

IN MEMORIAM

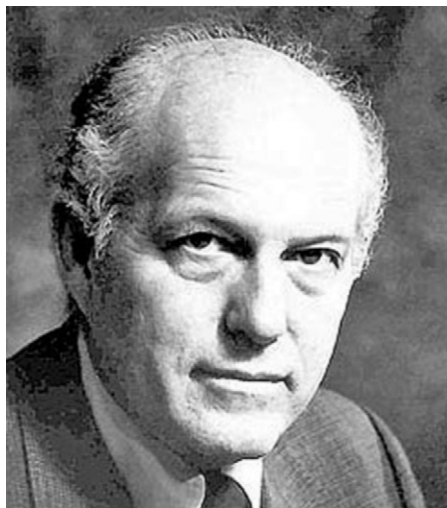
W. Newlon Tauxe, MD**1924–2012**

Welby Newlon Tauxe, MD, a nuclear medicine pioneer and leader, died on October 13 in San Diego, CA. His career paralleled the development of nuclear medicine as a distinct clinical and research discipline, and his contributions spanned a range of applications and settings.

Tauxe was born in Knoxville, TN. His engineering studies at the University of Tennessee (Knoxville) were interrupted by World War II and service in the U.S. Army. While recovering from a service injury he became interested in medicine and returned to duty as a medical technician and German interpreter in the European Theater. He returned to Tennessee in 1946, completed his undergraduate degree, and earned his medical degree from the medical school of the University of Tennessee in Memphis in 1946. He completed an internship at the Gadsden Hospital in Memphis, followed by work in the occupational health clinic at the national laboratory at Oak Ridge, TN. Oak Ridge had been producing and shipping stable isotopes for research and treatment since the late 1940s. While treating scientists and other workers at Oak Ridge, Tauxe developed an interest in the value of radioisotopes and the emerging field of nuclear medicine.

He went to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, in 1953 for a residency in anatomic and clinical pathology. He joined the staff in 1956 and was soon appointed as director of a new laboratory of nuclear medicine. There he and coworkers and trainees worked in early applications of a range of radioisotopes in lungs, heart, thyroid, and kidneys. He also worked in early development and refinement of many of the fundamental tools in the field, including time–activity curves, color scaling, and quantitative analysis.

In 1973, Tauxe became director of the Department of Nuclear Medicine at the University of Alabama Medical Center (Birmingham, AL). He also directed the nuclear medicine residency program at Alabama and was



a prime mover in the establishment of the first formal training program for nuclear medicine technologists. His work at Alabama also focused on groundbreaking computer techniques in cardiac function, including calculation of ejection fraction from first pass studies.

Tauxe became the director of the Division of Nuclear Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (PA) in 1983, where he continued as a leader in the field, developing

and refining methods for using radioisotopes to assess function in transplanted organs. After retiring in 1994, he remained active as an emeritus professor at Pitt, including service on the medical student selection committee. After 2002, he began to spend winters in San Diego, where he also advised and taught medical students as an adjunct professor at the University of California, San Diego.

Tauxe trained generations of medical students, residents, and postdoctoral fellows in the applications of nuclear medicine. He worked with international colleagues to develop new image processing methods. The applications were broad, from measuring background radioactivity in schoolchildren resulting from nuclear test fallout to transplantation technologies. He worked cooperatively and productively leading the development of training standards for nuclear medicine physicians and technologists in the United States and around the world. He was an advisor and participant in the establishment of training and board certification programs in many countries. He published more than 150 peer-reviewed articles from 1954 through 2000 and edited respected textbooks on nuclear medicine in oncology and renal disease.

A founding and Lifetime member of the American Board of Nuclear Medicine, Tauxe also served on the board of directors of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and was active in the European Society of Nuclear Medicine. A true renaissance man, he was an amateur

painter and musician. He led the Community Concert program in Rochester, which brought classical music performers to that city. He served on the boards of the Pittsburgh Opera and the Pittsburgh Chamber Music Society and sang in community choruses and church choirs. Since 1985, he advocated for nuclear disarmament and peaceful solutions to international problems as a member of Physicians for Social Responsibility. He also promoted iodization of salt in countries around the world to prevent goiter and neonatal hypothyroidism. He and his wife, Margaret,

supported efforts to connect person-to-person with the people of Russia and China at a time when such contacts were quite limited. He was a longtime active member of the Unitarian–Universalist church. A natural polyglot, he spoke French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Japanese, and Russian, with an understanding of a dozen other languages, including Polish, Swedish, Albanian, Balachka, and the language of the Shoshoni Indians.

Tauxe is survived by his spouse, Margaret H. Tauxe, 4 children, and 9 grandchildren.

SNMMI 2013: Call for Abstracts

The 2013 SNMMI Annual Meeting will be held June 8–12 at the Vancouver Convention Center in Vancouver, BC. The 2013 Annual Meeting will continue to build on past successes, offering the latest educational content, virtual learning opportunities both during and after the meeting, networking events, and an exhibit hall with the latest technology. General registration opened on October 29, with an early-bird registration deadline of April 11. The 2013 SNMMI Annual Meeting will offer both innovative sessions and time-honored traditions. Among the latter are the plenary sessions, which include keynote speakers, significant awards and accomplishments, the SNM business meeting, installation of the new SNM president, the annual Highlights Lecture, and the much-anticipated announcement of the Image of the Year. A complete and in-depth schedule of continuing education offerings will be available for physicians, technologists, and other scientists, supplemented by special seminars, symposia, and dedicated training sessions.

The SNMMI Scientific Program Committee has been accepting online abstract submission since October 10. The committee invites physicians, scientists, technologists, lab professionals, and educators/course directors in the field of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging to present and publish innovative scientific investigations to an audience of medical imaging professionals from around the world. The general deadline for scientific abstract submission is January 4 (with a secondary deadline of February 4 for technologist students only). Submitters will be notified about



The snow-capped Coast Mountains provide a dramatic backdrop to Vancouver, BC, site of the 2013 SNMMI Annual Meeting.

abstract acceptance/nonacceptance by March 27. The submission site, including full instructions, is available at: <http://snmmi2013.abstractcentral.com>.

The full text of abstracts from the 2012 SNMMI Annual Meeting are now available on the Web site of *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine* at jnm.snmjournals.org. Archived abstracts from 2006–2011 SNM Annual Meetings are also searchable on the site.

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