

NEWS BRIEFS

SNM Now Surveying Physicians and Scientists for Manpower Study

In-depth and up-to-date demographic information on the nuclear medicine profession in the United States (US) has never been collected on physicians and scientists, although such statistics are vitally important to the field. This month, The Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) will survey approximately 6,500 health care and research facilities in nuclear medicine in an effort to build a comprehensive database that reflects the current state of this specialty in the US.

"With the increasing interest in the cost of health care, there is a pressing need for relevant and accurate information concerning the practice of nuclear medicine," said Richard A. Holmes, MD, chairman of the SNM Manpower Committee. "It is to the benefit of our profession that we know—as accurately as possible—the total number of nuclear medicine physicians and scientists, where they are employed, their educational background, credentialing, and what their immediate and future needs are," said Dr. Holmes, who is also vice president of the SNM.

Two types of surveys will be mailed in April: an institutional survey to be answered by the director of the nuclear medicine department or service; an individual survey, which should be photocopied and distributed to every physician and scientist (regardless of degree) whose work involves any aspect of nuclear medicine—including professionals in other departments, such as radiology, pathology, cardiology, neurology, oncology, etc. [The only nuclear medicine professionals who should *not* fill out the individual surveys are technologists because a human

resources survey for this group was already conducted in 1984 (see *J Nucl Med Technol* 1985; 13:187-199).]

The SNM Manpower Committee, specially appointed by SNM President Howard J. Dworkin, MD, evolved from the former Federated Council of Nuclear Medicine Organizations which once comprised the SNM, the American College of Nuclear Physicians (ACNP), the American Board of Nuclear Medicine (ABNM), the College of American Pathologists (CAP), the American College of Radiology (ACR), and the American Osteopathic College of Radiology (AOCR). Those groups are represented on the SNM Manpower Committee, and the basic science area is represented by Michael J. Welch, PhD, a past president of the SNM.

"We urge all professionals in nuclear medicine in the US to contribute their time to this important endeavor. Only with full participation and cooperation in completing this survey will we accomplish a statistically valid study," said Dr. Holmes.

[For more information, contact: Virginia M. Pappas, CAE, Deputy Executive Director, The Society of Nuclear Medicine, Dept. 487NL, 136 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016-6760, (212)889-0717.] ■

RIA Cost-Effectiveness Study Moves Ahead

The Society of Nuclear Medicine's (SNM) Special Committee on Radioimmunoassay (RIA) Cost-Effectiveness Study, appointed last year by SNM President Howard J. Dworkin, MD, met at the SNM Winter Meeting last February in San Antonio, TX, and reviewed information on the costs of a wide range of RIA procedures from several laboratories.

The committee decided to focus on evaluations of representative RIA tests performed in large volumes by batch methods, and compare them with competing modalities, such as fluorescence immunoassay (FIA), enzyme immunoassay (EIA), and chemiluminescent immunoassay (CLIA) tests (see *Newsline*, Aug. 1986, pp. 1238-1239). The RIAs selected for the cost-effectiveness study include: carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA), digoxin, hepatitis panel, T4, and possibly T3 uptake, reported Oscar M. Powell, Jr., MD, chairman of the committee. ■

Technologist Section Nominations for 1987 SNM Election

President-Elect

Paul D. Cole, CNMT
Arthur J. Hall, CNMT

Secretary/Historian

Jacqueline A. Bridges, CNMT
Lynnette A. Fulk, CNMT

SNM Trustee

Maria V. Nagel, CNMT
Susan C. Weiss, CNMT

Finance Committee

Benjamin F. Reed III, CNMT
Sharon Corbett Surrel, CNMT

Membership Committee

Cardiff "Mickey" Williams, CNMT
Donna E. Johnson, CNMT
Ronni G. Markwell, CNMT

Nominating Committee

Kathleen S. Thomas, CNMT
Robert D. Bowen, CNMT
Kirk D. Brust, CNMT
Allen E. Beranek, CNMT
Shirley G. Garrett, CNMT
Barbara Schmidt, CNMT

(The election bulletins will be mailed to SNM Technologist Section members this month, and the ballots must be returned by May 2, 1987. The election winners will be announced at The Society of Nuclear Medicine's (SNM) 34th Annual Meeting, June 2-5, 1987, in Toronto, Canada.)