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國際原子能机构
International Atomic Energy Agency
Agence Internationale de l'énergie atomique
Международное агентство по атомной энергии
Organismo Internacional de Energía Atómica

National Liaison Officer

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In reply please refer to: **C7-RER/6/035/008**
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2016-04-19

Subject: Invitation to a Regional Training Course on Neuroimaging, Ljubljana, Slovenia,
5-8 September 2016.

6-9

Dear National Liaison Officer,

I am pleased to invite you to send nominations of suitable candidates to participate in the above-mentioned training course under the framework of TC Project RER/6/035 – Strengthening Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography/Computed Tomography (SPECT/CT) and Positron Emission Tomography (PET/CT) Hybrid Imaging Applications for Diagnosis of Chronic Diseases, including Cancer. The purpose of the training course and related information are outlined in the attached Prospectus.

For candidates who are selected by the IAEA, the IAEA will cover the cost of return international travel from the home country to Ljubljana, Slovenia and provide a stipend for the duration of the training course in line with IAEA rules and procedures.

Please submit nominations to the IAEA online through the Technical Cooperation Department's InTouch system (<http://intouch.iaea.org>). Only if this is not possible, nominations may be submitted on the Nomination Form for Training Course available on the IAEA website: <http://www.iaea.org/technicalcooperation/How-to-take-part/train-course/index.html>. Completed forms should be endorsed by relevant national authorities and sent to the Programme Management Officer for this project, Ms Mayumi Yamamoto (IAEA Official Fax: +43-1-26007 or E-Mail Official.Mail@iaea.org), through the official channels, i.e. the designated National Liaison Office for IAEA matters, not later than **3 June 2016**.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Krause
Director
Division for Europe
Department of Technical Cooperation

Enclosure: Prospectus

International Atomic Energy Agency

Regional Training Course on Neuroimaging

PROSPECTUS

- Project Number & Title:** RER/6/035 Strengthening Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography/Computed Tomography (SPECT/CT) and Positron Emission Tomography (PET/CT) Hybrid Imaging Applications for Diagnosis of Chronic Disease, including Cancer.
- Place(City, Country):** Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Dates:** ~~5-8~~ September 2016
6-9
- Deadline for Nominations:** 3 June 2016
- Organizers:** The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in cooperation with the Government of Slovenia through the University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- Host Country Organizer:** Dr Maja Trošt
Department of Neurology
Ljubljana University Medical Centre
Zaloška 2
1525 Ljubljana, Slovenia
0038631317337
0038615682869
E-Mail: maja.trost@kclj.si
- Language:** English
- Purpose:** The objectives of this training course are to:
- provide participants with the most recent update on the use of PET/CT (FDG and non-FDG) and SPECT/CT in neurological diseases. This training course will enable the participants towards clinical indications for each procedure and appropriate image interpretation through read with expert sessions.
 - familiarize nuclear medicine physicians and neurologists or relevant counterpart with the current status of brain SPECT and PET imaging. The program focuses on established clinical applications covering cerebrovascular disease, epilepsy, brain tumours, dementia and movement disorders.

- review and update the current protocols on brain SPECT/CT and PET/CT imaging focusing on dose optimization and appropriateness criteria, including radiopharmaceutical and imaging modality choice. These include parameters such as clinical indications, scan interpretation, patient positioning, radiopharmaceutical choice and dosimetry.
- review on image interpretations, protocol applications and processing.

Expected Outputs:

The expected outputs include:

- (1) Improved clinical practice in terms of appropriate application of brain imaging (neurology) using SPECT/CT and PET/CT nuclear medicine techniques.
- (2) Updated protocols on brain imaging using nuclear medicine techniques, focusing on dose optimization and appropriateness criteria, including radiopharmaceutical and imaging modality choice, highlighting IAEA and international guidelines.

Scope and Nature:

Review and assess the current status and role of nuclear medicine techniques in the diagnosis and clinical management of neurological diseases in Eastern Europe region. This training course focuses on role of SPECT/CT and PET/CT (FDG and non-FDG) in brain imaging.

Background Information:

There is a growing awareness among IAEA Member States about the enormous magnitude of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), particularly, in developing countries. Currently, chronic diseases claim more than 35 million lives each year and account for more than 60% of all deaths worldwide. This figure includes 16 million premature deaths involving people under the age of 70. The World Health Organization (WHO) projects that the burden of NCDs will continue to increase by a further 17 per cent over the next 10 years, most markedly in Low and Middle Income (LMI) countries. To ensure cost-effective and successful therapeutic treatments, patients affected by NCDs, not only cancer patients but also cardiac, renal thyroid patients; need to be early diagnosed. Nuclear Medicine is an area of medical imaging using radionuclides, which plays an important role in many diseases, and in the case of cancer and cardiovascular diseases, new techniques, such as positron emission tomography (PET) and Single-Photon Emission Computed Tomography (SPECT), have become extremely important, because they allow for the visualization of organ activity and detection of early stage diseases. All Eastern European Member States have conventional and basic nuclear medicine facilities in place and most have recently embarked on the introduction of hybrid nuclear modalities (SPECT-CT and PET/CT). However, some of these States have inadequate nuclear medicine capabilities as the base of practitioners with solid training is rather limited. Consequently; the nuclear medicine services in the Eastern European Member States will definitely need vital support in human capacity development in order to meet and cope with the demand for such services.

Therefore, this project is expected to stimulate regional cooperation among the nuclear medicine facilities and will contribute to strengthening the nuclear medicine capacity in the region.

Participation: The training course is open to a maximum of 25 participants from countries that participate in the RER/6/035 project and need assistance in training staff on neuroimaging.

The target countries are: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

Participants' Qualification: The nominees should be qualified nuclear medicine physicians and neurologists. Candidates should be working currently in Nuclear Medicine or Neurology departments, with strong commitment to provide hybrid imaging services.

Nominations of radiologists who wish to have exposure to nuclear medicine applications with a view of implementing in their practices are also acceptable.

Nomination Procedure: Nominations should be submitted to the IAEA online through the Technical Cooperation Department's InTouch system (<http://intouch.iaea.org>). Should this not be possible, nominations may be submitted on the standard IAEA Nomination Form for Training Courses (available from the IAEA website: <http://www.iaea.org>). Completed forms should be endorsed by the relevant national authorities and returned to the Agency through the normal official channels, i.e. the designated National Liaison Office for IAEA matters.

The completed nomination forms should be sent to the Programme Management Officer for this project, Ms Mayumi Yamamoto, through IAEA Official Fax (+43-1-26007) or E-Mail (Official.Mail@iaea.org), not later than 3 June 2016. Nominations received after this date or which have not been routed through the established official channels cannot be considered.

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 of 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 Ljubljana, Slovenia, and a stipend sufficient to cover the cost of their accommodation, food and minor incidentals. Shipment of accumulated training course materials to the participants' home countries is not the responsibility of the IAEA.

The organizers of the training course 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.