
NEWS BRIEFS

Recertification Proposed for Nuclear Pharmacists

In an effort to assess the continued competency of board-certified nuclear pharmacists, the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties (BPS) unanimously endorsed in principle a proposal made by the Specialty Council on Nuclear Pharmacy (SCNP) for recertification at its meeting in Washington, DC, June 3-5, 1987.

Since that meeting, five separate committees focusing on different aspects of the recertification process have been established, according to James Ponto, SCNP chairman. The committees will discuss and establish: behavioral objectives, eligibility requirements for recertification, a bibliography of available resources, and an evaluative formal examination, among other topics. "By 1989 we will start the whole recertification process, which could, conceivably, take many months," said Mr. Ponto.

SCNP bylaws stipulate that members who are certified be recertified every seven years. Mr. Ponto explained that this bylaw, coupled with "societal pressures and legal considerations" concerning nuclear pharmacy, prompted the SCNP to begin work on the precedent-setting recertification process. "About three years ago we had to seriously start looking at recertification. We're moving forward with the process, trying to make it both educational and evaluative," he added.

A tentative outline of the recertification process includes sending out applications to certified nuclear pharmacists, evaluation of an applicant's eligibility, a self-assessment period during which time pharmacists may take remedial action, and a formal examination consisting of multiple

choice questions, case management problems, and review problems.

[For more information, contact: James Ponto, Div. of Nuclear Medicine, Dept. of Radiology, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, IA 52242 (319) 356-2741.] ■

Society of Digital Imaging, Management and Communication Formed; First Meeting in June

The Society of Digital Imaging, Management and Communication (SDIMC) has recently been formed and will strive to promote computer applications in diagnostic imaging, management, and communications in all its aspects, and to encourage liaison among radiologists, nuclear medicine physicians, medical physicists, computer specialists, and others involved with digital imaging. The first scientific meeting of the SDIMC will be held June 16-18, 1988, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The deadline for abstracts is February 28, 1988.

One organizer of the new society, Yen Wang, MD, DSc, of Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, said that the SDIMC was established because existing medical organizations could not meet their needs. "Current technology has reached a level where all diagnostic imaging should be on one system," said Dr. Wang, who is also a member of The Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM). Such a centralized system would be more efficient, would improve patient care, and would encourage physicians and scientists in various modalities to work together, he explained. In addition, Dr. Wang believes that the SDIMC will provide

a broad representation for the rapidly expanding field of digital imaging.

[For more information about the first SDIMC meeting and submission of abstracts, contact: Yen Wang, MD, DSc, Dept. of Radiology, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, 11th and Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia, PA 19107 (212) 928-6542, or Samuel J. Dwyer, III, PhD, Dept. of Diagnostic Radiology, The University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS 66103.] ■

New Managing Editor Appointed to *Newsline*

Suzanne Winge, former editorial assistant at The Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) Central Office, has been promoted to managing editor of the *Newsline* section of *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*. Ms. Winge is a graduate of the journalism program at the University of Delaware, where she also studied biology and English literature. From 1985-1987 she worked as a reporter and editor for *The Review*, a 14,000-circulation, twice-weekly newspaper in Delaware.

Linda E. Ketchum, former managing editor of *Newsline*, is now senior writer & editor at ProClinica, Inc., an advertising agency based in New York City. Ms. Ketchum will spend most of her time working on the Medi-Physics account, which includes the Medi-Physics Professional Partnership Program, featuring educational videos, monographs, and referral-generation programs. Ms. Ketchum joined the SNM in December 1984 when *Newsline*, a quarterly newspaper, was first incorporated into the journal. She will continue to write articles for *Newsline* on occasion. ■