Technologist Committee
Friday, October 30, 10:40-12:10

Session Title
Advanced Competencies

Chairperson
Andrea Santos (Lisbon, Portugal)

Programme
10:40 - 11:09   Giorgio Testanera (London, United Kingdom): NMT Advanced Competencies - A Decade in Review
11:09 - 11:38  Patrícia Silva (Brussels, Belgium): Radionuclide Therapy - Technologist’s Role and Responsibilities
11:38 - 12:07  Inês Costa (London, United Kingdom): Research in NM - Technologist’s Role and Responsibilities

Educational Objectives
1. Provide the audience with a historical overview about Nuclear Medicine Technologist’s competencies
2. Understand the meaning of advanced competencies and advanced practice and its heterogeneity throughout Europe
3. Comprehend different perspectives of NMT’s practice, limitations and thresholds
4. Share Technologist’s involvement in several areas of NM fields
5. Open horizons to different areas in which NMT can play an important role
6. Discuss NMT practice in Europe

Summary
Nuclear Medicine Technologist (NMT) is a healthcare professional dedicated to nuclear medicine field. A NMT is defined by the EANM and IAEA as a health care professional who is able to undertake the whole range of nuclear medicine procedures (…) (1). EANM was involved in the worldwide discussion on competencies since 1998, when the first document was published (2). The discussion continued in the following years with engagement with different scientific associations and professional bodies, and led to the establishment of the European Qualification Framework - level 6, in 2017 (3). This consensus document defines the entry level competencies that are the baseline for the professional practice of a NMT and is intended to harmonise competencies at a European level. EANM also was involved in the discussion about advanced practice for NMTs, following some input from the sister society SNMMI. It started by realizing that NMT practice varies a lot within European countries and that the threshold between basic and advanced competencies is also a fine line that is not totally consensual in between countries. Also it was flagged that the role of NMTs in many countries was consistently growing in taking extra responsibilities and improving their autonomous
decisions and clinical leadership. The discussion was finalized in a document published in a discussion document endorsed by both associations.(4)

In this session, a historical overview will be given to provide the audience with the evolution of NMT competencies and also with basic concepts for better understanding of the importance of this topic in the daily work and future of NM practice. The practice of the NMT and his/her involvement and responsibility within the department, protocol development for imaging and therapy has increased greatly, also with the hybrid imaging and theranostics era. Such evolution and increased responsibilities should course to more specific education and professional regulation, to assure that best practice is being provided to the patients that undergo NM procedures.

Additionally, an insight on the UK experience of advanced practice will illustrate the previous spoken concepts. The involvement of NMT in RadioNuclide Therapy in Europe as well as in the research area, are topics that will be covered.

This round table will count with an interactive moment, that aims to provide discussion of this topic and collect the audience’s opinions and experiences.

(1) IAEA. International Atomic Energy Agency: Nuclear medicine resources manual. Vienna; 2006

Key Words
Advanced Practice, Competencies, Nuclear Medicine Technologist