



EFOMP

The voice for European Medical Physics

EFOMP in ECR 2012

One of the highlights of the conference season is the European Congress of Radiology. EFOMP makes an important contribution to the physics programme of ECR. This year a workshop on “**New Technology in Diagnostic Radiology: Frontiers in Interventional Radiological Imaging**” was organized.

The first session, started with a plea from Jim Reekers of Amsterdam for the European notified bodies to start to handle registration of new medical devices and implants in the same way as they do with new drugs. Marc Kachelriess from Heidelberg explored the use of C-arm systems for acquiring tomographic information. He presented a new technique for 4D interventional imaging. Janet De Wilde, from Edinburgh, then gave a paper on interventional MRI techniques. The first session was rounded off by a presentation on US

interventional techniques by L. Solbiati from Busto Arsizio in Italy. He argued that while imaging-guided interventional techniques have extensively entered clinical practice, their success depended on the availability of precise, reliable imaging techniques.

The second part of the workshop, started with a presentation by Annalisa Trianni from Udine on angiographic equipment performance assessment. Her concern was that while different methods are developed to evaluate the dosimetric characteristics and image quality performance, rarely these measurements are correlated with subjective evaluation of clinical images. Eliseo Vaño from Madrid looked at patient and staff radiation issues in angiography. In particular the radiation risks for patients need to be understood by clinicians and dose values considered as part of the optimisation strategies. The workshop finished with a panel discussion with angiographic equipment manufacturers. With 128 attendees over the two sessions, this had obviously

made an important contribution to the ECR conference.

Trieste Alpe Adria Medical Physics Meeting (3-5 May, Trieste)

The interest of sharing work and scientific experiences drove medical physicists of Alpe Adria area to promote the first meeting in Udine, Italy in 2004. Following the success of this meeting, a biennial meeting was held in 2006 (Opatija), 2008 (Graz) and 2010 (Ljubljana). The 5th Alpe Adria Medical Physics (AAMP) Meeting, organized by the Austrian, Croatian, Hungarian, Italian, Slovakian and Slovenian Medical Physics Societies, will take place in 3-5 May, in Trieste hosted by the International Centre of Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste (Italy). The Trieste 5th AAMP meeting follows the settings of the previous conferences, aiming at the promotion of a wider participation of other neighbouring countries. The meeting will start with an advanced course on Intra Operative Radiation Therapy, followed by new developments



ECR 2012

The new EFOMP president, Peter Sharp with EFOMP Scientific Committee Chair, Alberto Torresin and Paola Colombo medical physicist from Milan chatting during ECR 2012

in Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine. The meeting will host also the EFOMP Officers Meeting on 5-6th May in Eulero Lecture Hall: <http://www.fisicamedica.org/aamp2012/>

SFPM-EFOMP Congress on Medical Physics, 12-15 June

The first SFPM-EFOMP Joint Congress on Medical Physics will be held at the Palais des Congrès et de la Musique, Strasbourg, France from 12 to 15 June 2012. The topics include IMRT, dosimetry verification, new topics in radiotherapy, a special session on hadron therapy, imaging issues in radiology and nuclear medicine and Medical Physics in Europe. Approximately 600 participants are expected, so register now. There will also be an equipment exhibition. <http://www.sfpm.fr/js/2012>

European School of Medical Physics (Oct 18-Nov 2)

The School is organized each Autumn in Archamps at 7 km from Geneva, on the French-Swiss border. It offers quality training in aspects of Medical Physics, from medical imaging

to radio- and brachy-therapy. Physics graduates recently or soon to be qualified as medical physicists (as defined by EFOMP) or those working in an environment of biomedical research can participate. Deadline for registration is 1 June, 2012. EFOMP sponsors a bursary for novice medical physicists who are members of a National Member Organization of EFOMP to participate in the European School of Medical Physics. <http://lemoigne.web.cern.ch/lemoigne/esiweb/esmpn1.htm>

IAEA Conference on Radiation Protection in Medicine, 3-7 Dec, Bonn

The IAEA will hold an International Symposium addressed to a broad spectrum of experts, such as medical physicists working in hospitals and/or teaching in universities, as well as radiation physicists working in calibration and dosimetry laboratories and scientists working in research and development in this area. Participation forms for the IAEA Symposium can be submitted either through EFOMP or through National authorities by 15 May 2012.

Proposals must be sent to EFOMP before 10 May 2012.

<http://www-pub.iaea.org/iaeameetings/41578/International-Conference-on-Radiation-Protection-in-Medicine-Setting-the-Scene-for-the-Next-Decade>

News on the EFOMP Mammo WG 2011 activity

The objective of this workgroup was to write a document on QC in Digital Mammography covering commissioning and routine tests with the aim to be understandable also to less experienced professionals in mammography field. Nowadays, the group includes people from 22 countries. Document preparation has started, beginning from the chapter with test procedures. First partial draft covering quality controls of the x-ray source, the automatic exposure control and the image detector, has been distributed within the group and is waiting for feedback. Finally, once the entire draft document will be ready, it will be uploaded and made available to any user from the EFOMP website.