

## Lines from the WFNMB President

The World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology (WFNMB) has been active in the three-plus years since the last Congress. Several task groups, chaired by internationally known specialists, were formed to coordinate international research and practice in nuclear medicine. The task groups and their chairpersons are as follows:

### Radiation protection

*Yasuhito Sasaki, MD (Tokyo)*

### Therapy

*Cornelius A. Hoefnagel, MD (Amsterdam)*

### Education

*James J. Conway, MD (Chicago)*

### Pediatrics

*David L. Gilday, MD (Toronto)*

### Neurology

*Edwaldo E. Camargo, MD (Sao Paulo)*

### Cardiology

*H. William Strauss, MD (Palo Alto, CA)*

### Radiopharmaceuticals

*Heinz H. Coenen, PhD (Julich, Germany)*

### Physics

*Andrew Todd-Pokropek, PhD (London)*

### Oncology

*Emilio Bombardieri, MD (Milan)*

### Immunoassay

*Jean C. Besnard, MD (Tours)*

The goals of these task groups include defining good clinical practice in defined areas (brain, heart, oncology, etc.), determining appropriate radiopharmaceuticals, standardizing the imaging process, outlining indications for use of nuclear medical procedures, developing new procedures and promoting nuclear medicine throughout the world.

Regarding the last goal above, promoting nuclear medicine to all countries, negotiations have taken place with the International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA) and with the World Health Organization (WHO). The WFNMB is organizing a meeting of all task group chairs and delegates from the IAEA and the WHO to prepare a pamphlet, to be published by the WHO, containing material on all nuclear medicine procedures as well as

information on the number and size of nuclear medicine departments in facilities in both developed and less developed countries. Additionally, it is important to convince the nuclear medicine industry that there are demands and markets for nuclear medicine and nuclear medicine products throughout the world. Another goal is to publish a small manual on nuclear medicine, also to be distributed by the WHO.

WFNMB's next and most visible event is now only a few months away: the joint WFNMB and European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM) Congress in Berlin, August 31–September 4. Frans H. Corstens, of Nijmegen, The Netherlands, is the scientific program chair and also the EANM Congress president of 1998. The scientific program will cover all aspects of nuclear medicine and related subjects. Dr. Corstens has gathered a

worldwide panel of distinguished nuclear medicine specialists who will act as core members of the scientific committee. Each core member will be assisted by four to eight reviewers, known as experts in their specialties, thus guaranteeing a high-quality scientific program. The deadline for receipt of abstracts for oral and poster presentations is March 21, 1998.

A large number of technologists are also expected to participate in the Congress. To meet their specific scientific and educational demands, a series of technologist sessions and a variety of educational presentations are being planned. It is significant to note that a large portion of commercial exhibition space already has been reserved by commercial exhibitors.

—Prof. Dr. H.-J. Biersack,  
President, World Federation of Nuclear  
Medicine and Biology

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