

From Editor's Desk



It is with great pleasure that I present to you the supplementary edition of the Indian Journal of Nuclear Medicine incorporating the scientific content of the 50th Annual Conference of Society of Nuclear Medicine, India (SNMI). This conference marks the 50 years of perseverance, struggles, and efforts put in together by countless people to make sure the momentum keeps going.

Chandigarh, the city beautiful, is the first planned city of India and the joint capital of states of Haryana and Punjab. The city was designed by the famed Swiss-French architect Le Corbusier with a UNESCO world heritage site in the form of the city Capitol complex. The world-famous unique Rock Gardens built by Nek Chand, Zakir Hussain Rose garden with its annual rose festival, and the Sukhna lake are just some of the attractions that the city has to offer.

This is for the fourth time that Chandigarh is hosting the Annual Conference of the SNMI, first being in 1982 followed by 1997 and 2010. The Department of Nuclear Medicine at PGIMER, Chandigarh, has expanded to its world class facilities at the present. Having hosted the annual conference previously at three occasions, it is a matter of immense pride for all of us to host the plethora of dignitaries and renowned academic personalities at the Golden Jubilee conference.

This meeting brings together all of us as we reminisce the lifetime of efforts, and toil put into building the society to where it stands today. With invited talks from over 25 renowned international faculty members and the eminent who's who in nuclear medicine in India, the scientific program is guaranteed to keep you on your toes. This year's conference had a record number of more than 200 abstract submissions, the highest ever, which underwent rigorous peer reviewing and selection by the scientific committee. A total of 197 abstracts have been accepted which include 55 oral presentations, 69 posters walk (presentations), and 73 poster viewing formats curated in the form of 14 tracks.

Speaking of firsts, we have done away with the physical posters and this conference will be the first to hold an e-poster only format for all the poster presentations. For the young minds, we have a unique quiz session being organized for the first time in SNMICON, 2018 which will witness participation from attendees all over India and

is sure to be one of the major event highlights. The joint CME, in collaboration between Indian College of Nuclear Medicine and Indo-American SNM, is being organized during the conference for the second consecutive year which is an enriching experience for the residents, as well as a refresher for the senior members.

As a gesture of respect and gratitude, we are organizing a special Presidents' event to honor all the past presidents of SNMI who have been the building blocks of the society, contributing toward its rapid growth and evolution.

This conference continues the tradition of honoring the distinguished personalities in Nuclear Medicine worldwide by bestowing them with the prestigious oration awards established as a tribute to and thus bearing the name of Homi J. Bhabha, the father of the Indian Nuclear programme, Vikram A. Sarabhai, the father of Indian Space Program, and Brigadier Santosh K. Mazumdar, considered the father of Indian Nuclear Medicine. In addition, there will be Dr. N. Ramdas prize in Nuclear Thyroidology and Dr. Shakuntla Krishnamurthy prizes in the field of Nuclear Hepatology for best papers.

The Golden Jubilee keynote address will be delivered by Dr. Brian Forbes Hutton, renowned physicist and presently the Professor of Medical Physics at the Institute of Nuclear Medicine, University College London. Dr. Brian has worked in Nuclear Medicine since 1975 and has published more than 250 scientific papers in peer reviewed journals/conference proceedings and 17 book chapters. He was a corecipient of the 2014 IEEE Marie Sklodowska-Curie Award in recognition of his role in the development of maximum likelihood reconstruction, leading to its widespread and effective use in healthcare.

Annual Conference of the SNMI provides a common platform for members to discuss and share ideas and keep abreast with the latest research happening around the globe. The rich academic schedule is a special treat for the residents who can learn the intricate nuances of the field and gain first-hand knowledge with the experiences shared by the professionals. Apart from all the scientific content, the event definitely is the one place to meet and greet friends from far and cherish the friendships built over years.

In conclusion, I would share a quote by Madam Curie that inspires all of us till date.

“Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.”

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