



Newsletter

International Society of Radiology
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SECOND VIRTUAL CONGRESS STARTS IN APRIL

Beginning 1 April, the second ISR virtual congress has been posted for access to radiologists around the world via the ISR website www.isradiology.org. The material is in English. It includes some 40 lectures by distinguished academic radiologists as well as an array of electronic posters and case reports. The contents are all new and prepared directly for the ISR presentation.

The format is similar to the first ISR virtual congress which opened in December 2007. The contents of the first congress are still posted on the ISR website.

In a recent letter to ISR national society officers, ISR President Hans Ringertz asked member societies to call the availability of both virtual congresses to the attention of their members. "These electronic educational packages are a new part of membership benefits of our national societies," he said. "We are proud of these packages and we hope to continue expanding our efforts."

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

The second virtual congress starting in April and the 26th International Congress of Radiology in April of next year, represent two significant contributions to the educational resources available to all of the individual members of our national societies. I repeat my letters urging your participation in both of these fine activities.

I want to mention another educational project which was proposed at an informal gathering of members of the Executive Committee in March and which is now arranging details. The idea came from Eric Stern of the University of Washington in the USA. Dubbed GoRad, it will enlist

the participation of editors of most of the leading radiology journals in selecting a discreet choice of articles which can be linked between the websites of the journals and the ISR website as open access PDF documents. The intent is to select basic articles which are instructional in content and would be helpful to radiologists in all parts of the world.

We cannot list all of our participating journals yet. But we are optimistic that their sponsoring societies will agree to cooperate.

We have some other educational projects in the planning state which we should be announcing soon.

Meanwhile, in return for these new efforts, may I ask those of you who have not yet paid your 2009 national society dues to do it at your convenience. Also, please advise us of your changes of officers and any change in the society's address. If you have not given us a current email address and FAX number, please also do that and send all of that information to our secretariat at the address on the first page of this Newsletter.

Hans Ringertz, MD, PhD
President

ICR 2010 PROGRESSING TOWARD SESSIONS IN SHANGHAI

The Chinese Society of Radiology, in cooperation with the Chinese Medical Association is putting together a strong scientific program for ICR 2010 scheduled for 9-12 April of 2010 in Shanghai.

“We have been promised the cooperation of regional radiology societies around the world as well as the help from the ISR,” said Xiaoyuan Feng, chairman of the organizing committee.

The congress is inviting proffered posters and exhibits, as well as selecting key faculty for program presentations. Abstracts for proffered exhibits must be received by the program committee by 15 December of this year. Submissions should be made via www.icr2010.org.

Registration for attendance at the congress can be made via the same email address. If that address does not function, an alternate contact can be made to icr2010reg@cma.org.cn. Hotel reservations can be made via the same contacts.

MEDICAL RADIATION IN USA EXPANDED

Persons living in the United States get seven times as much ionizing radiation exposure from medical imaging than they did a quarter century ago, according to a report issued in March by the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurement.

The study, which compared exposures in 1980 with exposures in 2006, asserted that the increase in medical exposures is based largely upon the increase in the number of CT scans from 3 million

in the early 1980s to 67 million in 2006. It also reflects an increase in the number of radionuclide studies of the heart, which amounted to 18 million in 2006.

About 50 percent of total population exposures come from natural background radiation including cosmic radiation from the sun and radon gas emitted from soil and minerals. The total of medical diagnostic exposures was fixed at 48 percent of the total, with occupational exposures, use of consumer products, travel on airplanes and nuclear power generation accounting for only 2 percent of the total. Among radiation exposures from consumer products, cigarette smoke accounts for a third.

The figures for American medical exposure might compare with those countries which have a similar expansion of CT and radioisotope studies, but not for those countries where CT scanning is not similarly available.

The total national exposure, estimated at 1,870,000 person Sieverts, is based in part on a 70 million increase in the US population in the time between the studies. The average cumulative dose for individuals is now 6.2 millisieverts, or approximately double the background exposure.

The report can be obtained from the NCRP either as a printed or electronic copy via <http://NCRPpublications.org>.

IAEA PUBLICATIONS ON IMAGING TECHNOLOGY

The International Atomic Energy Agency has published three new monographs on radiation protection for modern imaging technology. The ISR was involved in the preparation of publications on PET/CT (no 58), on cardiac CT (no 60) and on CT colonography (no 61). They mark the beginning of a new series being prepared by the IAEA Division of Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety, with publication handled by IAEA physicist M. M. Rehani.

Each of the texts was prepared by an advisory committee. Claude Manelfe, ISR past president from Toulouse, France, represented the ISR on the working groups.

Copies of the publications can be purchased from the IAEA at Wagramer Strasse 5, PO Box 100, 1400 Vienna, Austria, or by email from sales.publications@iaea.org. No 58 is priced at €28, no 60 at €18 and no 61 at €20.

ICRP CHOOSES NEW SECRETARY

The International Commission on Radiation Protection has selected Christopher H. Clement, a health physicist from Ottawa, Canada, as its new scientific secretary effective at the beginning of 2009. His principal tasks are to work with ICRP committees on the preparation of the commission's reports and their distribution. He succeeds Jack Valentin of Stockholm, Sweden,

who served the ICRP for more than two decades.

EUROPEAN SCHOOL OF RADIOLOGY/ EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF RADIOLOGY



The European School of Radiology, a multiple continuing medical education project of the European Society of Radiology, has grown in 2009 to a series of seminars for residents, short courses for young radiologists, specialty and multi-modality seminars and fellowship and scholarship programs.

In the current year, the ESOR program will include 27 short basic and advanced courses on contemporary imaging topics and 40 three-month scholarships and fellowships, according to its announcements posted on the website www.myESR.org/esor. The 2009 deadline for applications for the visiting scholarships and fellowships was April, but some of the short courses set for later in the year may still have openings.

The ESOR program goal is “harmonizing radiological education in Europe,” wrote Nicholas Gourtsoyiannis of Iraklion, Greece, the scientific and educational director and also a past president of ESR and the president-elect of ISR. “We hope to enhance and ensure further development of young radiologists during their training.”

Enrollment in any of the programs is limited to members of the European Society of Radiology. However, the ESR promotes membership of trainees, with inquiries directed to www.myESR.org/membership. The courses are all presented in English, though they are located in cities throughout Europe.

Working with the ESR are six European subspecialty societies, relating to abdominal, cardiac, head and neck, pediatric, neuroradiology and magnetic resonance imaging. The Chinese Society of Radiology co-sponsors the first year of six seminars in Chinese cities with a mixed faculty from Europe and China and lectures delivered or translated into Chinese.

Continued medical education credits are awarded to registrants by the European Accreditation Council for CME.

The series of 14 courses on MRI applications marks the 12th year of sponsorship by the European Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine and Biology collaborating with the ESR.

The Galen Foundation courses for residents are presented in central and southeastern European cities. Each course consists of 12 lectures, nine workshops and a final self-assessment test. Each course is limited to 60 registrants and the fee is €75. Four Galen advanced courses feature cross-sectional imaging of abdominal, cardiac, musculoskeletal and women’s areas.

A new series called Asklepios courses are offered in October in Budapest, Hungary, and in November in Sochi, Russia. The Russian course is limited to participants from Russia and CIS countries. Three 14-day Graz tutorials are held in Graz, Austria, also for Russian and CIS country radiologists.

The 40 three-month fellowship and visiting scholarships make no charge and are accompanied by support for travel and maintenance in the site cities. One scholarship program in oncologic imaging is offered at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, USA.

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY ART IN MEDICINE EXHIBIT

The British Institute of Radiology sponsored a week-long “art in medicine” exhibit and workshop for students and medical trainees in March in London. The most distinguished visitor was the Duke of Kent, a member of the British royal family. The illustrations shown here are the product of Christopher Benton, a radiographer and artist.



A quick note: We are pleased to let everyone know that our email address is up and running again. Please feel free to contact us at isr@isradiology.org.