INFORMATION SHEET

Project Number and Title: RAS6075: Optimizing the Role of Nuclear Medicine Techniques in the Diagnosis and Clinical Management of Childhood Cancer and Inborn Diseases

Place: Melbourne, Australia
Dates: 13-17 November 2017

Deadline for Nominations: 30 August 2017 (Please note that it will not be possible to consider the applications received after the deadline due to administrative reasons.)

Language: English

Organizers: The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Department of Molecular Imaging and Therapy, Austin Health, Melbourne, Australia

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Meeting Purpose: The purpose of this meeting is to:
- Review and assess the current status and role of Nuclear Medicine Techniques in the Diagnosis and Clinical Management of Childhood Cancer and Inborn Diseases (Paediatric Nuclear Medicine) in the Asian
region and Pacific Region, focusing on current and emerging applications of SPECT/CT and PET/CT Technology in Paediatric Oncology and other Non-communicable diseases, including In-Borne Diseases.

- Review the project progress and achievements in line with activities implemented and emerging needs of the government parties.
- Review the concept of sustainability of Nuclear Medicine programmes in clinical practice which has been introduced to participants in previous activities and incorporate identified gaps in other IAEA agency activities for a streamlined approach.
- Under IAEA Curricula for Nuclear Medicine Physicians (ICNMP) principles, review and update the current protocols on paediatric imaging using nuclear medicine techniques, focusing on dose optimization and appropriateness criteria, including radiopharmaceutical and imaging modality choice for nuclear medicine physicians and technologists. These include parameters such as clinical indications, scan interpretation, patient positioning, radiopharmaceutical choice and dosimetry.
- enhance the capabilities of technologists to perform adult and paediatric imaging in a safe and effective manner. The topics to be covered include:
  - i) The role of Nuclear Medicine in Children and adult population, special issues, unique clinical studies.
  - ii) Issues surrounding preparation, information and handling the child and adult patients in Nuclear Medicine procedures.
  - iii) An update of radiopharmaceuticals schedules and doses in Nuclear Medicine.
  - iv) Hepatobiliary scintigraphy in current paediatric practice.
  - v) Special preparations for Scintigraphic evaluation of paediatric Urogenital system (Urinary tract infection.), Paediatric orthopaedics, Paediatric Nuclear Oncology and Paediatric endocrinology imaging.
  - vi) Basic QA/QC of SPECT and SPECT/CT Equipment, including radioprotection for staff and patients (QUANUM guidelines).

Expected Outputs:

- Project reviewed and project achievements evaluated.
- Way forward for capacity building in applications of Clinical Paediatric Nuclear Medicine, workplan under ICNMP discussed and updated according to Member States’ needs.
- Protocols and practice is updated and harmonised.
- Participants are able to have a thorough understanding of essentials of paediatric nuclear medicine in the management of relevant diseases.

Scope and Nature: The meeting will discuss the project RAS6075:
(1) Review of the status of Clinical Paediatric Nuclear Medicine in the region, identify specific training needs to be included under ICNMP project.

(2) Coverage of a wide range of aspects of nuclear medicine procedures in paediatric population. Lectures and demonstration will be provided by experts who have extensive experience in paediatric imaging. Some practical sessions will also be conducted.

**Background Information:**

The practice of nuclear medicine imaging in sick children is different from that in adults. Childhood (paediatric) nuclear medicine practice refers to examinations done in babies, young children and teenagers (up to 18). Paediatric nuclear medicine imaging is performed to help diagnose life-threatening childhood disorders that are infectious, non-infectious, congenital or that develop during childhood, including cancer. Nuclear medicine imaging techniques are used to evaluate children with cancer and other conditions that affect organ systems such as the kidney, urinary bladder, bones, liver and gallbladder, gastrointestinal tract, heart, lungs, thyroid and other organs. Nuclear medicine applications in children require a slightly different level of approach with regard to quality control and safety issues.

There is limited expertise in childhood nuclear medicine in the Asian region. With few conferences, training programmes and expertise in this field, the region lags behind the more developed economies in updated knowledge and improved skills compared with adult nuclear medicine practice. This regional project ensures that Member States in the Asian Region will benefit from the mobilization of the basic and advanced knowledge through various learning opportunities in Paediatric Nuclear Medicine, which will help the sick children afflicted with in-born and acquired diseases.

**Participation:**

National Project Coordinators (NPCs) or representative, ideally a qualified Nuclear Medicine physicians and technologists, with background in paediatric nuclear medicine applications. Each Member State may submit two nominations (one physician and one technologist)

**Participants’ Qualifications:**

National Project Coordinators (NPCs) or representative, ideally a qualified Nuclear Medicine physicians and technologists, with background in paediatric nuclear medicine applications. Each Member State may submit two nominations (one physician and one technologist)
Nomination Procedure:

Nominations (including those of local participants) should be submitted on the standard IAEA Nomination Form for Meeting/Workshop and National Consultant (available on the IAEA web-site: http://www.iaea.org/). Completed forms should be endorsed by relevant national authorities and returned to the Agency through official channels.

The applications should contain sufficient information to establish the nominees have the required qualifications. The nominated candidate may not be selected if sufficient information is not provided.

Applications must be received by the International Atomic Energy Agency, P. O. Box 100, A-1400 Vienna Austria, not later than 30 August 2017. Nominations received after this date or which have not been routed through established official channels, cannot be considered.

Advanced nominations through facsimile (+43-1-2600-7), or e-mail (Official@iaea.org) are welcomed. The facsimile / e-mail should contain the following basic information about the candidate: name, date of birth, academic qualifications, and current position including the exact nature of the duties carried out, proficiency in English and full contact address including telephone/email/facsimile numbers.

Security in the Field:

It is recommended that the meeting participants complete the courses Basic Security in the Field: Safety, Health and Welfare (BSITF) and Advanced Security in the Field (ASITF), prior to traveling to locations where UN security phases are in effect. The aim of these courses is to educate participants on how best to avoid or minimize potential dangers and threats, and to show what individuals can do if they find themselves in insecure situations.

The courses are available on the following UN websites that can be accessed using Microsoft Internet Explorer:

- BSITF: http://dss.un.org/BSITF/
- ASITF: http://dss.un.org/ASITF/

If you have difficulty using the websites, a CD-ROM can be obtained from your IAEA National Liaison Officer or from IAEA. Once the candidate has completed the courses and passed the accompanying exams, certificates will be generated automatically and must be printed for submission to the IAEA (either as an e-mail attachment or by fax). Copies of the certificate should be kept by the candidate for his / her records, as they are valid for a period of three years.
Administrative and Financial Arrangements:

Nominating Governments will be informed in due course of the names of the candidates who have been selected and will, at that time, be given full details on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Selected participants from countries eligible to receive technical assistance will be provided with a round trip economy class air ticket from their home countries to Melbourne, AUSTRALIA and a stipend sufficient to cover the cost of their accommodation, food, and minor incidentals. Shipment of accumulated meeting materials to the participants’ home countries is not the responsibility of the IAEA.

The organizers of the meeting do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the course, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in nominating participants, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.