

Annual Scientific Report of the Working Group 5 "Nuclear Cardiology" of the European Society of Cardiology

1. Membership

In July 2005, the number of members was 379.

2. New Nucleus members

In 2004, 2 new members joined the nucleus and 2 members stepped down from the nucleus and joined our senate, which serves as an advisory board to the nucleus.

In 2005, one new member will join the nucleus, and the election for this new nucleus member will take place during the annual ESC meeting in Stockholm.

3. Finances

The current budget of the WG5 is euro 99.760, 82.

4. European Council of Nuclear Cardiology

In 2004, the European Council of Nuclear Cardiology was initiated. This organization consists of 6 nucleus members of the ESC Working Group on Nuclear Cardiology and 6 members of the Cardiovascular Committee of the European Association of Nuclear Medicine. The main task of the ECNC is to improve and support collaboration between Cardiologists and Nuclear Medicine physicians.

In 2005, the ECNC supported publication of procedural guidelines on Nuclear Cardiology (EJNM 2005).

A second achievement was the International exam on Nuclear Cardiology. The first exam was held successfully in 2004, and the second exam will be organized in 2005. The exam can be taken voluntarily by Cardiologists, Radiologists and Nuclear Medicine physicians; once successfully passed, the participants receive a diploma of "Nuclear Cardiologist". Due to the complex legal aspects of Nuclear Cardiology in Europe, this exam will not have any legal value.

5. Presence at the European Congress of Cardiology

In 2004, the Working Group was involved in 4 symposia at the annual meeting of ESC, and 2 abstracts sessions with oral presentations and 5 poster sessions were dedicated to Nuclear Cardiology.

6. ICNC7 in Lisbon, Portugal

The Joint venture among our Working Group, the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology and the European Association of Nuclear Medicine has organized already 7 successful ICNC (International Conference of Nuclear Cardiology) meetings, and the 7th ICNC meeting took place in may, 2005. Total attendance was 1084.

The ICNC meeting provides an update for cardiologists interested in cardiac imaging, with an emphasis on nuclear cardiology. This meeting also included collaborative sessions with other imaging working groups (CMR, echocardiography). Ten young investigators (presenting original scientific work at ICNC7) were selected to receive a travel grant to attend the meeting; the travel grants were sponsored by the Working Group on Nuclear Cardiology. The planning of ICNC8 has started and the ESC Congress department most likely will arrange the secretarial and organizational support for the meeting again.

7. Meetings of the Working group

Meetings of the Working Group are organized every other year. In 2004, WG5 held the traditional "brainstorming " meeting in Kitzbuehel, Austria. In 2006, the brainstorm meeting will be held in Crete, Greece. The planning is being completed in the next few months; 50 Working Group members will attend.

8. Scientific Document on Hibernation

In 2004, the Working Group was involved in a task force on "evaluation of hibernation". The final document was published in the European Heart Journal (2004).