



The 41st Annual  
High Country  
Nuclear  
Medicine  
Conference

March 7-11, 2020  
Sun Valley Inn | Sun Valley, ID

**Saturday, March 7, 2020**

6:30 am – 7:00 am

**Breakfast with the Vendors**

7:00 am – 9:30 am

**Imaging the Immune System for Personalized Medicine, Immuno-oncology**

**Session Organizer: Michael Devous, PhD**

Scheduled Topics:

**Focus on Applications in Immuno-oncology, infections, arthritis, etc.**

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

**Roundtable Discussion: Dosimetry and Therapy Planning**

**Moderator: Hans Vija, PhD**

4:00 pm – 7:30 pm

**Neuro-oncology**

**Session Organizer: Jonathan McConathy, MD, PhD**

Scheduled Topics

**Brain Tumors, Fluciclovine and Other Amino Acids Including Neuroblastic and Medulomas**

**Sunday, March 8, 2020**

6:30 am – 7:00 am

**Breakfast with the Vendors**

7:00 am – 9:30 am

**Impact of Cardiac Trials and Guidelines**

**Session Organizer: Daniel Berman, MD**

Scheduled Topics

**New Guidelines for Stable Angina and the Impact of New Guidelines**

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

**Roundtable Discussion: Regulatory Session**

**Moderator: Ira Goldman, MA**

4:00 pm – 6:30 pm

**Neuroimaging of Tauopathy and Inflammation**

**Session Organizers: Alan Packard, PhD and Daniel Silverman, MD, PhD, Conference Chair**

**Presenters and Topics**

**Progress towards Understanding Diseases**

**Path towards Commercialization (diseases to include neurodegenerative and TBI/CTE)**

7:00pm – 10:00pm

**Dinner**

**Monday, March 9, 2020**

6:30 am – 7:00 am

**Breakfast with the Vendors**

Monday March 9, 2020

7:00 am – 9:30 am

**Legislative and Regulatory Update**

**Session Chair: Ira Goldman, MA**

2019 witnessed considerable legislative and executive branch activity related to healthcare at both the U.S. Federal and State levels. With Democrats in control of the U.S. House of Representatives there are new battles shaping up over the Affordable Care Act initiated during the Obama Administration. With a Presidential election already underway, drug pricing was one of the rare areas in which both U.S. political parties agreed that action is necessary, and there was a flurry of legislation related to drug price transparency and negotiations, promotion/facilitation of generic drugs (including changes to the drug patent regime), and “surprise” medical billing. Although PAMA and MACRA become increasingly distant memories, Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) and Clinical Decision-Support (CDS) efforts continue to progress. Major gaps in coverage and payment continue to challenge the future of nuclear medicine. This session will provide updates regarding an overview of ongoing legislative and regulatory changes impacting the nuclear medicine sector.

**Presenters and Topics**

**SNMMI Initiatives – President’s Report on Current and Future Directions**

**Speaker: Dr. Vasken Dilsizian, MD, PhD, SNNMI**

**Nuclear Medicine Opportunities and Challenges in Washington during a Presidential Election Year**

**Speaker: Sue Bunning, Industry Director, Positron Emission Tomography, Medical Imaging and Technology Alliance**

**Status Report on FDA Review of Radiopharmaceutical/Theranostics**

**Speaker: Lou Marzella, MD, PhD, FDA**

**Reimbursement – Coverage, Payment and Coding**

*Speaker: Denise Merlino*

**Appropriate Use Criteria – What’s New, What’s Revised? - Thyroid and Prostate Cancer, Infection Imaging, etc.**

*Speaker: Kevin Donohoe, MD*

**Panelists:** Dr. Vasken Dilsizian, Sue Bunning, Lou Marzella, Kevin Donohoe, and Denise Merlino

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

**Roundtable Discussion: Adding value to Cardiac PET using MFR and MBF: A case-based approach**

**Moderators: Ernie Garcia, PhD and Val Lowe, MD**

*Speaker: Venk Murthy, MD, PhD*

4:00 pm – 7:30 pm

**Advancing Technology AI and Instrumentation**

**Session Organizers: Ernie Garcia, PhD and Val Lowe, MD**

The Artificial Intelligence (AI) portion of this session describes the tools as well as the similarities and differences in the subfields of AI that include decision support systems, machine learning and deep learning. Examples of applications in nuclear medicine are presented. The challenges and opportunities in the future of these important tools will be discussed.

**Presenters and Topics**

**Brief Primer on AI with Imaging Applications**

*Speaker: Ernie Garcia, PhD*

**Advanced Imaging Applications with Deep Learning and Big Data**

*Speaker: Piotr Slomka, PhD*

**How Long is Long Enough: Long Bore Scanner Physics**

*Speaker: Bernard Bendriem, PhD*

**Digital Detectors and Their Transformative Effect on PET Scanner Design and Performance**

*Speaker: Joel Karp, PhD*

**Clinical Applications with Long Bore Scanner Technology**

*Speaker: Val J. Lowe, MD*

**Tuesday, March 10, 2020**

6:30 am – 7:00 am

**Breakfast with the Vendors**

7:00 am – 9:30 am

**Pediatrics**

**Session Organizers: Barry Shulkin and Alan Packard, PhD**

**Scheduled Topics:**

**Focus on Neuroblastoma, Osteosarcoma, Brain Tumors**

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

**Roundtable Discussion: Industry – Current Highlights, Unmet Needs, Future Innovations**

Description: Technology and tracers in the realm of multi-modality imaging; timing and perceived clinical need is often the biggest factor in success or failure. With this session we'll work to "see around the corners" of the role of radionuclide imaging in addressing the biggest healthcare problems.

**Moderators: Edward L. Lyons, RT, CNMT**

4:00 pm – 7:30 pm

**Neuroendocrine Imaging (e.g., Ge-68 Dotatate, Ga-68 Dotatoc and Cu-64 Dotatate)**

**Session Organizers: Andreas Kjaer, MD, PhD and Roy Brown, BS, MBA**

Description: Following the Novartis acquisition of AAA and Endocyte, pharma has increased their interest in targeted radionuclide therapy. The pipeline is increasing both academically and commercially. Potential speakers from academia and companies as Endocyte, AAA, Bayer, Actinium pharmaceuticals, Nordic Nanovector, 3B pharmaceuticals, clarity pharmaceuticals etc.

**Scheduled Topics:**

**Targeted Radiopharmaceuticals**

**Next Generation**

**FDA considerations**

**Wednesday, March 11, 2020**

6:30 am – 7:00 am

**Breakfast with the Vendors**

7:00 am – 9:30 am

**Thyroid / Endocrinology**

**Session Organizer: Michael Wissmeyer, MD**

**Scheduled Topics:**

**Status of New or Updated Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC)**

**Controversies in Low Dose Anlation of DTC**

**F18-DOPA PET in Medullary Thyroid Cancer**

**F18-Choline PET in Parathyroid Adenomas**