



Association of Imaging Producers & Equipment Suppliers
European Industrial Association for Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Healthcare

AIPES NEWSLETTER 2016



Dear friends,

As we count down to the end of the year, I would like to thank you on behalf of the executive team of AIPES all for your contributions and your support in 2016. As our newsletter reveals, this year has been busy and successful.

Nuclear medicine is flourishing with new initiatives and innovations. The same enthusiasm is driving our activities in AIPES: our role is growing and we are becoming more visible in public policy.

We had many memorable moments in 2016, and I would like to single out our Symposium in Brussels in September, which was generously supported by the European Parliament, and generated wonderful feedback. And as you will read below, our working groups, the driving force of the association, have launched a flurry of new initiatives.

Our website is growing in popularity, getting 140,000 hits during the year, our highest every figure. We have also welcomed several new members this year.

We are now busy preparing the AIPES management plan for the years to come with our working group leaders, and we'll present the patient-centred proposal at the general assembly in spring.

We are all very grateful to Jocelyne and everyone else involved for their outstanding work during the year.

Yours faithfully,
Jean-Michel Vanderhofstadt,
President

Reviving our Regulatory Affairs Group

Michael Nader, the Managing Director of AAA Germany and AIPES Vice President, reorganized our regulatory affairs activities in February, creating a new Regulatory Affairs & Quality Working Group. Peter Bradley from GE Healthcare is the Chairman of the new group, and Hatice Erkan from Monrol is the Vice-Chair. It now meets every month to discuss nuclear medicine and radiopharmaceuticals, cooperating closely with the EANM Radiopharmacy Committee and with EMA. The new group's aim is to contribute actively to the European regulatory framework and advocate for our members with European authorities and associated organisations.

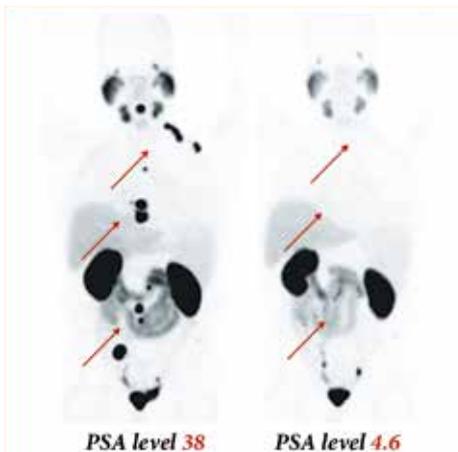


From left to right: Peter Bradley (GE HC), Hatice Erkan (Monrol Europe), Willem-Jan Veldhuizen (Mallinckrodt), Cristiana Gameiro (IBA), Izabela Rejdych (AAA), Dorothee Philippe (IRE), Hester Larkin (Lantheus)

Our plan to boost Innovation



We restructured our Technologies group, renaming it Innovation, and naming Sebastien Ballet (Guerbet Group) and Jean-Michel Geets (IBA) as the co-chairmen. Their objective is to communicate “where nuclear medicine is and where nuclear medicine goes” with the other groups, preparing scientific messages, promoting success stories for each of the five pillars, prioritising patient dissemination, and informing the AIPES community about breaking news in nuclear medicine. They will have a special focus on highlighting diagnostic and theranostic/therapeutic innovations. In its previous form, the Innovation group successfully organised lectures on topical subjects and produced publications on key applications.



« Treatment of a patient with cumulative activity of 7.4 GBq of [177Lu]Lu-PSMA-617. Restaging with [68Ga]Ga-PSMA-11 reveals a striking radiological response (red arrows). PSA level in blood decreased from 38.0 to 4.6 ng/ml.»

Taken from: Benešová Martina, Schäfer Martin, Bauder-Wüst Ulrike, Afshar-Oromieh Ali, Kratochwil Clemens, Mier Walter, Haberkorn Uwe, Kopka Klaus, Eder Matthias. PSMA-617 - a novel theranostic PSMA inhibitor for both diagnosis and endoradiotherapy of prostate cancer. Annual Meeting of Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI), Baltimore, Maryland, USA. J Nucl Med, May 1, 2015, vol. 56, no. supplement 3, 63.

Promoting safety with the OECD's Nuclear Energy Agency



AIPES has continued its close work with the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA), which supports the OECD in developing the safe, environmentally friendly and economical use of nuclear energy. The NEA is involved in global efforts to ensure a reliable supply of molybdenum

and technetium, setting up a High-Level Group on the Security of Supply of Medical Radioisotopes (HLG-MR) in 2009. The group has some 40 experts from 16 countries as well as from the European Commission (Euratom) and the International Atomic Agency (IAEA), many of which are specialists on medical and nuclear policy, and research. It also includes AIPES, as the industry group specialised in medical radioisotopes.



*Kevin Charlton, Analyst, NEA
Division of Nuclear Development is our
main reference person and interlocutor*

This year, our Reactor and Isotopes Working Group offered guidance to the HLG-MR about the short-to-medium-term medical isotope supply status. At the same time, the NEA provided reports on the medium-to-longer-term market demand and future global capacity of the supply chain. Although 2016 saw important changes in the supply chain, it was a year where the supply of medical isotopes, in particular molybdenum and technetium, remained under control.

AIPES and the HLG-MR worked together on other important topics, including the initiatives under the Dutch Presidency of the EU in the first half of 2016 and through joint presentations at international conferences. There was dialogue on the transition in October 2016 of Canada's National Research Universal (NRU) reactor from routine producer to standby mode: AIPES and the HLG-MR advised the Canadian government on contingency capacity until early 2018.

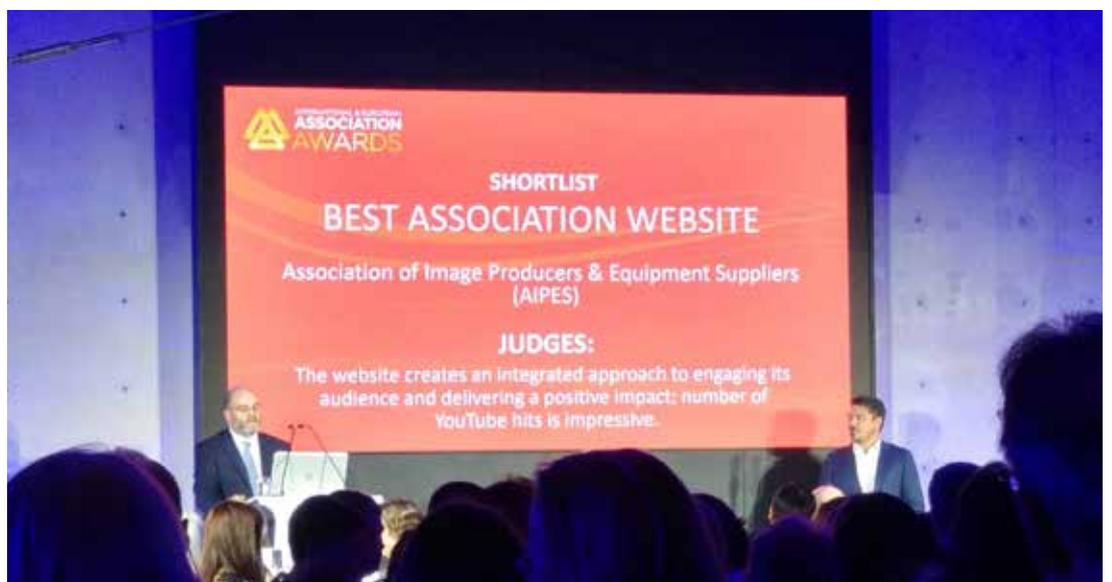
AIPES wins website prize



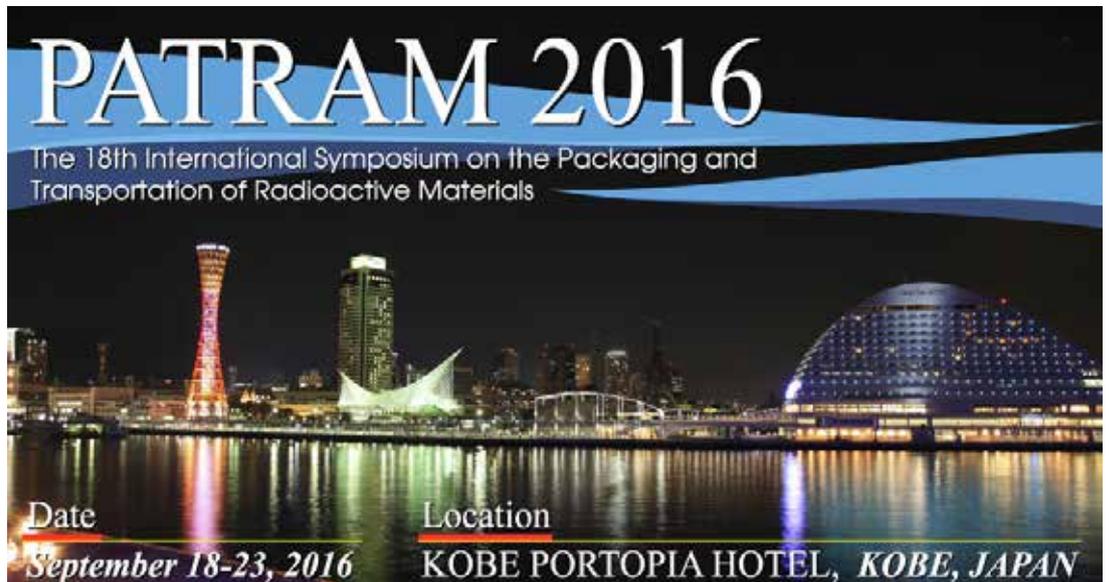
The AIPES website “What is Nuclear Medicine “- www.whatisnuclearmedicine.com – won the second prize for the best association website, at the Association Awards held on April 11, 2016 in Berlin, Germany by the Associations Network. The AIPES website was the runner-up amongst 245 applications for the animations published aimed at the wider public.



Award Ceremony at the DZ Bank building by Frank Gehry - in Berlin on April 2016



Supporting safe packaging at PATRAM



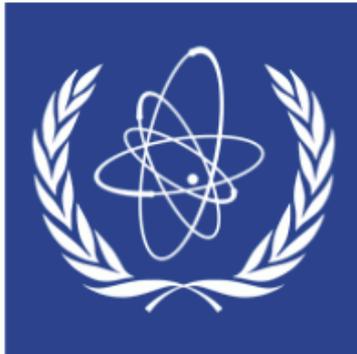
Industry, research and government representatives gather every three years at PATRAM, an international symposium to discuss the safe packaging and transport of radioactive materials.

This international exchange is seen as essential for improving professionalism and international cooperation on radioactive packaging and transport. The 18th conference held in Kobe, Japan, on September 18-23, was the third conference where AIPES was represented by Rob Dekkers (GE Healthcare), the Chairman of the AIPES Transport Experts Working Group.

Rob noted the increased focus on security in the nuclear materials sector, which also applies to the transport of radiopharmaceuticals. Yet despite the huge volume of packages transported by nuclear medicine, he said the business is one of the safest in the world: most of the packages are Type A containers with a relative low risk.

Rob also noted that when it comes to denial of shipments, there were mixed feelings within the sector: not all incidents are reported, as the industry does not want to damage relations with air-carriers.

IAEA hosts AIPES on transporting material



The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the world's central intergovernmental forum for co-operation in the nuclear field, has two meetings every year in Vienna of its Transport Safety Standards Committee (TRANSSC). Juul Rijkema, Vice Chair of the AIPES Transport Experts Working Group, took part in the November 15-18 meeting that reviewed three key documents on the safety and security of the transport of radioactive material: Radiation Protection Program, Management System, and Compliance Assurance. The meeting concluded that all three documents have to be updated. Some 15 documents were accepted for publication or further processing, including one, "Security of radioactive material in transport", which had specific implications for radiopharmaceuticals.

What physicians say about nuclear medicine

Early in 2016, we interviewed physicians from different specialties on the use of nuclear medicine in their everyday practice.

Olivier De Witte, a neurosurgeon at the Erasmus University Hospital in Brussels, was among the first in Europe to use TEP in neurosurgery, in the 1990s. He also performed the first tumour resection guided by PET scan images using the only tracer available at the time (the FDG). He realised very quickly that using TEP, in cases of brain tumour, for example, helped identify the lesion's most hypermetabolic components. De Witte said that although the term «nuclear medicine» might scare patients at first, he always takes the time as a neurosurgeon to explain this procedure thoroughly. He said nuclear medicine offers many opportunities for neurosurgery and in other specialties, but it still needs lot more research and above all a lot of financial investment.

Vincent Donckier, Head of Clinic, Abdominal Surgery at the Bordet Institute in Brussels, said nuclear medicine has changed the way he does surgery. "Today it is essential to properly treat patients with liver tumours, both in diagnosis and at therapeutic levels," he said. "We are making progress, but it is far from being over. This progress is made by always maintaining the same objective: to gather all the weapons, all the knowledge, all the possible expertise, to avoid patients useless and mutilating treatments; The real progress is achieved by keeping a balance between the effectiveness and the toxicity of what we are practicing."

“For Carmen”: The 2016 AIPES Symposium



From left to right: Adam Smith (Nobel Prize), Antonis Kalemis (VP AIPES), Fred Verzijlbergen (Erasmus Clinic Rotterdam), David W. Lee (GE Healthcare), Piotr Maniawski (Philips), Carl von Gall (Siemens Healthineers), Ignasi Carrio (EANM)

The AIPES annual Symposium heard top practitioners, researchers, economist and decision makers explain how molecular imaging was slowly transforming key areas of healthcare.



Entitled “Saving Costs in Cancer Patient Management Through Nuclear Medicine”, it took place on 28 September at the Solvay Library in Brussels, and gathered a remarkable array of speakers and representatives. It was also given vital backing from the European Parliament’s Health and Industry Committees, who let AIPES announce the event on the Parliament’s premises, and broadcast it on several European television channels.



Antonio Tajani, Vice president of the European Parliament and former EU Commissioner for Industry, told the event that he welcomed the development of nuclear medicine as a diagnostic and treatment tool for cancer. “Nuclear medicine is definitely a technology of the 21st century and in the past 15 years contributed strongly to the improvement of patient care,” he said. “Overall, this development is a true revolution in the medical landscape.”



AIPES President Jean-Michel Vanderhofstadt dedicated the symposium to Carmen, a patient who had her cancer successfully diagnosed and treated with PET/CT technology.

Carmen has since gone from strength to strength, even competing marathons and IronMan events. Jean-Michel Vanderhofstadt said: “It is for her, for Carmen and for all the patients represented here today by the patient groups and the clinicians, that we get up in the morning, day after day, and go to work, in the factories and laboratories of our members all over Europe, in the hospitals, the research centres. The reason we exist is indeed to develop accurate and safe methods that improve the chances of curing cancer and the quality of our lives”.



The 2016 AIPES Symposium will be available online with additional interviews and post symposium commentaries.

<http://www.aipessymposium.eu>



“Hello from the Other Side”: Joining the SNMMI Congress in San Diego



VISIT US AT
**SNMMI 2016
ANNUAL MEETING**
SAN DIEGO, CA
JUNE 11-15, 2016

BOOTH #223



Over the years, AIPES has become a popular presence at the annual Congress of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI), where members use our booth as a meeting point, meet our Executive Committee, and exchange of ideas with our partners, companies and associations. This year’s event, in San Diego, was no exception: it was a great success, and AIPES had an excellent location in the middle of the exhibitor hall. Our annual get-together held at the San Diego Hilton GasLamp also gave our members a chance to meet in a relaxed atmosphere, as they took a break from meetings and recovered from jet lag.

“The new kid in town”: **David Crunelle**

As we grow in size and influence, we need to develop our corporate image, adapting it to the needs and expectations of the modern world. To help us, we have hired designer David Crunelle to help redefine our communication identity. David's first mission is to create a secure space in the member area of our website for our members to access the latest news information. David is Belgian, born and raised in Brussels, and has a degree in business management. He has been the Art Director in Navalorama Brussels, a communication agency for almost 10 years, has won multiple design contests and awards, and has provided communication services for more than 40 European associations.

“Pleasing Barcelona”: **The 2016 EANM Congress**

The annual congress of the European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM) is one of the most important events in the nuclear medicine calendar: with more than 130 sessions, it allows the 5,500 participants the chance to network, socialise and discuss the newest trends and findings in the field. The EANM receives around 2,100 abstracts annually, and its 2016 Congress took place in one of the liveliest cities in Europe: Barcelona. AIPES used the event to make new contacts with medical associations, discuss new ideas, and host a memorable event that gathered twice as many people as we expected.



AIPES get-together on Sunday 16 October at the Barcelona Princess Hotel.

New members to strengthen our team



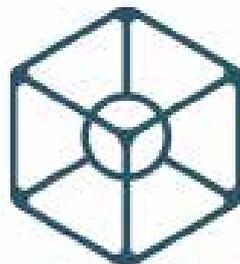
BLUE EARTH DIAGNOSTICS Ltd is a new British company founded in March 2014 to develop imaging agents in oncology. It received approval in May 2016 for a PET agent, Axumin, for the imaging of sites of recurrence in prostate cancer.

<http://www.blueearthdiagnostics.com/>



SHINE Medical Technologies is a corporation based in Monona, Wisconsin, USA which is building a facility to make radioactive isotopes for medical applications. SHINE delivers medical ingredients for nearly 100,000 patients each day, which are used for over 30 medical procedures primarily to detect and treat heart disease and cancer. Their goal is to ensure that medical tracers are there when patients need them most. SHINE joined AIPES as an Associate Partner in September 2016.

<http://shinemed.com/>



MOLECUBES
MODULAR
BENCHTOP
IMAGING

Molecubes is an innovative company, based in Ghent, Belgium, developing, manufacturing and selling benchtop preclinical imaging PET, SPECT and CT cubes to give researchers and biologists access to high quality images and advanced quantitative results that are affordable and cost-efficient. AIPES is pleased to welcome Molecubes into its membership as a start-up company having the same rights as an associate partner.

<http://www.molecubes.com/>



ANMI was created in 2015 and is based in Liège, Belgium. It is active in radiometal labelled radiopharmaceuticals and is a global service provider in the nuclear medicine field. ANMI develops innovative solutions to facilitate the synthesis of these theranostic radiopharmaceuticals and to ease their daily production in hospitals. It expects to soon register its first molecule for diagnostic imaging of prostate cancer, under cold kit form.

<http://anmi.be/>



QSA Global is a supplier of industrial gamma radiography radioisotope sources and equipment, and a partner to seven different research and radioisotope production facilities around the world. They supply Ir-192 brachytherapy source material and have several products now under development and/or in clinical trial. They have their Head Office in Burlington, Massachusetts, USA and they join AIPES as an Associate Partner.

<http://www.qsa-global.com/>

**Working
Together
to Improve
Molecular
Healthcare!**

Guy Turquet de Beauregard becomes our Honorary President



Guy Turquet de Beauregard, who has been a member of the Executive Committee since 2008 and President of AIPES from 2013 to 2016, devoted his professional life to nuclear medicine and has always been a strong supporter of our industry. When he stepped down as President in 2016, we did not want to lose his influence, so we granted Guy the title of AIPES Honorary President. The farewell evening organized in his honour brought together representatives of our member companies, most of them long-time friends, who paid tribute to Guy's dedication to our community.



Farewell dinner at the Château de Rivieren, Brussels on May 2016

The new faces of our Executive Committee

The General Assembly elected four representatives from member companies in May 2016 to the Executive Committee, and though they come from very different backgrounds, they share a strong belief in nuclear medicine. They are:



Jean-Michel Vanderhofstadt



Antonis Kalemis



Michael Nader



Angel Hijos

Jean-Michel Vanderhofstadt, President and General Manager of IRE and IRE-Elit. With his background as industrial pharmacist, a relatively strong international exposure as general manager for the last 15 years, and with additional background in business management, he wants to combine the healthcare community interests with profitable business.

Antonis Kalemis, Marketing Manager PET/MR at Siemens Healthineers, with medical physics and business background. Antonis has a strong insight in the medical devices industry (PET and SPECT). He is keen to develop a coherent strategy for AIPES that incorporates the interests of all members.

Michael Nader, General Manager AAA for Germany, has a background in radiopharmaceutical chemistry. He wants AIPES to seek the full market recognition and reimbursement for radionuclide therapy and imaging procedures.

Angel Hijos is Lilly Europe's representative in AIPES. He believes that pharmaceutical standards must be applied to radiopharmaceuticals, and wants to work with national and European decision makers to promote radiotracer innovations in both diagnostic and therapeutic applications.



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