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Kentucky Society of Nuclear Medicine Technologists Fall 2005 Continuing Education Meeting



Mark your calendar! The KSNMT's Fall 2005 Continuing Education Meeting is on the way. The meeting, "Protocols, Policies, and Personal Growth: Connecting the Dots for the Big Picture", is packed

with informative speakers and should be a minimum of 6 VOICE CE hours.

Scheduled to headline the meeting is Dr. Clifford C. Kuhn also known as the Laugh Doctor. He is a physician, medical school professor, comedian, professional speaker and personal counselor who helps individuals and groups enhance performance, productivity, and health by creating and sustaining more fun. His talk entitled "*The Laugh Doctor's Prescription for a Healthy Big Picture*", should be both informative and fun. Anyone attending will also receive a copy of his book, *The Fun Factor*.

The following speakers are also scheduled to appear:

Dr. Michael Rice, Director of Nuclear Medicine, University of Louisville

Topic - Bexxar™

Dewey Crawford, Kentucky Radiation Control Branch

Topic - KY licensure of NMT's

Ron Weitze, St. Joseph Healthcare, Lexington, KY, Operations Manager - Medical Imaging

Topic - Organizational Behavior - Group Dynamics

Rich Kirby, CNMT, Suburban Hospital NMT

Topic - Renal Imaging Protocol

Scott Holbrook, BS, CNMT, PET, RT(N), FSNMTS, President-elect, The Society of Nuclear Medicine - Technologist Section

Topic - CARE act

The meeting is scheduled for Saturday November 19th at the Holiday Inn, Capital Plaza in Frankfort, KY. Registration on the day of the meeting will begin at 7:00 am and the meeting should last until 4:00 - 5:00 pm. Lunch is provided along with a continental breakfast and afternoon snack.

Reserve your spot for this fun filled continuing education meeting now. If you register before 10/01/05 the price is only \$40 for KSNMT members and \$50 for non-members. After 10/01/05, the price jumps to \$45 and \$55 respectively, and after 11/01/05 and on the day of the meeting, the price goes up to \$60 and \$70 respectively.

For more information on the program, or on available lodging, or to obtain a registration form, contact Radiopharmacy, Inc. Don't let this incredible CE opportunity pass you by.

Quadramet® (Sm-153) Reimbursement Coding

The following is a list of codes to use for reimbursement of Quadramet®(Sm-153). Note that the imaging agent code is per 50mCi. A vial of Quadramet® has 150mCi. To get fully reimbursed, you must bill for three 50mCi aliquots. Note that there are also several other codes that can be used for the infusion of the isotope and/or the generation of the data from any scans performed:

Imaging Agent

A9605 -Supply of therapeutic radiopharmaceutical agent Quadramet, per 50 mCi

J3490 -Unclassified Drug (for commercial insurance not accepting A9605)

Radiopharmaceutical Therapy and Medical Physics**

77750 - Infusion of radioelement solution
or
79101 - Radiopharmaceutical Therapy

Additional Coding**

78890 - Generation of automated data <30 minutes

or

78891 - Generation of automated data >30 minutes

Additional Coding**

90784 - Therapeutic prophylactic or diagnostic injection; intravenous

or

G0347 - IV infusion therapy/diagnostic (Office only)

or

G0353 - IV push, single or original drug (Office Only)

As Always, if you ever have any questions on reimbursement coding feel free to contact Radiopharmacy, Inc. and we will be happy to assist.

** Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, section 1862 (a)(1)(A) allows coverage and payment for only those services that are considered to be medically reasonable and necessary. Always be aware of correct coding initiative updates. Local policies may vary - check with your carrier for specific coverage guidelines

Instructions For Customers Returning Radioactive Waste To The Nuclear Pharmacy (Reference: 49 CFR, 173.421)

Only items containing or contaminated with radioactive materials that were supplied by Radiopharmacy, Inc. of Evansville, IN may be returned for disposal. The following procedures should be utilized when returning radioactive waste:

1.) After use, return the dose container (i.e., syringe or vial) to the shield in which the dose was delivered

2.) Insure that radioactive quantities returned are equal to or less than those specified in the table below for radionuclides of the most commonly used radiopharmaceuticals:

When returning a package containing more than one of these radionuclides, the maximum returnable quantity is determined by the lowest mCi quantity assigned for the items shipped. For example, if Tc-99m and I-131 are being shipped in the same package, only 1.9 mCi of total activity (including both Tc-99m and I-131) may be contained in the package.

3.) If radioactive quantities are greater than those specified on the table below, retain the material behind appropriate shielding until it has decayed to an acceptable quantity.

4.) Insure the radiation level at any point on the external surface of the package does not exceed 0.5 mrem/hour.

5.) Ensure that nonfixed (removable) radioactive surface contamination on the external surface of the package does not exceed 6600 dpm from a wipe of 300 cm² (22dpm/cm²).

Radionuclide	Maximum Returnable Quantity (mCi)
Technetium-99m (Tc-99m)	11
Iodine-131 (I-131)	1.9
Iodine-123 (I-123)	8.1
Iodine-125 (I-125)	8.1
Thallium-201 (TI-201)	11
Gallium-67 (Ga-67)	8.1
Indium-111 (In-111)	8.1
Xenon-133 (Xe-133)	270 (gas)
	27 (liquid)
Cobalt-57 (Co-57)	27
Cobalt-58	2.7
Phosphorous-32 (P-32)	1.6
Samarium-153 (Sm-153)	1.6
Yttrium-90 (Y-90)	0.81
Rhenium-186 (Re-186)	1.6
Carbon-14 (C-14)	8.1
Barium-133 (Ba-133)	8.1
Chromium-51 (Cr-51)	81
Cesium-137 (Cs-137)	1.6
Fluorine-18 (F-18)	1.6
Molybdenum-99 (Mo-99)	2
Nitrogen-13 (N-13)	1.6

Note: Multiply values listed above by 10 for solid or sealed sources.

Patients Receiving Radioisotope Scans Should be Warned About Triggering False Security Alarms at Airports

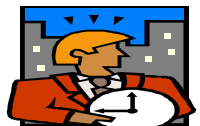
According to the authors of a case report in a recent issue of *The Lancet*, people having a scan that involves radioisotopes should be warned that they could set off security radiation alarms in airports for up to 30 days after the procedure. Richard Underwood (Royal Brompton Hospital,

London, UK) and colleagues are calling for patients to be issued with an information card after diagnostic or therapeutic procedures involving radioisotopes as standard practice.

Over 18 million diagnostic and therapeutic procedures involving radioisotopes are carried out each year. Radioisotopes in scans such as those involving the thyroid gland, bone, and blood flow to the heart muscle, as well as radioactive iodine therapy, render patients temporarily radioactive. As a result, patients are at risk of setting off radiation alarms at airports.

Professor Underwood comments: "Stricter measure, and more sensitive radiation detection systems, are being deployed at airports worldwide. It is important to warn patients having had a thallium scan that they may trigger radiation detectors for up to 30 days. It should be standard practice to issue patients with an information card after diagnostic or therapeutic procedures involving radioisotopes. The card should state the date and place of the procedure, the radioisotope used and its half-life, potential duration of radioactive emissions from the patient, and details on who to contact for verification if necessary... Patient information cards could lessen the impact of such false alarms and avoid unnecessary interrogations by airport security personnel."

Daylight Savings Time Ends



Sunday October 30, 2005 will mark the end of daylight savings time. The time change will not affect the regular service provided by Radiopharmacy. This does, however, mean that for some of our customers the pharmacy time will be one hour earlier than the local time.

If you have questions about anything in the "Monthly Scan" don't hesitate to call us at
(812) 421-1002
or
(800) 755-5889
or visit us online



www.radiopharmacy.com