

“Go With the Guidelines” Initiative Targets Pediatric Dose

On November 15, the Image Gently group and SNM unveiled the “Go With the Guidelines” awareness campaign, encouraging community hospitals, academic hospitals, and clinics to observe new guidelines on radiopharmaceutical dose for pediatric patients. “These radiopharmaceutical dose recommendations, calculated on a ‘straight’ weight basis, have been tested in children’s hospitals and are compatible with high-quality imaging and further dose reduction in the first decades of life,” said Michael J. Gelfand, MD, past president of SNM and chief of nuclear medicine at the Cincinnati (OH) Children’s Hospital.

To foster awareness, Image Gently and SNM have distributed thousands of posters reminding medical practitioners to use these new guidelines for 11 frequently performed imaging studies in children. A companion Image Gently–SNM publication, “What You Should Know About Pediatric Nuclear Medicine and Radiation Safety,” can help families gain a better understanding of the complex factors involved in providing safe, effective nuclear medicine examinations to children. “As advocates for children, the development and dissemination of effective dose-lowering guidelines such as these are of utmost importance,” said Marguerite T. Parisi, MD, MS, chair of the Society of Pediatric Radiology (SPR) Nuclear Medicine Committee and chief of PET/CT and ultrasound at the Seattle (WA) Children’s Hospital.

The need to reduce the pediatric radiopharmaceutical administered dose first gained prominence in a study reported by S. Ted Treves, MD, and colleagues in the May 2008 issue of *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine (JNM)*. Treves is a strategy leader of the Image Gently–SNM initiative and chief of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging at Children’s Hospital Boston (MA). In August 2010,

the SNM and SPR boards of directors approved the North American Consensus Guidelines for Administered Radiopharmaceutical Activities in Children and Adolescents, published in *JNM* in 2011. Standardization helps ensure that “all pediatric nuclear medicine providers consistently get quality medical images while using only the smallest amount of radiation needed,” noted Treves.

Frederic H. Fahey, DSc, president-elect of SNM and director of physics in nuclear medicine and molecular imaging at Children’s Hospital Boston (MA), characterized the new guidelines as “a great accomplishment.” The priority now, he added, is “to focus on bringing these guidelines to the attention of the rest of the nuclear medicine community, especially to medical practitioners in our general hospitals. We want everyone to be performing quality nuclear medicine with the least amount of radiation delivered to the patient as possible.”

With the launch of the Go With the Guidelines campaign, the Alliance for Radiation Safety in Pediatric Imaging is emphasizing the central Image Gently message: Because children may be more sensitive to radiation received from medical imaging scans than adults and because cumulative radiation exposure to their smaller bodies could, over time, have adverse effects, physicians who perform nuclear medicine imaging examinations on children are urged to follow the North American Consensus Guidelines for pediatric nuclear medicine, create high-quality images with low radiation doses, and determine the appropriate radiopharmaceutical dose by body weight.

The new nuclear medicine guidelines are available at the SNM Web site (www.snm.org). Posters and brochures can be downloaded from www.imagegently.org.

SNM Journals’ New Mobile Interface

The SNM announced on November 28 that *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine (JNM)* and the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology (JNMT)* can now be more easily accessed via smartphone and other mobile devices. “Physicians are increasingly utilizing their smartphones and other mobile devices to access essential medical resources,” said George M. Segall, MD, SNM president. “Now SNM’s high-impact journals can be even better tools, easily accessible no matter where you are.”

The HighWire-designed mobile Web interface is device independent and designed to work seamlessly with almost all mobile phones. When readers visit SNM’s journal sites from mobile devices, they are automatically redirected to a full-featured, mobile device–optimized site, designed for easy use on a small screen. The new interface allows quick access to all journal content and archives, via full text or

PDF, with a simplified search page, small screen–friendly navigation, and sharing tools.

Earlier this year, the SNM announced that members who prefer to read *JNM* electronically can opt out of receiving the print edition of the journal. To do so, members should go to <https://interactive.snm.org/index.cfm?PageID=10062>.

For more than 40 y, SNM journals have brought readers across the globe clinical investigations, basic science reports, continuing education articles, book reviews, employment opportunities, and updates on rapidly changing issues in practice and research. *JNM* has the highest impact factor—7.022—of any medical imaging or radiology journal worldwide. Subscription to *JNM* is free to members of SNM, and subscription to *JNMT* is free to members of the SNM Technologist Section. For information on subscribing, visit www.snm.org/subscribe. Current and past issues can be found online at www.snmjournals.org, with unrestricted access to all content more than 1 y old.