Treves Receives 2013 de Hevesy Award

On June 9, at the SNMMI Annual Meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia, S. Ted Treves, MD, professor of radiology (nuclear medicine) and director of the Joint Program in Nuclear Medicine (JPNM) at Harvard Medical School (Boston, MA), received the 2013 Georg Charles de Hevesy Nuclear Pioneer Award for his contributions to nuclear medicine. “Dr. Treves has contributed greatly to the field of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging, particularly in his work with pediatric patients,” said Frederic H. Fahey, DSc, 2012–2013 SNMMI president. “He has been an innovator and leader in systems integration in medical imaging, developing new diagnostic techniques and evaluating new radiopharmaceuticals—all with the end goal of optimizing nuclear medicine imaging in children. Most recently, he has been investigating the application of new technologies in order to optimize imaging and reduce the radiation dose to children undergoing nuclear medicine procedures. In addition, his work as an educator and advisor—including the publication of his textbooks on pediatric nuclear medicine—has changed the way that pediatric nuclear medicine and molecular imaging is practiced.”

Treves earned his medical degree from the University of Buenos Aires in Argentina and completed a residency in nuclear medicine at Royal Victoria Hospital (Montreal, Quebec). At Yale–New Haven Hospital (CT) he completed an additional residency in nuclear medicine, as well as fellowships in radiology and nuclear medicine. He went on to found the first division of nuclear medicine at Boston Children’s Hospital and served as its chief for more than 40 years. He is a founding member of the JPNM and has served as director of its residency training program in nuclear medicine. In addition to his positions at Harvard, Treves serves in several capacities at Brigham & Women’s Hospital, the Dana–Farber Cancer Institute, and Boston Children’s Hospital.

Treves’s research interests include the development and evaluation of diagnostic radionuclide methods, with emphasis on physiologic evaluation and pediatric applications. As the leader of the Image Gently nuclear medicine group, he has moved forward initiatives in radiation dose reduction in pediatric nuclear medicine, resulting in the 2010 North American Consensus Guidelines for Pediatric Radiopharmaceutical Administered Doses. Treves has also been instrumental in development of new radiopharmaceutical agents and has several inventions and patents in his name, including a patient-specific method for detection of seizures. He founded the first Boston Children’s Hospital Small Animal Imaging Laboratory. He has written more than 360 journal articles, texts, and chapters on these topics. He has been a member of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Radiopharmaceutical Advisory Committee and serves as a reviewer for several scientific journals and on many editorial boards. He is a lifetime member of the American Board of Nuclear Medicine.

Many groups have honored Treves for his contributions to nuclear medicine and allied sciences. He was the recipient of the 1987 SNM George V. Taplin Award and the 2004 SNM New England Chapter Holman–Kaplan Lecture–ship Award. The first SNMMI Pediatric Imaging Council Conway–Treves Senior Investigator Award, named in his honor, was presented to him in 2012.

“I am deeply honored and overwhelmingly delighted to receive the SNMMI de Hevesy Award,” said Treves. “It is a great honor to be recognized by my colleagues. Nuclear medicine is my love, and I have enjoyed every moment working in such an extraordinarily wonderful field. I hope that I will be able to continue with my work in the years to come.”

Each year since 1960, SNMMI has presented the de Hevesy Award to an individual for outstanding contributions to the field of nuclear medicine. De Hevesy received the 1943 Nobel Prize in chemistry for his work exploring the absorption, distribution, metabolism, and elimination of radioactive compounds in the human body.
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