

Conrad Nagle, MD, 1946–2019

Conrad Ernest Nagle, MD, a nuclear medicine physician influential in medical school and graduate medical education and active in SNMMI, died suddenly at his farm in Sperryville, VA, on November 25. He was born and grew up in Baltimore County, MD, attending the University of Maryland College Park for his undergraduate degree. He graduated from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 1972 and completed his residency in internal medicine and nuclear medicine fellowship training at the University of Maryland Medical Center in 1977. He was recruited in 1980 as the chief of nuclear medicine at Troy Beaumont Hospital (MI) and spent the rest of his career in practice and leadership positions in the Beaumont Health System in southeast Michigan. He retired in 2011.

Conrad was a compassionate physician who enjoyed providing direct patient care while educating young physicians in Beaumont's radiology and nuclear medicine training programs. He had a wide variety of interests in nuclear medicine applications, including but not limited to sports medicine, chronic pain, and simplifying diagnostic workups by incorporating appropriate imaging procedures earlier in the evaluation process. Working with Conrad was always a pleasure. His colleagues admired his integrity, honesty, and commitment to making the right decisions. He developed a keen interest in health care economics and made administrative changes in anticipation of health care market trends. His administrative skills were recognized by his designation as Corporate Chief of Diagnostic Imaging by the Beaumont System in January 2004, leading to significant streamlining of health care delivery across 4 separate radiology and nuclear medicine departments during his 5-year tenure. After stepping down from this position, Conrad devoted his last 2 years of practice to designing the first- and second-year course curriculum (called "The Art and Practice of Medicine") for the new Oakland University William Beaumont Medical School that opened in 2011. This innovative curriculum emphasizes the importance of mastery of clinical and diagnostic skills while developing communication skills that foster the best patient-physician interactions. The curriculum has served as the template for several new medical schools and has provided the impetus for revising other established medical school curricula for the first 2 years of study.



Throughout his medical career, Conrad was an active leader in both regional and national nuclear medicine arenas, serving as vice-president and then president of the Central Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine (1992 and 1993). On the national level, he brought new ideas and a fresh approach to *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine (JNM)* as its Newsline editor (1999–2012). His advice and solid judgment significantly enhanced the information disseminated to the nuclear medicine community. Heinrich R. Schelbert, MD, PhD, immediate past editor of *JNM*, noted that "The news

of Conrad's passing filled me with deep sadness. I had the privilege of working closely with him for 8 years, when, as associate editor of *JNM*, he managed the journal's Newsline section. During this time, I came to know him as a highly dedicated colleague and reliable friend. I admired his integrity and dedication to serve our nuclear medicine community and fully trusted his advice and solid judgment. He will be missed."

Conrad's expertise in health care delivery made him a valued member (2003–2012) of the SNM Publications Committee (chair, 2005–2010) and SNM Board of Trustees (2005–2010). His steady hand and thoughtful approach to problem resolution also made him a sought-after member of many other SNM committees, including Practice Management, Education, Awards, and Quality Assurance. He also served on the society's Commission on Health Care Policy and Practice, the Maintenance of Certification Part IV Task Force, the Molecular Imaging Communications Task Force, and the Accreditation Council.

Following his retirement in 2011, Conrad maintained his interest in the practice of medicine and completed an internal medicine review course at the University of Virginia shortly before his death. He derived much pleasure from his country life, caring for the family dogs and horses. Conrad is survived by Kim, his wife of 49 years; 3 children, Chris, Drew, and Kerry; and 3 grandchildren, Arella, Leo, and Kepler.

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