

THE JOURNAL OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE (ISSN 0161-5505) is published monthly by The Society of Nuclear Medicine Inc., 136 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016-6760. Second Class Postage paid at New York, NY and additional mailing offices. *Postmaster*, send address changes to *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*, 136 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016-6760.

EDITORIAL COMMUNICATIONS should be sent to the Editor: H. William Strauss, MD, The Journal of Nuclear Medicine, Room 5406 MGH-East, Bldg. 149, 13th St., Charlestown, MA 02129 (617) 726-5786. *Books and monographs* covering the use of nuclear medicine and its allied disciplines will be reviewed as space is available. *Send review copies to the Editor.*

BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS concerning advertising and permission requests should be sent to the publisher, The Society of Nuclear Medicine, 136 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016-6760 (212) 889-0717. Subscription requests and change of address should be sent to: Membership Department, The Society of Nuclear Medicine at the address above. Notify the Society of change of address and telephone number at least 30 days before date of issue by sending both the old and the new addresses. Advertisements are subject to editorial approval and are restricted to products or services pertinent to nuclear medicine. Advertising rates are available from the publisher. Closing date is the first of the month preceding the date of issue.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES for 1993 calendar year are \$120 within the United States; \$130 for Canada and Pan American countries; \$160 elsewhere. Student subscriptions are \$70 (with proof of student status). Single copies \$10.00; foreign \$11.00; convention issue (May) \$12.00; foreign \$13.00. Make checks payable to The Society of Nuclear Medicine. Sales of individual back copies of 1991 through the current issue of *JNM* are available through BookMasters, Inc. 1444 State Rt. 42, Rd. 11, Mansfield, OH 44903, 1-800-247-6553 or (419) 281-1802. Fax: (419) 281-6883.

COPYRIGHT © 1993 by The Society of Nuclear Medicine, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or translated without permission from the copyright owner. Because the copyright on articles published in *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine* is held by the Society, each author of accepted manuscripts must sign a statement transferring copyright. See Information for Authors for further explanation.

See the Light.
Aristotle

Hope Is a Waking Dream

The patient arrives full of hope and racked with fear. She introduces herself to the receptionist and takes a seat in the well-worn waiting room. A TV set is on without the sound. Magazines, ranging in age from last month to last year, are scattered on the chairs and tables. The plastic chairs, though uninviting, are comfortable enough for the 10- or 15-minute wait prior to the procedure. She is about 40 years old, pale complexion, a scarf covering her bald head, her face sporting an expression that is a cross between a smile and a grimace. She did not travel with an entourage today because the therapy made her miserable, and misery, in this case, did not want company. Four other people share the silent waiting area, each wrapped in his or her cocoon of thought

A new face—wearing a wrinkled, long coat emblazoned with the hospital insignia, bristling with photo ID, radiation badge, dog-eared papers in the pockets and coffee stains on the sleeves—walks over. He introduces himself. His voice is soft and his foreign accent is difficult to place. His urbane, caring manner makes up for the negative first impression. He took the time to study her history; he asks detailed questions about her condition.

She had this procedure two years ago, with a normal result. Now, with clinical and radiographic evidence of recurrence after five disease-free years, her doctor needs to know where *it* is. No, she has no allergies. Yes, she can lie on the table for two to three hours at a time. Yes, she is prepared to come back tomorrow, the next day and any other times that might be necessary to see where *it* is.

Two days later, she knows. Dr. Rumbled Coffee Stains has compared the tomograms and planar images with the CT, MR and lab results. After consulting with the clinician, they reach a decision: *It* is only here. Not there, not everywhere. Her clinician says it is likely the medicine will work. Based on the encouraging news, she reached into her personal well and found the strength to do what she has to do: Plan for tomorrow, but most of all, to live for today.

H. William Strauss, Editor
The Journal of Nuclear Medicine