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## NEWS BRIEFS

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### SPECT/PET Symposium at European Nuclear Medicine Congress 1987 in Budapest, Hungary

During the European Nuclear Medicine Congress 1987, to be held August 24–28 in Budapest, Hungary, nuclear medicine professionals from around the world will assemble in the birthplace of the scientist who developed the radiotracer method. In honor of Georg Charles de Hevesy, PhD, Dc-Sci, MD (1885–1966), the Hungarian chemist often called “the father of basic nuclear medicine,” the congress will include a Hevesy Memorial Exhibition, covering the history of nuclear medicine in Europe.

Prof. László Csernay, MD, DSc, of the University Medical School of Szeged, Hungary, is president of the congress, which will be the 25th meeting of The Society of Nuclear Medicine—Europe, the 10th meeting of the European Nuclear Medicine Society, and the 5th meeting of the Hungarian Nuclear Medicine Society.

In addition to the plenary sessions and scientific program, the congress will include five symposia.

One of the pre-congress symposia,

organized by Prof. Dr. med. Udalrich Büll and Prof. Dr. med. Hans-J. Biersack, will explore clinical aspects of single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) and positron emission tomography (PET). Twelve lecturers will cover the physiologic principles of SPECT and PET studies, as well as applications in brain, heart, and tumor imaging. The symposium, August 24 in Budapest, will conclude with a discussion on what can be transferred from PET to SPECT, and the economic considerations of adding these modalities to clinical practice.

“SPECT and PET have important applications that can be used for clinical decision-making,” said Prof. Büll. Nuclear medicine departments that can offer both SPECT and PET studies will be able to provide patients with “a more complete spectrum of examinations,” said Prof. Biersack.

The other pre-congress symposia on August 24 will cover: knowledge-based systems in nuclear medicine (organized by D.P. Pretschner, P.E. Asard, and E. Santa-Tóth) and nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) principles and applications (organized by J. Chambron and R. Bauer).

Two post-congress symposia will

be held August 28–30. A meeting on nuclear probe systems—similar to the nuclear stethoscope—will take place in the city of Balatonfüred (organized by M. Horváth and G. Hoffman). In Debrecen, another meeting will cover cyclotron-aided nuclear pulmonology (organized by L. Kertész).

The congress will focus on “the new trends and new possibilities in nuclear medicine,” said Prof. Csernay, who is also president of the Hungarian Nuclear Medicine Society. “I invite you to Budapest to take part in the commemorative celebrations, and in the discussions concerning the possibilities for the next 25 years. It seems fitting that the memory of Hevesy should occupy a central position at this jubilee meeting.”

[The deadline for abstract submissions has passed, but manuscripts for the works-in-progress section may be submitted until August 5 to: Prof. L. Csernay, Institute of Nuclear Medicine, University Medical School, H-6720, Szeged, Koranyi fasor 8, Pf. 469, Hungary. For registration information, contact: Ms. D. Kanizsay, OTP-Penta Tours Kft., H-1453 Budapest 92, POB 34, Hungary, telephone 00-36-1-189-541.] ■

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of Nuclear Medicine (ABNM) remind us of the importance of radioimmunodiagnosis (including RIA) and radioimmunotherapy to many nuclear medicine practitioners.

Ironically, while the above-mentioned governmental and socioeconomic issues demand much of the SNM president's time, these activities actually require less than 2% of the SNM operating budget. For the most part, the Society's resources are used for *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*, the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology*, the SNM Annual Meeting, and other member services. Seven years ago, the SNM set a goal of putting aside funds, equal to 50% of the annual operating budget, in a Capital Reserve Fund,

and that goal was achieved this year. With the reported upturn in nuclear medicine procedures, we are seeing increases in advertising and exhibit space revenues, and the immediate SNM future appears fiscally sound.

I would like to thank the many SNM members and administrative staff for their hard work and cooperation. If the past year is judged to have been successful, then all of these individuals deserve the credit. I wish Dr. B. Leonard Holman, your new president, an exciting (but not too exciting) and productive year.

*Howard J. Dworkin, MD  
President, The Society of Nuclear Medicine*