

NEWS BRIEFS

PET and SDI

The Strategic Defense Initiative Organization (SDIO) has \$10 million over four years to fund the development of a complete radiopharmaceutical delivery system, according to Capt. Charles Houston of SDIO's Office of Technology Applications. Congress has directed the Office of Technology Applications to promote the transfer of SDI technology into other areas, he explained.

Accordingly, SDIO issued a Broad Agency Announcement (similar to a Request for Proposal) for "lightweight, small, low-cost proton accelerators, targetry, and automated chemical synthesis of positron-labeled compounds for use in positron emission tomography. . . . The program is focused on technology for production of fluorine-18, carbon-11, nitrogen-13, and oxygen-15 labeled compounds." In response to the announcement, SDIO received ten bids, which they are reviewing. The goal of the program, says Capt. Houston, "is to have two or three complete clinical prototypes of radiopharmaceutical delivery systems for test within five years." ■

New Young Investigator Award in Cardiovascular Nuclear Medicine

The Society of Nuclear Medicine, in association with its Cardiovascular Council, is sponsoring a competition for the best scientific abstract on basic or clinical cardiovascular nuclear medicine. The objectives of this first SNM Cardiovascular Young Investigator Award are to identify promising young investigators in the field, help further their careers, and

strengthen the theory and practice of the subspecialty of cardiovascular nuclear medicine. The competition is restricted to authors/scientists 36 years old or younger. To enter, qualified authors must check the designated box on their abstract submission forms for the upcoming 1989 National SNM Meeting. A cash prize will be given to each of the five finalists, who will present their work at a special session of the June SNM meeting. ■

Goodwin Receives Honor

David A. Goodwin, MD, received the Distinguished Scientist Award at the Society of Nuclear Medicine's 13th Annual Western Regional Meeting held last October in Seattle, Washington. Dr. Goodwin, who is professor of diagnostic radiology and nuclear medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine and chief of nuclear medicine at the Palo Alto VA Medical Center, trained in nuclear medicine with Henry N. Wagner Jr., MD, director of the divisions of nuclear medicine and radiation health sciences at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions.

The award, which is given by the Society for distinguished scientific contributions to nuclear medicine, was presented by John McAfee, MD, professor of radiology and director of the division of radiological sciences at the State University of New York Health Sciences Center, Syracuse, New York. Previous recipients of the award include Benedict Cassen, PhD, inventor of the first scanner; John J. Lawrence, first to use radionuclide phosphorous-32 therapy; Hal O. Anger, inventor of the gamma camera; Joseph P. Kriss, pioneer in LATS

thyroid auto-antibody research; and David E. Kuhl, developer of emission tomography.

Dr. Goodwin's work provided the first practical approach for attaching metal ions tightly to biological molecules and for using the combined properties of these conjugates as probes in nuclear medicine. This pioneering work was first recognized in 1974 at the First World Congress of Nuclear Medicine in Japan, when Dr. Goodwin and his colleague Claude F. Meares, PhD, professor of chemistry at the University of California at Davis, shared the George Von Hevesy Prize for Nuclear Medicine. The method has great potential in labeling monoclonal antibodies with various radioactive metal ions for both diagnosis and therapy. Several biotechnology companies are now using this method of labeling.

In support of his work, "Bifunctional Chelates in Cancer Imaging in Therapy," Dr. Goodwin has received a competitive five-year, \$800,000 grant award from the National Institutes of Health. In October he received a three-year NIH grant award of \$150,000 for "Gallium-68 and Technetium-99m Bifunctional Monoclonal Antibodies for PET and SPECT Tumor Imaging." ■

Addendum

In the October issue, on p. 1620, in the News Brief on Technologist Licenses, *Newsline* printed a list of states known to have certification requirements. It has since come to our attention that in addition to those states listed, Pennsylvania has some requirements that apply to a limited population of technologists in outpatient laboratories and non-hospital affiliates. ■