

CoR Newsletter

Issue 1
March 2022



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Editor's Note (Prof Dr. Norlisah Mohd Ramli)

Assalamualaikum and a Good Day to my colleagues.

Our appreciation and thanks to the contributors of our past Issue 6 - Dec 2021, Dr Farhana Fadzli, Assoc Prof Dr Mohd Shafie, Assoc Prof Dr Mohd Ezane, Assoc Prof Dr Juhara, Dr Khairil Amir, Dr Wan Aireene, Dr Ahmad Hadif, Dr Chandran, Dr Nasibah, Dr Nur Asma, Dr Hartini, Dr Fattah, Dr Bazli, Prof Dr Rosmawati Mohamed and Prof Dato Dr Yang Faridah Abdul Aziz, for their articles and updates.

CoR Newsletter is published quarterly year by College of Radiology, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia. Our goal is for it to be 'by our members for our members'. It will highlight CoR events and activities, educational case series, stories and achievement of our members, enabling us to be closer together as a community. Members are welcome to contribute articles suitable for **CoR Newsletter**. Please submit to secretariat@radiologymalaysia.org - for appropriateness, only articles vetted and approved by the editor will be published.

The Covid-19 situation continues to plaque us but we shall continue to observe all SOPs that are in place, maintain our best in our own ways and remain mentally strong as a whole radiology fraternity to continue rendering our utmost expertise and as individuals to keep ourselves safe. Keep the faith and continue to hope and pray for days free of Covid-19.

We now come to our current Issue 1 - Mar 2022 of the **CoR Newsletter**.

For your reading pleasure, this issue brings you articles on 'Radiology MedEx and Entrance Exam Preparatory Course', '29 years old Woman with Large Retroperitoneal Cystic Mass', 'Chapter of Oncology (College of Radiology)', 'Malaysian Society of Nuclear Medicine & Molecular Imaging (MSNMMI)' and 'Fee Schedule'.

As we will soon usher in the Holy Month of Ramadhan, I wish all Muslim members "Selamat Berpuasa" and after this fulfilment, a "Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri". Take care and stay safe always!

**“RADIOLOGY MEDEX
AND
ENTRANCE EXAM PREPARATORY ONLINE COURSE”**

An update by

**Dr Mawaddah Abdul Malik
Organizing Committee
&
Dr Thajunnisa Hassan
Organising Chairperson**

MedEx (Medical Specialist Pre-Entrance Examination) is jointly established by Medical Deans Council of Malaysia and Malaysian Examinations Council (MEC) to integrate pre-entrance examinations into the Radiology Master Program. Candidates who pass Radiology MedEx examination will be shortlisted and called for Radiology Entrance Exam (REE) which includes an interview organized by Conjoint Board of Radiology.

College of Radiology in collaboration with KPJUC, UPM, UKM and UM has taken the initiative to organize the first Radiology MedEx and Entrance Exam preparatory course on the 26th February 2022 via Zoom virtual platform with encouraging participation of 109 attendees from Malaysia and Maldives.

The preparatory course has the objective to provide an overview and exposure of MedEx and REE to participants as part of their preparation before sitting for the actual MedEx and REE.

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*Co-opted Council Member
SIG Cardiac Imaging
Dr Noor Khairiah A. Karim*

*Co-opted Council Member
SIG Body Imaging
Dr Zaharudin Haron*

*Co-opted Council Member
SIG Musculoskeletal Imaging
Dr Maizatul Jamny Mahmood*

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Head of Services
Dr Yun Sii Ing*

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*Editor:
Prof. Dr Norlisah Mohd Ramli*

*Editorial Assistant:
Ms. Lesley Whitelaw*

The one-day course was organized and moderated by Assoc Prof Dr Thajunnisa Hassan, Consultant Radiologist KPJ Damansara and Clinical Lecturer of KPJ University College (KPJUC) with delivery remarks given by Prof Dr Norlisah Mohd Ramli, the President, College of Radiology.

Dr Asokan R Nair, Consultant Radiologist, Pantai Hospital Kuala Lumpur and Clinical Lecturer of KPJ University College (KPJUC), the first speaker of the day delivered a very timely lecture entitled “The Future of Radiology”.

The series of lectures given throughout the day covered a range of topics that mainly discussed the techniques and skills of answering MCQ, OSCE and Rapid Reporting questions and their respective marking scheme.

These lecture topics were discussed during the course:

- 1. MCQ “How to answer?”** by Dr Mohammad Bakri Mustafa
Consultant Radiologist KPJ Kajang Specialist Hospital.
Clinical Lecturer KPJ University College (KPJUC).
- 2. OSCE “How to answer?”** by Prof Dato’ Dr Yang Faridah Abdul Aziz
Chair Medical Education Committee Malaysian Medical Council.
Professor and Consultant Radiologist Dept of Biomedical Imaging,
Faculty of Medicine, University Malaya.
- 3. Rapid Reporting “How to answer?”** by Assoc Prof Dr Hasyma Abu Hassan
Consultant Radiologist and Head of Department,
Department of Radiology,
University Putra Malaysia Teaching Hospital.

4. Marking “How we do it?”

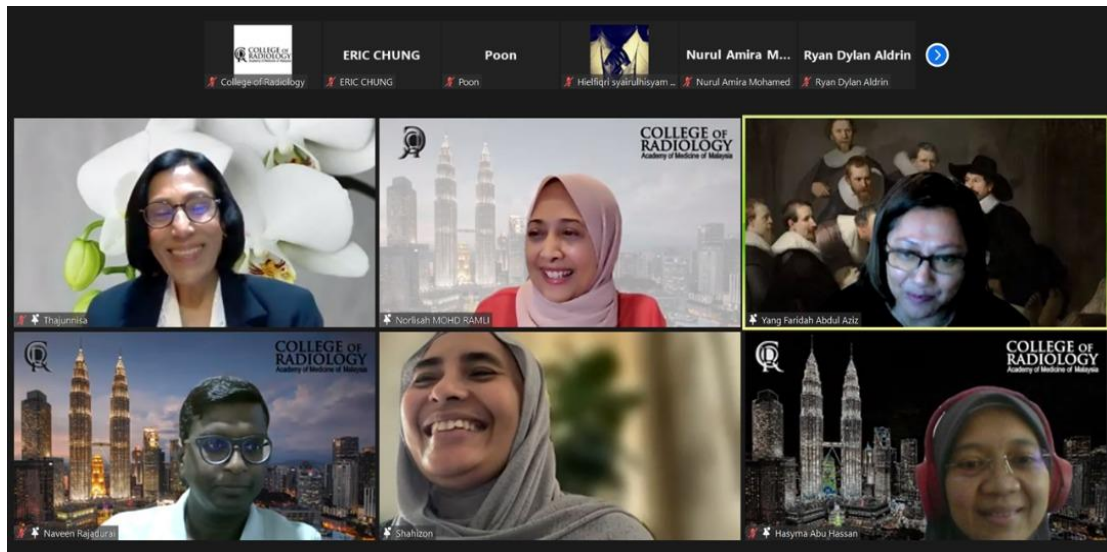
by Assoc Prof Dr Faizah Mohd Zaki
Professor and Consultant Radiologist,
Faculty of Medicine, University Kebangsaan Malaysia.

Participants had the chance to participate in a mock style MCQ, OSCE and Rapid Reporting conducted by Dr Eric Chung, Radiologist and Medical Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine University Malaya together with his team. The questions were on Radiological Anatomy, Clinical Radiology, Techniques and Procedures in Radiology. This was followed by an interactive session called “Panel discussion with the experts” chaired by Prof Dr Norlisah Mohd Ramli, the President, College of Radiology.

The panel of experts were representatives from the Conjoint Board of Radiology:

1. **Prof Dr Norlisah Mohd Ramli (COR President)**
2. **Prof Dato’ Dr Yang Faridah Abdul Aziz (University Malaya)**
3. **Dr Mohammad Bakri Mustafa (KPJ University College)**
4. **Dr Naveen Rajadurai (KPJ University College)**
5. **Assoc Prof Dr Hasyima Abu Hassan (University Putra Malaysia)**
6. **Assoc Prof Dr Shahizon Azura Mohamed Mukari (University Kebangsaan Malaysia)**
7. **Assoc Prof Dr Faizah Mohd Zaki (University Kebangsaan Malaysia)**

Appreciation to all speakers, moderators and organizing committee members for their dedication, co-operation and commitment. A big thank you to the Secretariat of the College of Radiology for the support and hard work. Finally, thank you to the College of Radiology Council, particularly the President, Prof. Dr Norlisah Ramli, for the trust and opportunity for us to learn from this experience.



Thank you very much for your support in making this possible. Your prompt responses for the emails is appreciated. The class was excellent in all aspects of the course. I look forward to more seminars from the College of Radiology in the future.

Please state your opinion.

Comment/Suggestions/Remarks

38 responses

GOOD.

TQVM for the effort. Well done. Benefit a lot

this course is very helpful and give exposure of how medex is for the first timer Thanks

The mock exam really helpful as we can practice how to answer questions online during the real exam and help familiarize the format.

“29-YEARS OLD WOMAN WITH LARGE INTRAPERITONEAL CYSTIC MASS”

An update by

Dr Zaharudin Haron - Institut Kanser Negara, Putrajaya
Dr Noor Azlin bt Ahmad - Institut Kanser Negara, Putrajaya
Dr Nur Izani bt Abu Hassan - Hospital Tuanku Jaafar Seremban

Case summary:

A 29-years-old lady G3P2 with one previous scar was found to have a large, multiseptated intraabdominal cystic mass incidentally discovered during a routine antenatal ultrasound at 10 weeks gestation. Otherwise, she was asymptomatic. She subsequently underwent an emergency midline caesarean hysterectomy for bleeding Placenta Previa Type III posterior.

Intra-operatively, a large cystic mass was found, extending from the right mesocolon up to the base of the liver. Histopathology examination (HPE) from omental biopsy taken from the cystic mass showed mild inflammation. No malignant cells were seen.

Post-partum CT abdomen (portovenous phase) shows a homogenously hypodense right intra-peritoneal mass measuring 13.0 cm in long axis diameter (LAD), with attenuation ranging between -15 to 10 HU (Figure 1). The mass displaces bowel loops to the left side of the abdomen and insinuates around the inferior vena cava (IVC) and the aorto-caval region. No bowel wall infiltration. No intra-mass calcification. No definite enhancing focal area. A similar smaller lesion can also be seen in the pelvis. No bowel dilatation.

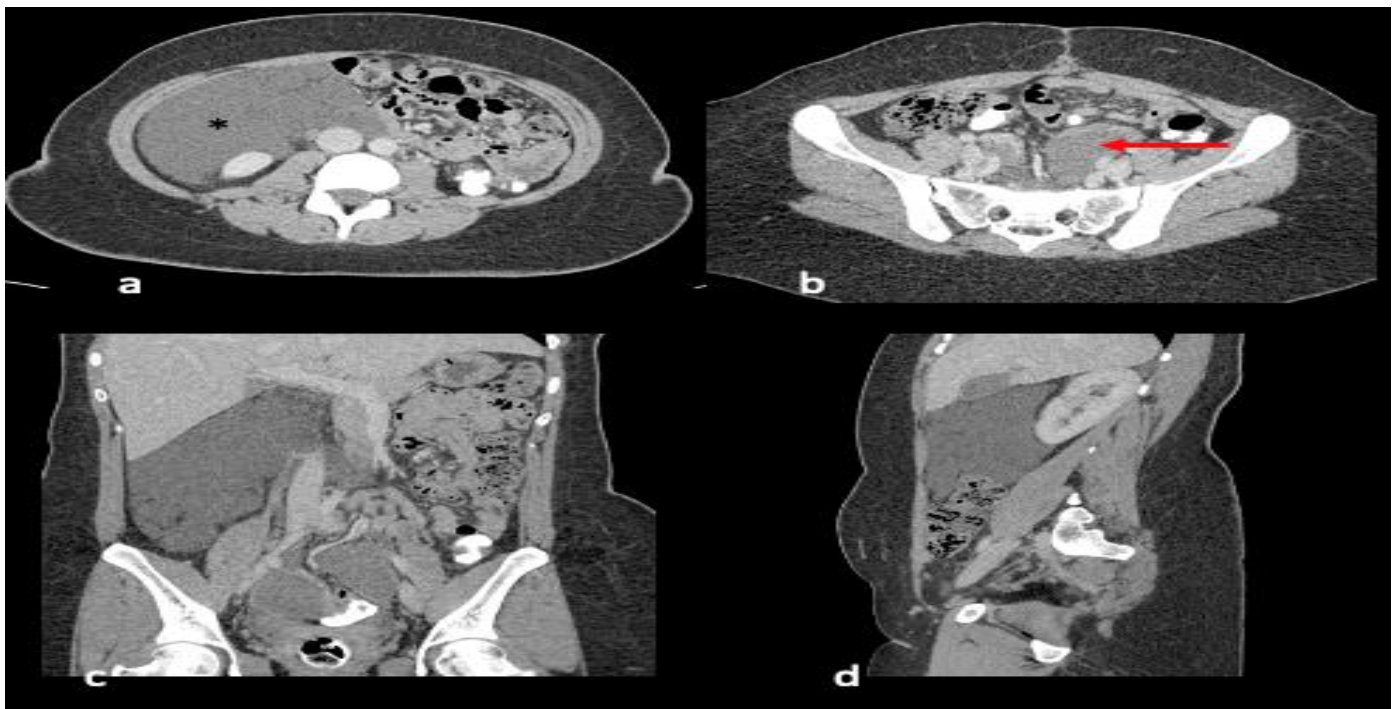


Figure 1: Contrast CT abdomen on portovenous phase shows homogenous hypodense right intra-peritoneal mass (images a, c & d). The mass displaced bowel to the left side of abdomen and insinuate around inferior vena cava (IVC) and aorto-caval region. Smaller similar lesion can also be seen in the pelvis (image “b”: red arrow).

Based on CT images and intraoperative findings, the mass shows no sign of aggressive behaviour, but shows local mass effect to surrounding structures. Differential diagnoses include benign intraperitoneal cysts such as mesenteric cystic lymphangioma or mesenteric cyst. Following a multidisciplinary discussion, the patient was scheduled for debulking of the mass.

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Discussion:

Intra-abdominal mesenteric lymphangioma is a rare and benign condition. It is frequently seen in men, with M/F ratio of 3:1. The aetiology of mesenteric lymphangioma is congenital, with abnormal embryonic development of the lymphatic system causing sequestration of lymphatic tissue. Other possible causes have been suggested, such as secondary to abdominal trauma, lymphatic obstruction, inflammatory process, surgery, and/or radiation therapy¹.

Intra-abdominal lymphangioma is almost always found in the retro-peritoneum, followed by the mesentery. In intra-peritoneal sites, the small bowel mesentery (70%) is the most typical site, with 50–60% of all cysts located in the ileal mesentery.

Typical manifestations are of painless abdominal distension or an abdominal mass, with the latter being often detected incidentally. Our patient was pregnant when she was incidentally diagnosed to have an intra-abdominal cystic lesion. The pregnancy masked the sign of abdominal distension. In addition, she was asymptomatic.

Ultrasound plays a vital role for diagnosis, especially during pregnancy. The lesion usually demonstrates a cystic appearance with multiple thin septa (honeycomb or cobweb pattern), which was seen in our case during antenatal ultrasound. Definitive diagnosis of lymphangioma is based on histopathology and immunochemistry. The lining mesothelial cells are immunoreactive for cytokeratin and negative for factor VIIIIs. Double staining with Prox1 and CD31 is the most reliable method for characterizing lymphangioma endothelial cells.

CT is performed to exclude any signs of malignancy such as enhancing solid component, intra-lesional heterogeneous enhancement or calcification, or bowel wall infiltration where none of these findings was seen in our case. Other than that, CT can exclude the origin of other cystic intraabdominal lesions like ovarian pathology.

Complete surgical excision of the lesion is the treatment of choice for cystic lymphangioma, even if asymptomatic.

Complete surgical excision of the lesion is the treatment of choice for cystic lymphangioma, even if asymptomatic. Surgical enucleation without damage to the bowel's blood supply is also suggested, with the prognosis being generally favourable. However, with a larger tumour size, radical resection becomes more difficult with a high risk of local recurrence.

Summary:

Intra-abdominal mesenteric lymphangioma is a rare and benign entity in adults. Differentiating this entity with malignant lesions is necessary based on ultrasound and CT findings. This will determine the course of treatment for the patient.

References:

- 1 Giovanni Aprea et al. Mesenteric cystic lymphangioma in adult: a case series and review of the literature. BMC Surg. 2013; 13(Suppl 1): A4.
- 2 Gunadi et al. Pediatric patients with mesenteric cystic lymphangioma: A case series. International Journal of Surgery Case reports 64 (2019) 89-93.
- 3 Angela D. Levy. Abdominal lymphangiomas: Imaging features with pathologic correlation. AJR:182, June 2004.

“CHAPTER OF ONCOLOGY (COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGY)”

An update by

Dr Muhammad Azrif bin Ahmad Annuar
President 2018 - 2021
Malaysian Oncological Society (MOS)

Oncology is one of the 3 specialties of the College of Radiology and the “Chapter of Oncology of the College of Radiology” is under the umbrella of the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia.

The Malaysian Oncological Society (MOS) organises CME events in oncology in Malaysia. In contrast, the Chapter of Oncology is mainly involved in representing oncologists in the Academy of Medicine Malaysia in terms of professional accreditation and the National Specialist Register.

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Due to the Covid-19 pandemic since 2020, physical CME events have been curtailed. In fact, the Annual Scientific Congress of the Malaysia Oncological Society that was supposed to have been held in 2020 had to be cancelled due to the MCO. However, MOS did take part in online events over the past two years.

ASCOMOS 2021 was held as a virtual congress from 29th to 31st October 2021. MOS decided to waive the congress registration fees for delegates, and we managed to have more than 2500 registered delegates with more than 70% attendance for the congress. The event went well, the lectures were excellent, the chairpersons did their jobs well, and the Q&A was very stimulating and engaging. The lectures are available in the members' section of the MOS website.



FORGING A NEW FUTURE FOR ONCOLOGY



ASCOMOS 2022 is planned for November 2022 in Kuala Lumpur, and hopefully, it will be a physical congress.

Dr Matin led MOS's efforts in marking World Cancer Day in March 2020 by involving MOH, National Cancer Society Malaysia and various other NGOs in highlighting the problems of managing cancer in Malaysia.



MOS also launched our first social media campaign in early 2021 in raising cervical cancer awareness by engaging social media influencers and collaborating with NCSM, Makna, Women's Aid Organization (WAO), All Women's Action Society (AWAM) and Rose Foundation.



MOS also further expanded and updated the MOS cancer research trial database hosted on the MOS website with the aim of listing all active cancer trials in Malaysia. This was done to help our members identify suitable trials for their patients and to help trial recruitment.

The new MOS website and app was launched at the recent ASCOMOS 2021 as the previous website was more than 10 years old and looked a bit dated. The new website was redesigned to incorporate the updated cancer research trial database and MOS plans to store lectures from MOS CME events in the member's section so that our members can view the lectures that they were not able to attend.

MOS collaborated with the Malaysian Society of Otorhinolaryngologists and Head and Neck Surgeons (MSO-HNS) in organising the 7th Asian Society of Head and Neck Oncology congress held virtually in KL in June 2021.

MOS also collaborated with MCI-India in organising Best of ASCO in July 2021. Best of ASCO was an event that presented the highlights of the American Society of Clinical Oncology Congress 2021 to Malaysian delegates who could not attend ASCO.

MOS's future events will be posted on the MOS website at <https://mymos.my/>.

“MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE & MOLECULAR IMAGING (MSNMMI)”

An update by

Dr Mahayuddin Abdul Manap
Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)
Vice-President, MSNMMI
Vice-President (Nuclear Medicine), College of Radiology

&

Dr Muhammad Adib bin Abdul Onny
Institut Kanser Negara
Assistant Secretary, MSNMMI

The Malaysian Society of Nuclear Medicine & Molecular Imaging (MSNMMI) was established in 2014. It was the culmination of a concerted effort by a group of doctors within the Nuclear Medicine fraternity to set up a singular body that could represent the fraternity in Malaysia.

The mission of this society is to promote the practice of clinical nuclear medicine and enhance the knowledge of its members through conferences and related academic activities.

The mission of this society is to promote the practice of clinical nuclear medicine and enhance the knowledge of its members through conferences and related academic activities. The society membership is open to clinicians, pharmacists, physicists, technologists, radiographers, nurses, or researchers with a particular interest in Nuclear Medicine.

The society's ideals are reflected in its official logo, whereby the three orbital rings and six hexagons



represent teamwork and networking between the various specialities involved in Nuclear Medicine.

Listed below are the objectives of MSNMMI:

1. To establish and maintain an organisation of medical practitioners, scientists and technologists of high standing with a common interest in the scientific and clinical disciplines concerned with the diagnostic, therapeutic and investigational use of radionuclides.
2. To foster meetings of the organisation to communicate and discuss knowledge of Nuclear Medicine and the application of the same in better understanding and control of the disease.
3. To disseminate information concerning Nuclear Medicine by sponsoring scientific and professional publications.
4. To strive to better the welfare of humanity by maintaining and advancing the highest possible standards of education, research, and practice of Nuclear Medicine.
5. To promptly address socio-economic issues and government relations that may significantly affect the quality of education, research, and clinical practice in Nuclear Medicine.

Since its establishment, MSNMMI has been actively involved in various activities, aiming to improve the quality of Nuclear Medicine services through evidence-based medicine and fostering and nurturing interest in scientific activities such as scientific paper writing and organising scientific conferences. MSNMMI main event is the Malaysian Nuclear Medicine Conference, more fondly known as MyNM. Two editions of MyNM were held successfully in 2018 at Sunway Medical Centre and the latest one in 2021 via a virtual platform due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the imposed movement control order (MCO) (Fig 3 - 6). In addition, MSNMMI has also collaborated with the Ministry of Health Malaysia to organise its annual National Conference of Nuclear Medicine and assisted the College of Radiology in preparing for the Malaysian Congress of Radiology.

MSNMMI also works closely with various international partners and institutions to promote Nuclear Medicine services in Malaysia to the global communities. Apart from being a member of the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology (WFNMB) and Asia Oceania Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology (AOFNMB). MSNMMI has a networking collaboration with Trans-Eurasia-Information-Network (TEIN) and Seoul National University Hospital in providing quality webinars and online sharing sessions about evolving technologies and practices in the field of Nuclear Medicine, such as theragnostic radiopharmaceutical development and dosimetry. Additionally, MSNMMI has also worked closely with other clinical organisations, namely Asia Pacific Neuroendocrine Tumour Society (APNETS), Malaysian Endocrine & Metabolic Society (MEMS) & Lung Cancer Network Malaysia (LCNM), as well as various industry partners in the delivery of quality educational programs.

On top of that, MSNMMI has worked hand-in-hand with the Ministry of Health, Malaysia, and other relevant institutions to ensure the continuous improvement and sustainability of Nuclear Medicine services in Malaysia. This is achieved through discussion and dialogue sessions that cover issues like the proposed amendment to the existing fee schedule for Nuclear Medicine diagnostic procedures and therapies, the training and human resource development, especially for doctors, radio-pharmacist and technologists, including the Master of Medicine (Nuclear Medicine) program and participation in quality assurance process such as Quality Management Audit in Nuclear Medicine Practices (QUANTUM) as well as Malaysian Accreditation Organization for Healthcare Facilities and Services (MSQH). MSNMMI has also been actively involved in preparing and harmonising the National Policy on Nuclear Technology (DTNN) 2021-2030.

The field of Nuclear Medicine has evolved from just performing bone scans and delivering radioactive iodine to more elaborate and advanced therapeutic and diagnostic procedures such as PET-CT, quantitative myocardial perfusion scintigraphy, newer radioligand therapies, and internal radiation dosimetry (Fig 7 & 8). Nowadays, Nuclear Medicine plays a more significant role and has an integral part in clinical management, especially in those related oncological conditions like the F-18 FDG PET-CT role in managing lymphoma. Hence, in light of this development, MSNMMI has taken the lead in ensuring the quality of PET-CT procedure and reporting through the publication of the Malaysian Consensus Statement of FDG PET-CT Reporting Format for Lymphoma recently.

All in all, albeit young, MSNMMI has been very active in advocating the improvement of Nuclear Medicine services in Malaysia and collaborating with local and international partners to establish Malaysia as a regional hub for Nuclear Medicine excellence in services, research and training. The future is undoubtedly here to stay, and MSNMMI plans to lead and assist Nuclear Medicine practitioners in this country through these challenging but undoubtedly exciting times.

CURRENT COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR MSNMMI FOR 2021 to 2023.

President	: Assoc Prof Dr Tan Teik Hin Sunway Medical Centre	Vice-President	: Dr Mahayuddin Abdul Manap Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)
Secretary	: Dr Khor Phay Phay Hospital Kuala Lumpur	Asst Secretary	: Dr Muhammad Adib bin Abdul Onny Institut Kanser Negara
Treasurer	: Mohd Borhanuddin bin Hassan Hospital Kuala Lumpur		
Council Members	: Dr Wong Teck Huat Pantai Hospital Kuala Lumpur	Assoc Prof Dr Subapriya Suppiah Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM)	
	Dr Ng Aik Hao Hospital Kuala Lumpur	Lee Ma-Vin Diagnostic Systems Malaysia	
	Haniff Shazwan Muhammad Safwan Selvam Sunway Medical Centre	Mohd Junaidin bin Jasa University Malaya Medical Centre	



“FEE SCHEDULE”

**An update by
Dr Naveen Rajadurai
CoR Radiology Fee Representative at MOH
Vice President-Radiodiagnosis, College of Radiology 2020-2022
Vice President, Malaysian Society of Interventional Radiology 2020-2022**

Amidst the Omicron wave hitting our country recently, we managed to organise a meeting with Bahagian Amalan Perubatan, Ministry of Health Malaysia, for an update on the new fee schedule. Dr Harshinder Singh, Penolong Pengarah, Bahagian Amalan Perubatan obliged the meeting which was held on 15 Jan 2022 at KPJ Damansara Specialist Hospital. The CoR President, Prof Dr Norlisah Ramli and representatives from major private attended.

At this meeting, it was clarified that whatever procedures already present in the 13th fee schedule would be maintained. For procedures not available in the 13th fee schedule, the radiologists can utilise the MMA 5th edition. The amended 13th fee schedule will be submitted to the Attorney Generals’ Chambers when has been proofread by the Ministry of Health officials and radiology representatives. This process is expected to last the entire 2022.

We also brought up issues regarding on-call reporting charges for plain radiographs and how insurance companies are requesting urgent reporting past midnight as a requirement before patient admission. Dr Harshinder acknowledged this and has volunteered to organise an online meeting between the College of Radiology and the insurance stakeholders/PIAM. KKM will be the gatekeeper to iron out these issues.

We also brought up the on-call charges for bedside procedures. When asked to attend to a patient in the hospital, we proposed a consultation fee, being a fair remuneration for the radiologists. Dr Harshinder requested the College of Radiology to submit justification and reasoning for this request for KKM to consider.

Regarding Telehealth and teleradiology practice in Malaysia for home reporting services by radiologists, Dr Harshinder clarified that the Telehealth services division had been set up, and they will address these issues. The Division is coming up with policies regarding Telehealth services encompassing radiology and pathology services. Cor has come up with a statement regarding Teleradiology and will engage this Division.

We also brought up issues regarding some private hospitals' official working hours, insisting radiologists work extended working hours without claiming on-call fees for their services. Dr Harshinder clarified that official working hours for hospital services are Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm as following the 13th Schedule. However, he says some private hospitals practice Saturday from 8am to 1pm as official working hours. Insurance companies are supposed to recognise these hours as official working hours. However, consultants need to review their contracts with their particular hospital to clarify the official working hours agreed upon.



We also proposed admission rights for radiologists doing procedures. Some patients are referred to radiologists for interventional procedures, i.e. biopsies and ablation, where under insurance coverage needs admission of these patients. Dr Harshinder understood this new requirement and requested CoR to write to KKM to clarify the procedures and interventions that radiologists regularly carry out independently and enclose guidelines. If necessary, radiologists should include other clinicians in managing complex cases

We sincerely thank the representatives who attended this meet up session and hope that with the College of Radiology’s warm relationship with Ministry of Health officials and engagement by our members, we will address all the grouses of our members and improve our service to our patients. Stay safe and take care.
