



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

Atoms for Peace and Development

International Conference on Molecular Imaging and Clinical PET–CT in the Era of Theranostics (IPET-2020)

IAEA Headquarters

Vienna, Austria

23–27 November 2020

Organized by the

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Announcement and Call for Papers

A. Background

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is organizing the International Conference on Molecular Imaging and Clinical PET–CT in the Era of Theranostics (IPET-2020) following the successes of IPET-2007, IPET-2011, and IPET-2015. Innovation in research and development is a driving force in

medical imaging. New imaging devices, radiopharmaceuticals, clinical applications and medical evidence are being produced at a fast pace and need to be propagated. New standards of best practice should be emphasized, and all efforts should be made to keep the medical community abreast with current developments in order to provide optimal patient care and professional growth.

Nuclear medicine and diagnostic imaging play a key role in cancer management. They permit early and accurate diagnoses and precise staging, provide guidelines for selecting the best course of therapy, allowing the treatment to be monitored, and further aid disease management by supporting treatment planning or guided biopsies.

Radiopharmaceuticals labelled with alpha or beta emitters, targeting relevant molecular markers expressed by different solid and haematological tumours can be used for radionuclide targeted therapies. Medical imaging and radionuclide therapies, together, help herald in the era of personalized medicine.

This conference will provide a forum for clinicians, imaging specialists and scientists to review the important clinical aspects of cancer management. It will critically examine the pivotal role of multimodality imaging techniques, combined with targeted therapies with a view to addressing the health challenges common to many Member States.

In addition, special sessions on ethics, leadership, communication, Sustainable Development Goals, radiopharmacy, and medical physics will provide opportunities for participants to review the theoretical tools necessary to bring together nuclear medicine and diagnostic imaging within the sphere of global health.

B. Objectives

The conference will review important clinical aspects, and the appropriate use, of medical imaging in managing patients with cancers of the prostate, breast, lung, and thyroid, as well as patients with neuroendocrine tumours, lymphoma, and paediatric cancers. The conference will have the following objectives:

- To review the important clinical aspects of the above-mentioned pathologies, and evaluate the role of streamlined and emerging multimodality imaging techniques in providing best practices in clinical management;
- To evaluate, using a clinical systems-based approach, the current status of clinical positron emission tomography–computed tomography (PET–CT) and other relevant imaging modalities;
- To evaluate how complementing diagnostic molecular imaging and radionuclide therapies is key to developing personalized medicine;
- To improve clinical practice through ‘read with the experts’ sessions and discussions;
- To interact with the user community (nuclear physicians, radiologists, oncologists, radiation oncologists, technologists, radiographers, radiopharmacists, radiochemists, medical physicists and

other scientists working in all aspects of molecular imaging) and provide them with the most important information in the field;

- To provide theoretical tools on ethics, leadership and education which will prepare participants to become the future leaders of medical imaging;
- To exchange information concerning radiopharmaceutical sciences; and
- To identify challenges and trends and to define the role of the IAEA and other international organizations in supporting Member States.

C. Structure and Topics

Every session will follow a clinical systems-based approach and will include an initial discussion on the important clinical aspects of the disease, or condition, to which the session is devoted. The discussion will be followed by a thorough review of the role of nuclear medicine and diagnostic imaging and the session will conclude with the status of theranostic applications. Each clinical session will be comprised of plenary sessions followed by an interactive ‘read with the experts’ session. Sessions for physicists, technologists, radiographers, radiopharmacists and radiochemists will be conducted in parallel.

The IAEA invites participants to provide high-quality contributions on all aspects of nuclear medicine, diagnostic imaging, or theranostic applications and research. Academic and practice-based papers that fall within the following topics will be welcomed:

- Applications of PET–CT, molecular imaging and diagnostic imaging for different types of cancer: breast, lung, colorectal, prostate, neuroendocrine, thyroid, etc.;
- Theranostics applications;
- Radio-guided surgery;
- Hybrid imaging and other imaging techniques in benign conditions;
- Dosimetry, physics and instrumentation;
- Radiopharmaceutical production, including good manufacturing practices and quality assurance;
- Radiation protection for personnel and patients;
- Quality management in nuclear medicine and diagnostic imaging;
- Ethics, leadership and education for nuclear medicine and diagnostic imaging professionals; and
- Experience in establishing or strengthening nuclear medicine, diagnostic imaging or radionuclide therapy facilities, including related technical cooperation projects.

D. Target Audience

This conference will provide the opportunity to review the latest developments in the field of nuclear medicine, diagnostic imaging and theranostics. The target audience is:

- Nuclear medicine physicians;
- Radiologists;
- Technologists and radiographers;
- Medical physicists;
- Radiochemists and radiopharmacists; and
- Other scientists working in all aspects of molecular imaging.

E. Expected Outcomes

The conference will provide an international forum for clinicians, scientists and professionals to review the latest developments in all aspects of nuclear medicine, diagnostic imaging and theranostics, with a view to addressing the health challenges that are common to many IAEA Member States.

F. Abstracts, Poster Presentations and Proceedings

All papers — other than invited keynote 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 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 Programme Committee to evaluate it. Introductory and general matters should not be included. The accepted abstracts will be reproduced in unedited form in the electronic Compilation of Abstracts which will be distributed to all participants at the conference.

F.1 Submission of Abstracts

Anyone wishing to present a poster at the conference must submit an abstract **in electronic format** (no hard copies) directly to the IAEA. Instructions on how to upload the abstracts to the conference's web browser-based file submission system (IAEA-INDICO) will be available on the conference web page (see Section P). The abstracts **must** be submitted through this system by **27 April 2020**. No other form of submission will be accepted.

The submission of the abstract should indicate to which of the topics outlined in Section C it relates, and the abstract content should be structured accordingly:

- Background of the study;
- Methodology;
- Results; and
- Conclusion.

The abstract:

- should be a maximum of 500 words (including title);
- should not include more than one figure, graph or table;
- should not include references; and
- must be written and submitted using the abstract template on the conference web page (see Section P).

In addition, authors must submit the following two forms to their competent national authority (see Section G) for transmission to the IAEA. These forms must be received by the IAEA no later than **27 April 2020**:

- Participation Form (Form A); and
- Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B).

IMPORTANT: The abstracts will be considered by the Programme Committee only if these two forms have been received by the IAEA through the established official channels (see Section G).

Authors should state to which of the topics outlined in Section C their contribution relates.

Accepted abstracts will be displayed in electronic form using a maximum of three Power Point slides

F.2 Acceptance of Abstracts for Poster Presentations

The Secretariat reserves the right to exclude papers that do not comply with its quality standards and do not apply to any of the topics in Section C.

Authors will be informed if their abstracts have been accepted for poster presentation **by the end of May 2020**. The abstracts, if accepted by the Programme Committee, will also be reproduced unedited in the electronic Compilation of Abstracts, which will be distributed to all participants at the conference.

F.3 Proceedings

Following the conference, the IAEA will publish a report containing summaries of the plenary and technical sessions. The report will be made freely available in electronic format.

G. Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the conference must be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be members of organizations that have been invited to attend. The list of invited organizations can be requested from the Conference Secretariat (see Section O).

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State, participants are requested to send the following form(s), (as applicable), to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority):

- Participation Form (Form A): participation only; no deadline if only Form A is submitted.
- Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B): participants submitting a paper through INDICO must send the completed and signed Form B together with Form A to their competent national authority for onward transmission to the IAEA (Official.Mail@iaea.org) by **27 April 2020**.
- Grant Application Form (Form C): participants requesting financial support from the IAEA, must complete Form C and send it together with Form A (and Form B, if applicable) to the competent national authority for onward transmission to the IAEA (Official.Mail@iaea.org) by **27 April 2020**. Form C must be stamped and signed by the competent national authority.

Participants who are members of an organization invited to attend are requested to send the above form(s) through their organization to the IAEA (Official.Mail@iaea.org).

In addition, participants are requested to pre-register online through the IAEA web page for the conference.

H. Expenditures and Grants

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the conference. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help cover the cost of attendance of certain participants. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA's view, the participant will make an important contribution to the conference.

If Governments wish to apply for a grant on behalf of one of their participants, the Participation Form (Form A) and the Grant Application Form (Form C), stamped and signed by the Government, must reach the IAEA (Official.Mail@iaea.org) by **27 April 2020**.

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 electronic Compilation 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: IPET2020@iaea.org by **27 April 2020**.

K. Working Language

The working language of the conference will be English. All communication and papers must be sent to the IAEA in English.

L. Conference Venue and Accommodation

The conference will be held at the Vienna International Centre, where the IAEA's Headquarters are located. Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. Hotels offering a reduced rate for conference participants are listed on <https://www.iaea.org/events>. 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-booking and no shows.

M. Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria as early as 3 months, but not later than four weeks, before their travel. Since Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring 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.

For more information, please see the Austria Visa Information on <https://www.iaea.org/events>.

N. Key Deadlines

Submission of abstract through IAEA-INDICO	27 April 2020
Submission of Form B (together with Form A) through official channels	27 April 2020
Submission of Form C (together with Form A) through official channels	27 April 2020
Notification of acceptance of abstracts	End of May 2020
Submission of Form A only (no paper submission, no grant request)	no deadline

O. Conference Secretariat

General contact details of the Conference Secretariat:

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

P. Conference Web Page

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

<https://www.iaea.org/events/IPET-2020>