Starting at that time the Quality Assurance and Practice Certification Committee reviewed the mechanics of meeting Standard V and collected examples of programs and standard forms from facilities which had been approved by JCAH reviewers. These were referred to in the ACNP SCANNER in June, October and November–December, 1985. The ACNP has supplied a number of individuals with this material on request.

It may be of interest that the cooperative CAP/ACNP/SNM Imaging Resource Committee Phantom Survey may be used to satisfy a part of the QA documentation required by Standard V. The performance of the phantom survey is considered quality control by JCAH. However, the review of the critique of the survey with documentation of actions taken and resulting continuing education constitute quality assurance. The Committee recommends use of the phantom survey as an integral component of any departmental program to document quality and appropriateness.

The ACNP Practice Audit Program may also be of value in preparation for JCAH. This voluntary peer inspection is designed to evaluate all aspects of nuclear medicine practice, including quality assurance from the standpoint of the characteristics required to meet JCAH quality and appropriateness standards.

The ACNP Quality Assurance and Practice Certification Committee is pleased to share this material in the interest of disseminating information as widely as possible and to avoid duplication of effort.

References

1. Friedman BI. Quality assurance and nuclear medicine: The challenge of change. *J Nucl Med* 1986; 27:1366–1372.

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Removal of Deanol as a Chemical Impurity in Carbon-11 Choline

TO THE EDITOR: I read with great interest the paper of Rosen et al. describing the influence of deanol on the uptake of choline in the brain. They have documented a potential problem in using carbon-11 choline with PET resulting from the chemical impurity present in the injected pharmaceutical.

I would like to, however, point out a misleading statement in the first paragraph in their discussion. The data they quote there on the possible level of impurity in the final radiopharmaceutical does not derive from our paper. We stated that a final purification was done by high performance liquid chromatography or by passing water extract through a reverse phase (RP 18) SEP-PAK (*2*). This procedure did in fact eliminate the starting material from the radiopharmaceutical.

References

1. Rosen MA, Jones RM, Yano Y, et al. Carbon-11 choline, synthesis, purification, and brain uptake inhibition by 2-dimethylaminoethanol. *J Nucl Med* 1985; 26:1424–1428.
2. Diksic M, Yamamoto YL, Feindel W. Synthesis of ^{11}C-labelled choline. *J Label Compds Radiopharm* 1984;21:815–820.

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NOTICE TO READERS

An investigation by an ad hoc faculty committee of the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine into the work of Dr. Robert A. Slutsky has found evidence of research fraud in certain of his publications. Reviewing all of his published work, the committee has placed the burden of proof on co-authors to establish the veracity of the experiments and methods reported in his other publications. In many cases the co-authors could not do this because Dr. Slutsky compiled the raw data, did the analyses, and prepared the publication. The committee classified papers as valid, questionable, or demonstrably fraudulent. The conclusions of the following paper published in *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine* could not be shown to be supported by verifiable original experiments and analyses, and was therefore considered questionable. The committee is satisfied that co-authors had no knowledge of any fraudulent practices or incorrect statements prior to their publication.

Slutsky RA, Higgins CB. Thallium scintigraphy in experimental toxic pulmonary edema: Relationship to extravascular pulmonary fluid. *J Nucl Med* 1984; 25:581–591.

The committee's examination of each paper listed below and the testimony of co-authors did not result in concern about the validity of the publications.

Bhargava V, Slutsky R, Costello D. Peak rate of left-ventricular ejection by a gated radionuclide technique: Correlation with contrast angiography. *J Nucl Med* 1981; 22:506–509.

Pfisterer ME, Battler A, Swanson SM, Slutsky R, Froelicher V, Ashburn WL. Reproducibility of ejection-fraction determinations by equilibrium radionuclide angiography in response to supine bicycle exercise: Concise communication. *J Nucl Med* 1979; 20:491–495.

Slutsky RA, Andre MP Mattrey RF, Brahme FJ. In vitro magnetic relaxation times of the ischemic and reperfused rabbit kidney: Concise communication. *J Nucl Med* 1984; 25:38–41.