



International Conference on Integrated Medical Imaging in Cardiovascular Diseases

**IAEA Headquarters
Vienna, Austria**

30 September–4 October 2013

Announcement and Call for Papers

A. Introduction

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) announces its intention to hold the International Conference on Integrated Medical Imaging in Cardiovascular Diseases (IMIC2013). Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) are an important sub-group of non-communicable diseases and are one of the main priorities in the health care systems of many IAEA Member States. Medical imaging, including molecular nuclear medicine, is extremely important in that it offers strategic advantages in both diagnostic and therapeutic decision making. It provides inputs for diagnosis, staging, treatment, prognosis and follow-up in the management of CVDs. Medical imaging includes techniques such as single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT), positron emission tomography (PET), echocardiography, computed tomography (CT), and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). These techniques provide an excellent opportunity to understand the pathology of individual patients and can therefore serve to facilitate tailored clinical management. Each imaging modality has its advantages and limitations which need to be understood properly by health care professionals dealing with CVDs. Many Member States are actively using, have recently implemented or are planning to acquire these technologies.

The IAEA has been applying many approaches for capacity building in Member States to allow them to optimally utilize medical imaging technologies. These approaches have been including training courses, fellowships, expert missions and conferences, to name a few. In November 2011, the International Conference on Clinical PET and Molecular Nuclear Medicine (IPET-2011) was organized to improve the understanding of clinical PET and molecular nuclear medicine among Member States. This was held at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna, Austria, and was extremely well received by Member States. About 350 participants from all over the world benefited from this

conference. Using a similar model, it is proposed to hold this International Conference on Integrated Medical Imaging in Cardiovascular Diseases (IMIC2013).

B. Objectives of the Conference

The conference will cover developments in the entire spectrum of activities related to medical imaging as applied to CVDs.

The conference will have the following objectives:

1. To evaluate the current status of medical imaging, including SPECT, PET, echocardiography, CT and MRI, in the management of CVDs;
2. To reflect on challenges faced in developing countries;
3. To deliver supporting ‘know-how’ via continuing medical education programmes in the field, including information on the relative merits and limitations of each imaging modality;
4. To improve the performance of clinical practice through ‘read with the experts’ sessions and workshops;
5. To interact with the user groups (nuclear physicians, radiologists, cardiologists, technologists, radiographers, radiopharmacists, radiochemists, medical physicists and other scientists working in all aspects of CVD management) and provide them with state-of-the-art information in the field;
6. To exchange information on current advances in the field among leading clinical scientists from developed and developing countries;
7. To identify future challenges and trends, as well as the role of the IAEA and other international organizations in addressing these.

C. List of Topics

The IAEA invites participants to provide high quality contributions on all aspects of medical imaging as applied to the management of CVDs. Both academic and practice based papers under the umbrella of the following topics are welcome:

1. Member State experience with SPECT, PET, echocardiography, CT and MRI in the management of CVDs;
2. Use of hybrid imaging or integrated imaging in CVD management;
3. Setting up an integrated imaging facility;
4. Radiopharmaceutical production using cyclotrons and radionuclide generators — including good manufacturing practices and quality assurance aspects — with special reference to imaging agents for CVDs;

5. Issues of medical physics, instrumentation and image processing and analysis related to CVD imaging;
6. Quality management, quality control, quality assurance and audits in integrated medical imaging and nuclear medicine practice;
7. Radiation protection for personnel and dose reduction for patients;
8. Training and education in integrated medical imaging.

D. Target Audience

This conference will give an opportunity to review the exciting latest developments in the field of integrated medical imaging as applied to CVDs. The target audience comprises:

1. Nuclear medicine physicians
2. Radiologists
3. Cardiologists
4. Radiochemists/Radiopharmacists
5. Medical physicists
6. Technologists/Radiographers

E. Programme Structure

The opening ceremony will take place in the morning of Monday, 30 September 2013. The scientific programme will be a mix of plenary talks, 'how to' sessions, workshops, discussions, and 'read with the experts' sessions on various topics of interest in integrated imaging as used in the management of CVDs. Each day will feature continuing medical education sessions covering selected topics of general interest to all participants, in particular providing an overview of the clinical applications of various modalities and pinpointing all the aspects involved in modern integrated imaging practice. After lunch breakout sessions for clinicians, physicists, technologists, radiopharmacists and radiochemists will be conducted in parallel. The clinical sessions will include a main lecture and a related 'read with the experts' session. The radiopharmacy, physics, and instrumentation sessions will include workshops on selected topics. The programme will conclude every day with a plenary session to review and wrap up the topics discussed during the day.

F. Abstracts, Papers and Proceedings

All papers submitted — other than invited review papers — must present original work and must not

have been published elsewhere.

Persons who wish to present a poster at the conference must submit an abstract of 500 words maximum on one of the topics listed under Section C. The abstract should give enough information on the contents of the proposed paper to enable the Selection Committee to evaluate it. Including too many introductory and general matters should be avoided.

F.1. Submission of abstracts

Persons who wish to present a poster at the conference must submit an abstract in accordance with the guidelines below:

- It should be written in English;
- It should indicate to which of the topics outlined in Section C above it relates;
- It should be a maximum of 500 words (including the title);
- It should not include more than one figure, graph or table;
- It should not include references;
- It should be written using the abstract template on the conference web page (see Section Q);
- It should be submitted by **1 March 2013** in hard copy through the appropriate governmental authority (see Section N) together with the attached Form B (Form for Submission of a Paper) and Form A (Participation Form).

At the same time, the abstract should, in addition, be submitted electronically in Microsoft Word format to: imic2013@iaea.org.

F.2. Acceptance of abstracts for poster presentations

Only papers that have been received by the above deadline and through the appropriate official channels will be considered by the Selection Committee. The Conference Secretariat reserves the right to exclude papers that do not comply with its quality standards and/or that do not apply to one of the topics in Section C above.

Authors will be informed by **30 April 2013** if their abstracts have been accepted for poster presentation. The abstracts, if accepted by the Selection Committee, will also be reproduced unedited in the Book of Abstracts which will be distributed to all participants at the conference.

G. Participation

All persons wishing to participate in the conference are requested to register online in advance. In addition, they must send a completed Participation Form (Form A), the Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B) (if applicable), and the Grant Application Form (Form C) (if applicable) as soon as possible to the competent official authority (see Section N) for subsequent transmission to the IAEA.

Participants whose official designations have been received by the IAEA will be sent further information on the conference at least three months before it starts. This information will also be made available on the conference web page (see Section Q).

H. Expenditures

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of designated participants in the conference. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help meet the cost of attendance of certain participants. Such assistance may be offered, upon specific request, to normally one participant per country provided that, in the IAEA's view, the participant on whose behalf assistance is requested will make an important contribution to the conference. In general, not more than one grant will be awarded to any one country.

If governments wish to apply for a grant on behalf of one of their specialists, they should address specific requests to the IAEA to this effect. Governments should ensure that applications for grants are:

1. Submitted by **1 March 2013**;
2. Accompanied by a duly completed and signed Grant Application Form (Form C);
3. Accompanied by a completed Participation Form (Form A).

Applications that do not comply with the above conditions cannot be considered.

Approved grants will be issued in the form of a lump sum payment that usually covers **only part of the cost of attendance**.

I. Distribution of Documents

A preliminary programme will be posted on the IAEA conference web page as soon as possible. The final programme and the Book of Abstracts will be available free of charge upon registration at the conference.

J. Exhibitions

A limited amount of space will be available for commercial vendors' displays/exhibits during the conference. Interested parties should contact the Scientific Secretariat by email: imic2013@iaea.org, before **8 January 2013**.

K. Working Language

The working language of the conference will be English.

L. Accommodation

Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. Hotels which are offering a reduced rate for conference participants will be listed on the conference web page. Please note that the IAEA is not in a position to assist participants with hotel bookings, nor can the IAEA assume responsibility for paying cancellation fees or for re-bookings and no shows.

M. Visas

Designated participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria at least 4 weeks before entry into Austria. Please note that Austria is a Schengen State and therefore persons who require a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.

N. Channels of Communication

The Participation Form (Form A) and, as applicable, the Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B), and the Grant Application Form (Form C), should be sent to the competent national authority (usually the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or National Atomic Energy Authority) for official transmission to the IAEA.

O. Key Deadlines

Submission of Form B and abstract (maximum 500 words):	1 March 2013
Submission of Form C:	1 March 2013
Notification of acceptance of abstract:	30 April 2013
Submission of full paper (only upon request by the IAEA):	1 July 2013

P. Conference Secretariat

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretaries and correspondence on administrative matters to the IAEA Conference Services Section.

Q. Conference web page

Please visit the IAEA conference web page regularly for new information regarding this conference:

<http://www-pub.iaea.org/iaeameetings/43045/International-Conference-on-Integrated-Medical-Imaging>