NUCLEAR PHARMACISTS NEWSLETTER

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ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Two important meetings affecting the future of nuclear pharmacy took place at the Society of Nuclear Medicine Meeting held June 12-15 in Miami, Florida. At the first meeting of non-physician personnel involved with radiopharmaceuticals, primarily radiochemists, the significance of the formation of the American College of Nuclear Medicine by physicians and the future involvement of non-physician personnel with the Society of Nuclear Medicine was discussed. John Burdine, MD, Chairman of the Scientific Affairs Committee, met with the group to discuss the position of the Society of Nuclear Medicine. Dr. Burdine suggested that an organization concerned with radiopharmaceuticals could interact with the Society through the Scientific Affairs Committee. He urged the organization to remain in and be a part of the Society of Nuclear Medicine. The non-physician group, acting as an Ad Hoc committee, coordinated by Muni Staum, approved the motion to appoint ten members to formulate a tentative constitution.

A second meeting, held by nuclear pharmacists, was convened on the following day to consider the desirability of a formal organization of registered pharmacists actively engaged in some aspect of nuclear pharmacy and the relationship of the pharmacist to the non-physician personnel group that was being organized. The pharmacists acknowledged the need for improved communications, as well as a unified voice in matters of legislation, scientific issues and educational standards. While the pharmacists recognized their own professional needs, it was also generally agreed that further fractionation
of groups within the Society of Nuclear Medicine might hinder a voice within the Society. Thus, the following motion by James Cooper was seconded and passed:

Resolved, that it is the sensus of this meeting that an unincorporated professional organization of radiochemists and nuclear pharmacists be established having the following objectives:

a. To voice the opinion of this body relative to the impact of economic, legislative, and interprofessional factors upon those engaged in the radiopharmaceutical sciences;

b. To establish a means for discussing aspects of practice, issues, and problems of mutual interest and concern;

c. To promote professional development through the conduct of educational and scientific meetings and activities; and

d. To enhance the effectiveness of health care delivery in nuclear medicine by promoting the highest standards of professional practice in the radiopharmaceutical sciences.

AND prior to incorporation of this organization, it is further resolved that a mechanism be established:

a. To identify individuals mutually interested in meeting the aforementioned objectives; and

b. To determine alternative methods of potential organizational structure and affiliation.

To implement the motion Rodney Ice, acting coordinator of the pharmacists, and Richard Allen, James Cooper, Phillip Hagen, Richard Keesee, Keith Morgan, Stanley Shaw, and Terry Smith agreed to meet with representatives of the radiochemists. To further implement the intent of the pharmacists Stanley Shaw agreed to coordinate a committee to improve communications among the
nuclear pharmacists by the formation of a national newsletter. Members of
the committee are Richard Keesee, Don Lyster, Keith Morgan, and Gordon Born.

A joint committee of the radiochemists and the pharmacists convened
later to appoint the necessary subcommittees for establishment of a
proposed constitution. James Cooper was selected to serve as chairman of
the subcommittee to construct the preamble and purpose. Other members are
Richard Allen, Phillip Hagen and Richard Keesee. Rodney Ice was selected
as chairman of the subcommittee to compose the composition of the constitution.
Other members are L. Chervu, M. Dewanjee and G. Levine. A draft of the
constitution should be available by September. Muni Staum is serving as
coordinator for distribution of drafts within the joint committee of
radiochemists and nuclear pharmacists as well as coordinator for distribution
of the final draft to all concerned personnel via the Society of Nuclear
Medicine prior to the International Symposium on Radiopharmaceuticals to
be held in Atlanta, Georgia, February 12-15, 1974. The constitution will
be presented and reviewed at the Atlanta Symposium. All nuclear pharmacists
are urged to attend the Symposium. Written comments regarding organizational
concepts or the constitution are welcomed and should be directed to Rodney Ice.
Prior to the Atlanta Symposium Stanley Shaw, Mike Davies, chairman, and Keith
Morgan will obtain information on affiliation with existing national organizations.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

On February 12-15, 1974, an International Symposium on Radiopharmaceuticals
will be held in Atlanta, Georgia. The Symposium is sponsored by The Society of
Nuclear Medicine and The United States Federal Drug Administration. Topics to
be covered include:
1. Current concepts in radiopharmaceutical development
2. Radiopharmaceuticals from cyclotrons
3. Quality control
4. Technetium
5. Radionuclides and radiopharmaceuticals - new additions
6. Indium and chelates
7. Iodine
8. Thromboembolic specific tracers
9. Radiopharmaceuticals for dynamic studies
10. Radioactive particles
11. Radiopharmaceuticals for bone and bone marrow studies
12. Radiopharmaceuticals: general topics
13. Tumor specific agents
14. Myocardial scanning agents
15. Most recent developments in radiopharmaceuticals

A panel discussion entitled "Role of Nuclear Pharmacists in Nuclear Medicine" should be of special interest to all pharmacists. Information on the Symposium can be obtained by writing the Society of Nuclear Medicine.

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NUCLEAR PHARMACISTS

Previous to the Society of Nuclear Medicine meeting a questionnaire was sent to nuclear pharmacists by Rodney Ice, Gordon Born and Stanley Shaw. Not all nuclear pharmacists received the questionnaire due to an incomplete listing of individuals and corresponding addresses. Over 80 percent of recipients responded to the questionnaire. Of the respondents 100 percent favored an organization of registered nuclear pharmacists. Most pharmacists were willing to devote time to the organization and pay annual dues averaging $15-20. A high percentage of respondents favored specialization educational requirements for nuclear pharmacists.

APhA TASK FORCE ON SPECIALTIES

The APhA has a special committee considering "specialties" in pharmacy. Pharmacists that wish to express their opinion concerning nuclear pharmacy
as a specialty should write: Lloyd M. Parks, Ph.D.
Chairman
APhA Task Force on Specialties in Pharmacy
2215 Constitution Avenue
Washington, D.C. 30037

The following is a listing of the issues considered by the Task Force.

1. What factors should be employed in identifying specialties in pharmacy?

2. If so, who should be officially responsible for identifying specialties in pharmacy?
   - members of the profession of pharmacy
   - members of related professions
   - representatives of employers
   - representatives of the public
   - government officials

4. What procedures should be followed for the identification of specialties in pharmacy?

5. Should qualified pharmacists be certified as specialists for the benefit of society or for the benefit of pharmacy?

6. If so, who should be assigned the responsibility for identifying those qualified to be certified as specialists?

7. What factors should be employed in certifying qualified specialists?
   - age
   - citizenship
   - membership in professional societies
   - state licensure
   - endorsements
   - payment of fees
   - years and type of education
   - years and type of practice
   - internships
   - passing of examination(s): oral/written

8. If internships are required as a qualification for certification, who should approve the internships and on what basis?

9. If a candidate for certification fails in an attempt, how many times and how often should he or she be permitted to try again?

10. Should certification be granted for a specified period of time; and if so, for how long; and how should recertification be conducted?
The Nuclear Pharmacist Newsletter originated as a result of the urgent cry voiced at the Society of Nuclear Medicine meeting in June for improved communications between pharmacists. The Newsletter will be published on a prn basis. Radiochemists and others associated with the radiopharmaceutical sciences are invited to contribute news and items of interest to the Newsletter. The Newsletter reserves the right of decision on publication and the right to edit or condense material received. Information may be sent to Stanley Shaw or any member of the communications committee (Richard Keesee, Don Lyster, Keith Morgan and Gordon Born). To update the mailing list, please send the name and address of any nuclear pharmacist who may not be receiving the Newsletter to Rodney Ice.

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE RADIOPHARMACY LICENSED

Effective July 10, 1973, the University of Tennessee Radiopharmacy was licensed by the Tennessee Board of Pharmacy. James Cooper serves as head of the radiopharmacy.

Other state licensed nuclear pharmacies are the Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis Radiopharmacy under the direction of Mike Kavula, the University of New Mexico Radiopharmacy with Richard Keesee as director, and the University of Michigan Nuclear Pharmacy with pharmacists Rodney Ice and Ken Hetzel. Others?
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