fozy Peer
 Prince Rockson
 Christopher Steelman
 Yudathapon Vichianin
 Adam Zuberi

World Radiography Students' Day is, of course, about the students. This year attendees were inspired by several student speakers and future leaders of the profession. Madubuobi Florence Ebube and Aliyu Muhammed Bello (Nigeria) introduced the International Association of Radiography and Radiological Science Students (IARRSS). The IARRSS plans to represent the interests of medical radiography and radiological science students worldwide. The IARRS, will "deliver global leadership by providing member associations with a voice on the global stage and access to their network of non-governmental organizations, governmental and intergovernmental agencies, industry partners, and key stakeholders. The federation shall encourage and empower national associations to achieve common goals." Ohuabunwa Sandra Chisom shares: "It is an umbrella organization for the associations

of radiography and radiological science students that seeks to bridge the students-practitioners gap to acquaint students to the professional practice of medical radiography." Their vision is to champion the deliverance of quality healthcare, radiation protection and professionalism, and to symbolize unity among radiography students worldwide. For more information, contact Madubuobi Florence Ebube, Chairperson IARRSS, at internationalfed.rad.students@gmail.com

Stephen Samson Mkoloma & Adam Francis Zuberi, Senior Ambassadors from Tanzania share the following about Chelsea Moshi, a student selected to present at the event.

As Helen Keller said, "Keep your face to the sun and you will never see the shadows." It was Monday morning; Anatomy class was about to start. A gentleman started by saying, "Radiography All the Way, and this year one of you might showcase our pride to the World." The whole class was like, "Wow, what is it sir?" WRETf World Student Day 2022 is as a sun worthy to be faced, comes the reply! Tanzania was privileged to have a student presenting for WRETf WSD 2022. Two universities that offer radiography education – Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) and Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences (CUHAS) – chose one student to prepare a presentation and submit to WRETf Ambassadors whereby Expery and Diana Robert were involved. The two presentations were evaluated and upon interviewing the students, a presentation from Ms. Chelsea, a second-year diploma student from MUHAS was selected for presentation to WRETf World Student Day. In her presentation, Chelsea discussed the COVID19 situation in Tanzania and the response in training institutes in terms of teaching and clinical practices. She sparks the world to a belief that with this pandemic, all should learn to expect anything and keep calm. Panic and fear diminish the power of the ability to choose and take courage. Though we passed in tribulations, Chelsea reminded the world of radiographers that at the sunset we shall all retire, and that emphasis should be made to improve our work habits to better cope with the challenges of our profession.

Christopher Steelman
 Chairman

NEWS FROM MEMBER COUNTRIES

THE AMERICAS

AMERICA



Students Named to ASRT Leadership Development Program



The American Society of Radiologic Technologists has named 80 radiologic science students from across the country to the [2022 ASRT Student Leadership Development Program](#). Students selected for the initiative receive an insider's look into the world's largest association for medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals. The students will embark on a three-year program that offers a chance to get to know the ASRT, attend educational sessions and network with medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals. Recipients will attend the ASRT Annual Governance and House of Delegates meeting to be held June 23-26, 2022, in Orlando, Florida. Airfare, housing and a stipend for meals and other travel expenses will be provided. The program is open to ASRT student members aged 18 and older who are enrolled in an accredited medical imaging or radiation therapy program at the time of application. Applicants must be members of the ASRT and an active ASRT affiliate at the time of application and throughout their three years in the program.

[See list of all winners here.](#)

ASRT Foundation Names Emerging Researcher Grant Recipient

The ASRT Foundation has awarded funding to a researcher at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Kathleen



Kathleen A. Stanford

A. Stanford, M.A., R.T.(R) RCIS, will use medical imaging techniques to investigate the degree by which venous pooling during prolonged sitting influences arterial stiffness in the central, peripheral and cerebral arteries. Epidemiological evidence has established that prolonged sitting increases the risk of cardiovascular disease and dementia. If the mechanism for arterial stiffness due to venous pooling during sitting is better understood, interruption strategies could be developed to target and potentially reduce or delay the deleterious effects of sitting. Stanford is a clinical research specialist at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. She is involved in several hematology studies, including leading a post-hospitalization thrombosis trial in patients with COVID-19 as well as other projects involving treatments for hemophilia and hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia. [The Emerging Researcher Grant](#) is designed to provide up to \$4,000 in support of medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals aspiring to conduct scientific research in radiologic technology. The award is funded by ASRT members Rebecca Ludwig, Ph.D., R.T.(R)(QM), FAEIRS, FASRT, and Marilyn Sackett, M.Ed., R.T.(R), FASRT, and other contributors. Its goal is to provide early-stage researchers with an opportunity to expand their research capabilities. "Prolonged sitting has been shown to increase adverse cardiovascular events and is thus a significant public health concern," said Stanford. "Using two groups of subjects and advanced ultrasound techniques, this randomized crossover trial will offer insight into physiological changes that occur while sedentary." The ASRT Foundation, philanthropic arm of the American

Society of Radiologic Technologists, funds and shares the research and analysis of many issues that affect medical imaging technologists and radiation therapists, helping to cultivate the next generation of researchers. The Foundation offers a continuum of research grant opportunities to support researchers of all experience levels.

ASRT CEO and Executive Director Sal Martino Set to Retire in 2023



Sal Martino

After 22 years at the American Society of Radiologic Technologists, with the last 13 serving as chief executive officer and executive director, Sal Martino, Ed.D., R.T.(R), FASRT, FASAE, CAE, has announced he will officially retire on Jan. 3, 2023. Dr Martino, who joined the ASRT staff in 1999 as director of education, leaves an impressive legacy in the medical imaging and radiation therapy profession, and the association management community. During his term as ASRT CEO and executive director, the Society experienced significant membership growth and financial stability, developed advanced career pathways, and spearheaded special projects that elevated and increased awareness of the profession. "Serving as the CEO of the world's largest radiologic science association has truly been an honor and a privilege," said Dr Martino. "I'm extremely proud to represent ASRT's 157,000 members who work tirelessly as frontline essential health care professionals and who are committed to providing patients with high-quality care. It has been incredibly rewarding, and I owe a special thanks to all of my colleagues who helped along the way." Known as a hands-on leader who puts the needs of members first, Dr Martino set high

expectations for his staff and built a culture rooted in hard work, open communication and positive feedback. His vision resulted in a highly successful Society that achieved series of impressive milestones:

- Membership grew from 130,446 in January 2009 to 157,787 in January 2022, a 20 percent increase.
- The Society completed a major expansion of its national headquarters in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and launched the 4,500 square foot ASRT Museum and Archives, which chronicles the history of ASRT and the radiologic technology profession.
- ASRT's annual budget grew to more than \$25 million with a significant increase in reserves (net assets) from \$18.8 million in 2009 to \$71.3 million in 2021. The reserves solidify the Society's long-term financial viability, especially when confronted with unprecedented circumstances such as the current pandemic.
- The ASRT Foundation awarded more than \$3.3 million in research grants and scholarships to its members during Dr. Martino's tenure as Foundation CEO.
- The Society launched the ongoing ASRT National Library Partnership, which has presented more than \$100,000 in grants to public libraries in every state in the nation to purchase books about medical imaging and radiation therapy.

ASRT Survey Shows Gains, Losses in Education Program Enrollments

According to a survey conducted by American Society of Radiologic Technologists, radiography educational program directors report that the number of enrolled students declined marginally in 2021, while educational programs in nuclear medicine and radiation therapy saw a slight increase.

Entering class enrollments and year-over-year enrollment data are among the findings released this month in the [ASRT Enrollment Snapshot of Radiography, Radiation Therapy and Nuclear Medicine Technology Programs - 2021](#). The survey also tracked the continuing impact of COVID-19 protocols on educational programs. According to the survey

results, an estimated 15,477 students were enrolled in radiography programs in 2021, down slightly from 15,620 in 2020. However, nuclear medicine and radiation therapy programs saw an increase over the same period. Nuclear medicine programs grew from an estimated 1,076 students in 2020 to 1,300 students in 2021. Radiation therapy program enrollments grew, but only slightly, from 1,182 students enrolled in 2020 to an overall estimate of 1,275 students in 2021. "We also surveyed educational program directors about the effect of COVID-19 protocols on their programs," said ASRT Associate Executive Director, Myke Kudlas, M.Ed., R.T.(R)(QM), CIIP, PMP, CAE. "When we asked whether their program allows students to perform exams on known or suspected COVID-19 patients, 61 percent said yes. That's down from 74 percent in October 2020."

ASRT sent the survey to all 961 directors of radiography, radiation therapy and nuclear medicine technology programs currently approved by the ARRT. In all, 277 participated, a response rate of 28.8 percent. ASRT has conducted the survey every year since 2001.

[The Enrollment Snapshot of Radiography, Radiation Therapy and Nuclear Medicine Technology Programs - 2021](#) is available free of charge. ■

Donna Long Council Member

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO



Ms Wilma Collins

On Monday March 7, 2022, Ms Wilma Collins-Radiographer/Lecturer received a National Award from the President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

The award was the Public Service Medal Of Merit – Gold, in the spheres of Radiology and Health Sciences. (Awarded for Outstanding and Meritorious Service to Trinidad and Tobago).

Ms Collins is the first President of the Society of Radiographers of Trinidad and Tobago, which was formed in 1973. Ms Collins was a member of the Advisory Committee for the development of Education and Training in Radiography and Radiation Therapy in the years 1989-1991. She is also the first Registrar for the Council for Professions Related to Medicine (Act No. 35 of 1985).

The Master of Ceremony stated that "Ms Collins is known as the oracle of radiography, a walking encyclopedia of knowledge on the subject, her pursuits have had significant impact on the provision of higher quality diagnostic and therapeutic care locally and in the Caribbean region."

We congratulate our first President for this magnificent award. We thank her for all her guidance, teaching, and support over the years. ■



EUROPE

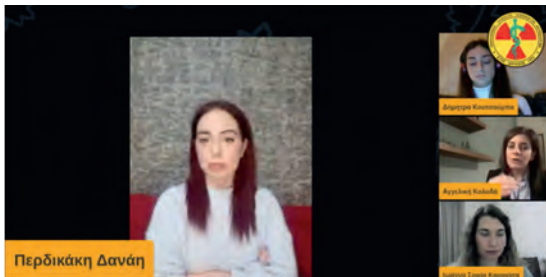
GREECE



A new prosperous year came, and the Panhellenic Society of Radiological Technologists held three special webinars. Students of the radiography,

newly graduated, and radiographers with experience discussed timeless issues and issues caused by the pandemic.

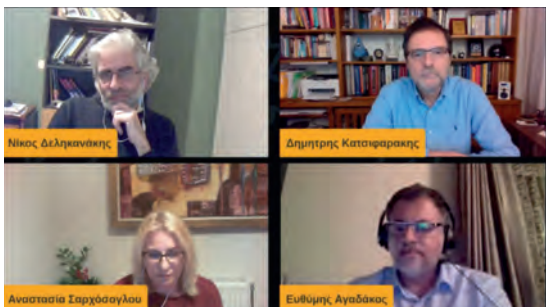
The first webinar was about the education of radiographers during the pandemic. Students and newly graduated expressed the difficulties about this new era of inadequate education, their concerns, their feelings and absence from the clinical practice, and how this can affect their career as radiographers.



| The education of radiographers during the pandemic.



| The role of radiographers and the requirements needed in a health center.



| The "3A" of a radiographer, in the daily practice.

The second online discussion was about the role of radiographers as health professionals and the requirements needed in a health center as concerned the radiology department. Working in the radiology department in a health center is not like a hospital here in Greece, and sometimes there are no radiologists and just nurses or internists. Of course, there are difficulties, more obstacles that radiographers have to deal with daily as health professionals. Experienced radiographers analyzed these issues and gave examples and solutions to overcome difficult situations and ethical problems. However, they talked about the perspectives of working as a radiographer in a health center and explained the crucial role.

The third webinar had the following title "The "3A" of a radiographer, in the daily practice". In this online discussion, expert radiographers of imaging and

radiotherapy talked about the act evaluation, the evaluation of results, and safe patient management. The radiographers have a vital role in imaging as health professionals, and it's essential to provide good services to the patients before, during, and after the examination. ■

PORTUGAL



APIMR participates in the Public Consultation for the Statute of the NHS and Radiological Protection

The Medical Imaging and Radiotherapy Portuguese Association (APIMR), as a professional association of private law on behalf of its associates, decided, after consulting its corporate and associated bodies, to make a series of contributions to the improvement of the diploma that regulates the Statute of the SNS document in public consultation, in accordance with the terms of the law.

The suggestions were essentially related to a greater contribution and representativeness of the Superior Diagnostic and Therapeutic Technicians, in particular Radiology, Radiotherapy and Nuclear Medicine for the public cause, since they are extremely present in the SNS and motivated to help populations.

Contributions can be found at this [LINK Contributos Estatuto SNS APIMR 10 2021 signed](#)

The APIMR expressed its full agreement with the need to introduce some amendments to DL 108/2018 which, despite transpose the EURATOM directives, had some flaws in the application to the Portuguese reality, in our view. We want to strengthen the transparent way in which this process has been carried out and we take good note of the call for the participation of all entities in the area of health, as well as civil society.

Regarding the document under analysis,



CONTRIBUTOS DA APIMR À ALTERAÇÃO DO REGIME JURÍDICO DA PROTEÇÃO RADIOLÓGICA

12-01-2022

Associação Portuguesa de Imagiologia Médica e Radioterapia - APIMR
apimr.pt



APIMR, after discussion among partners, followers and other collaborators, suggested some changes that we think are important and that can be consulted at the following link: [Contributions APIMR_RJProtecao_Radiologica_Jan_2022](#)

APIMR collaborates with the Webinar "Personal Development and Marketing"

APIMR collaborated in the organization of the Personal Development and Marketing webinar, promoted by the National Center of IMR Students.

This webinar was divided into two phases, the first, on February 26, tried to elucidate how a Curriculum Vitae can be properly elaborated. This part was attended by Dr. Catarina Simões, a professor at the Escola Superior de Educação de Coimbra (ESEC).

These trainings are intended to help students start their journey as professionals, and can fill some gaps in the education system regarding their promotion as future professionals.

The next training will be on LinkedIn and will take place on March 26, 2022

APIMR Vice President participates in International Conference

APIMR's Vice President Dr Rui Almeida was invited to participate in the XIV International Conference on Quality and

Safety in Health Services with the theme of «Health Literacy»

This conference was held following the Master's degree in Quality in Health from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte in Brazil. The event featured «national and international references in the theme such as Dr. Rui Almeida (UAlg - University of algarve) and Dr. Maria Dolabela (SPDM - Paulista Association for the Development of Medicine)»

We invite colleagues to consult the event and the lecture in particular from the 23rd minute, following LINK

brainwork of a group of Gulbenkian Mais fellows, who believe that young people can achieve their goals more quickly when they feel supported and encouraged by someone who has already walked a similar path.

The aim of the project is to support young people in the 3rd cycle of primary and secondary education, through academic and vocational guidance, information on scholarships and personalized support in areas of personal development. Thus, they aim to combat inequalities in access to information that often translate into inequalities of opportunity.

APIMR was contacted to collaborate in supporting the mentoring of students with an interest in radiology, radiotherapy and nuclear medicine.

The first APIMR support session took place on December 8, with a session via Zoom, where there was an explanation of the academic path to graduate in Medical Imaging and Radiotherapy, the differences between the areas of radiology, radiotherapy and nuclear medicine and healthcare other areas and clarification of student issues.

The APIMR professional who initiated this contact will continue to support this student in her academic development

More about the "Roots" project [HERE](#) ■

APIMR collaborates with Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation's «Roots» Mentoring Program

The Gulbenkian Plus Scholarships were launched by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in 2014 and are intended to support the academic training of young people of recognised merit and high potential who do not have the necessary economic resources to pursue studies in higher education.

The Roots Mentoring Program was the



FUNDAÇÃO CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN

APIMR

UNITED KINGDOM



Jonathan McNulty wins top radiography award

Jonathan McNulty has won the Eurominnies 2022 award for the Most Influential Radiographer.

The award was given for

Jonathan's work in healthcare education research, neuroimaging, and forensic imaging. He has published more than 80 papers in a variety of journals.

Jonathan is the Vice-Principal for Teaching and Learning in the College of Health and Agricultural Sciences and the Associate Dean for Graduate Taught Studies in the School of Medicine, University College Dublin where he also coordinates the BSc (Hons) Diagnostic Radiography (Graduate Entry) programme.

Interviewed for the February issue of Synergy magazine, he said: "I want to put my own stamp on my profession, to improve radiography education, to improve research in radiography and hopefully to have some of my research impact on clinical practice."

"We need to be actively putting ourselves forward to be involved in research and development associated with [artificial intelligence].

"We need to do everything we can whether that's as organisations or national societies and funding agencies to support more radiographers in getting doctoral level education."

Also nominated for the Award was Charlotte Beardmore, the Society's Executive Director for Professional Policy who was recognised for leading a team that "develops professional guidance for diagnostic and therapeutic radiography for those working in imaging and radiotherapy services, supports and develops evidence-based practice for the profession through research leads, and oversees the approval processes for radiography education in the U.K. and the accreditation of practitioners to assure quality of provision and to support professional development."

The awards reflect the high standard of work being done right across Europe. "Radiology has a deep pool of talent that

spans the entire continent of Europe. This is one of the key conclusions to draw from the list of award winners for the 2022 EuroMinnies. The eight recipients of the individual and industry awards come from eight different European nations," say the Awards organisers.

Society of Radiographers launches important new NHS workplace survey

All SoR NHS members are being asked to complete an NHS Workforce Survey. The survey is open from Tuesday 8th March until noon on Thursday 31st March.

The SoR see the survey as a vitally important piece of evidence gathering to inform campaigning and ensure our national arguments reflect members' reality.

The survey focuses on identifying members' experience and views on key issues impacting on day to day working reality inside the NHS. Areas covered include:

professional and career development how well recognised and rewarded they feel; safe staffing levels and workload; and how safe members feel at work.

The survey is anonymous but with scope to track collective trends, including by geographic area and length of time working in the NHS.

It is expected that this will become an annual survey, allowing the SoR to track trends amongst members' experience and attitude. A similar private / independent sector Workplace survey is planned for later this Spring.

SoR Executive Director for Industrial Strategy & Member Relations, Dean Rogers, explains:

"Our members' central importance to health pathways and to supporting healthier communities is increasingly recognised, in all parts of the UK, by policy and decision makers. Our opportunity to positively influence change has also never been greater. We can do this most effectively by bringing the reality of our members' work experience to the forefront of our contribution to important debates.

"This survey is an important part of making sure we are doing just that – giving all members in the NHS an opportunity to share their thoughts and experiences in key areas. Their evidence will shape our evidence to politicians

and other decision makers, Pay Review Bodies, Regulators, etc. Listening exercises like this help make sure that when we speak up for members our voice is authentic and powerful."

He added, "I hope most members will take the five minutes to fill in the online survey, and encourage their colleagues to do the same. All answers are anonymous and we want people to feel safe in answering honestly. The SoR is playing an increasingly leading role in critical discussions about the future of our professions and the NHS. Every additional survey return will strengthen our evidence base and our impact when leading for members."

To complete the survey go to: <https://survey.alchemer.eu/s3/90432197/NHS-2022-23-Pay-Campaign>

Society of Radiographers' President calls for solidarity with Ukrainian colleagues

The President of the Society has called for solidarity with colleagues working in the war-torn republic of Ukraine.

Claire Donaldson (pictured below) said that radiographers "will be working as always at the heart of the efforts to deal with both military and civilian casualties".

"We know that they will also be facing the trauma of living and working in a war zone; the effects on family, friends, colleagues and country," she said.



Claire urged all members to join her in expressing support for Ukrainian colleagues.

"Members of the Society of Radiographers, in common with healthcare professionals, fellow members of the European Federation of Radiographer Societies and people everywhere, will be thinking of our radiographic colleagues and all people caught up in the invasion of Ukraine.

"In a moment of history when it is difficult to know what we as individuals can do, we express solidarity with radiographers and their patients in Ukraine.

"The horrific images and stories of those suffering make harrowing and distressing reading. We are aware that many SoR members have family and friends in Ukraine.

"We add our voice to those across the world, condemning violence and urging peace through diplomacy rather than violence and destruction."

Meanwhile, the European Federation of Radiographer Societies (EFRS) has also expressed sympathy and concern for colleagues working in Ukraine

"The [EFRS] is an apolitical and non-profit European organisation and the role of the EFRS is to represent, promote and develop the profession of radiography in Europe," said a Federation spokesperson.

"We are deeply concerned about the current situation in Ukraine and our thoughts are with Ukrainian Radiographers, their families and the people of Ukraine. The EFRS recognises that the current circumstances are likely to raise challenges for all those working in healthcare in the region. The EFRS would like to offer its full unified support to all healthcare workers providing care in response to the crisis that is unfolding.

"The European Federation of Radiographer Societies hopes for a resolution to the situation in Ukraine, without any further suffering and loss of life."

Society issues guidance on videoing and photography during obstetric scans

Sonographers are increasingly reporting service users taking overt and covert videos or photographs during antenatal ultrasound examinations. They have also highlighted concerns about social media posts informing service users that they have a right to video examinations and staff on NHS property.

The Society has worked with Antenatal Results and Choices, the College of Radiographers Patient Advisory Group and the SoR Ultrasound Advisory Group to co-produce guidance to support sonographers and obstetric ultrasound departments to develop local protocols to manage such situations.

Advice is given to promote a collaborative

approach to developing local policy that considers the importance of the clinical examination, the need for the sonographer to feel comfortable in their workplace, allowing them to concentrate fully on the complex examination and exceptional situations where women and pregnant people need additional support. The guidance reinforces the importance of consistent messaging and the need for all members of the wider antenatal team to understand the local policy and rationale for it.

Suggestions are given to promote information and justification of local policy to women and pregnant people, pre-examination, on arrival in the ultrasound department and within the ultrasound room. Example information for expectant parents is included within the appendix, to assist ultrasound teams and Maternity Voices Partnership (MVP) to co-design resources to meet their local requirements.

The guidance document has benefited from input from a range of stakeholders. The SoR are extremely grateful for the time and effort they have given to co-writing this document. ■

AUSTRALASIA

PALESTINE



First Palestinian international conference on medical radiation sciences

The Palestinian association of medical radiation technologists - PAMRT has made the decision to organize the first Palestinian international conference on medical

radiation sciences on November 17-19 as a full onsite.

Conference Venue

The 3 days of the conference and the workshops will be held at the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) in Ramallah. The PRCS was officially founded in 1968, with the aims of caring of the health and welfare of the Palestinian population. The conference will be held at one of the main facilities of the PRCS in Al-Bireh-Ramallah. The conference center is characterized by a newly added theatre, which is set to be "a beacon for the society's activities in the humanitarian and cultural fields". This theatre contains a seating capacity of 1000 persons in order to accommodate for a wide range of activities.

The building is located on the Ramallah-Quds main road, after Al-Ama'ari camp.



Official Language

The official language of the conference is English. All of the presentations are expected to be delivered in the English language.

Where the conference aims to Offer a comprehensive series of learning content material across all radiology expertise regions and skill levels, collaborate with other radiology organizations to



leverage the collective voice of radiology, and enhance radiologic Technologists knowledge of the value of radiography and their role in the healthcare system.

PAMRT organize annual conference on 8th of November at the same day of World Radiography Day which take place for one day, but this year PAMRT decided to organize its first international conference.

Many scientists and featured speakers representing international radiography societies, universities, education, and training institutions will be represented in the conference.

Featured speakers representing the International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists ISRTT, European Federation of Radiographer Societies (EFRS) and Arab Federation of Radiography and Medical Imaging Specialists Associations.

The onsite conference, enabling us to hold the event under the most favorable conditions to ensure a safe and secure meeting for all participant.

This event will feature a series of trailer sessions offering a glimpse of some of the biggest highlights to be held at conference. These trailer sessions will be held alongside an exciting scientific and educational programme, a studio dedicated to interventional education and technology, and a small onsite element where leading figures in radiology and industry partners will give talks. The event will offer 15 Continuing Medical Education credits.

This event will be fully onsite, streamed online and offer Continuing Medical Education credits. Our conference will deliver an experience with a highly multidisciplinary programme, exciting summer social events, and a buzzing industry exhibition.

Click here for the conference link:

<http://pamrt.ps/conf/?page=> ■

Mohammed Abdalghani
Palestine – PAMRT

INDONESIA



Integrated System of Indonesian Radiographer Registration

Together, The Indonesian Ministry of Health, The Indonesian Health Professions

Council (KTKI), has officially developed the Electronic Registration Certificate (e-STR) application. Based on Circular Letter Number KT.05.02/1/3326/2021 concerning Issuance of Electronic Registration Certificates (e-STR) set on May 25, 2021, the issuance of Electronic Registration system is effective for submissions starting on June 1, 2021. The presence of electronic Registration applications (e-STR) is an effort to accelerate Health Professionals Registration issuance services to Health Professionals, now Health Professionals can print e-STR and legalize their Registration Certificate independently, by themselves using their own computer and printer. The e-STR application can make the registration process easier and faster for health professionals to get Registration Certificate to give practice in health services.

The Radiographer Registration System in Indonesia has been carried out electronically integrated with the Indonesian Ministry of Health and the Indonesian Health Professions Council. Including the Re-Registration Renewal system every 5 years through the Online Continuing Professionals Development (CPD) managed by PARI. After participating in the CPD Online process, the

Indonesian Radiographer obtains a recommendation for a registration renewal which is then processed by the council to get practice license for next 5 years. All of these systems have been integrated through an electronic registration called eSTR which is jointly managed by Health Professions Council, the Indonesian Ministry of Health and PARI.

PARI plays an active role in the radiographer's continuing educational process and disseminates information on the Issuance of Electronic Registration Certificates (e-STR) as well as online CPD management assistance and guidance to radiographers. The launch of e-STR which is easy, safe and fast, now applicants can apply for STR online and monitoring can be done anywhere and anytime. STR can also be printed independently without having to wait for delivery via Post Indonesia. In addition, its authenticity is guaranteed with an Electronic Signature (TTE).

PARI supports strategy and maintenance to ensure that the system runs as expected. Socialization must reach all the radiographers and make the best possible use of it, to advance Indonesia's health program and help the community by creating competent and legalized health professionals in health services throughout Indonesia. ■



■ Indonesian Society of Radiographers (PARI), Indonesian Ministry of Health and Indonesian Health Professions Council.



■ PARI Online Continuing Professional Development Workshop for Evaluator and Commision.



www.isrrt.org

