The Institute of Medicine’s publications “To Err is Human” and “Crossing the Quality Chasm” began a cascade of safety and quality initiatives that continues today. It is only natural that since Radiology places a central role in patient care that many of these changes have or will affect us daily.

I can recall 5 years ago the novelty of the “safety pause.” It’s become such an ingrained part of me now that I even pause before deciding to “sign” or “send to editor!” It used to be adequate to know the patient’s creatinine. Five years ago, I wouldn’t have been able to define the eGFR but we now calculate it on every patient before administering contrast in CT or MR.

This past year there have been many front page articles in the lay press on radiation safety. It has become common for patients to inquire about the risk and benefits of procedures using ionizing radiation. Several recent articles even suggest that informed consent might need to be obtained before imaging.

One of the roles of the ASHNR president is to build relationships with other imaging societies and to represent the ASHNR. The emphasis at several of these meetings for the last few years has been on quality and patient safety and that emphasis will continue this summer. This brief message has two purposes. First, to inform ASHNR members of these initiatives; secondly, to allow the ASHNR membership an opportunity for input to mold and shape these initiatives.

This year’s ACR Intersociety Summer Conference will be held in late July. The program, “Ensuring Patient Safety,” reflects the desire to perform imaging examinations in a safe manner while still providing diagnostic information. Specific safety topics will include the safe use of contrast agents, minimizing radiation dose, avoiding imaging labeling errors and MR safety.

One can expect that ACR “standards” will evolve out of this meeting.

In early August the ABR will hold a Maintenance of Certification and Practice Quality Improvement Summit. The purpose is to develop radiation safety-related Practice Quality Improvement projects.

This June, the RSNA is initiating a consensus process involving committees of clinical experts to create best-practices templates for radiology reports based on standard terminology. Before embarking on this process, the RSNA intends to propose a standard format in which these reports will be stored, transmitted, and rendered.

These meetings bring to mind recurring challenges and questions. How is quality to be defined? Should there be standards for image interpretation? Can outcomes be improved while emphasizing meaningless process measurements? How will productivity be...
On page 3 of this issue of ASHNR News, you will find a listing of the head and neck programming to be presented at the NER Foundation Symposium 2008 and ASNR 46th Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana May 31-June 5, 2008. On page 6, you will find further information about Toronto, the host city for the ASHNR 42nd Annual Meeting, September 10-14, 2008 to allow you to best plan for and enjoy the city and all that it has to offer.

In the Fall 2007 issue of this newsletter, I previewed the ASHNR 42nd Annual Meeting and our host hotel, The Hilton Toronto (www.toronto.hilton.com). Since that time, we have confirmed our speakers and program, continuing the trend toward increased interactivity, including more extensive Panel Discussions, Case Review Sessions and Case of the Day presentations. Realizing that many registrants/faculty may need to arrive on Tuesday evening in order to be present for the Wednesday early afternoon start, we have organized an informal Early Bird Temporal Bone Study Club for 10:45am on Wednesday morning September 10, 2008. If you can attend this special session, you are encouraged to bring your interesting cases on USB or CD for easy downloading (no hard copy film). For more details, visit the ASHNR website (www.ashnr.org) to view the program schedule and the meeting registration brochure, and to reserve your hotel room now via a direct link to the Hilton Toronto, thanks to the efforts of Richard Wiggins and the website team. I encourage everyone to get hotel registrations in early—the hotel will sell out for sure. The complete program schedule will also be presented in the Summer 2008 issue of ASHNR News as a final reminder.

The ASHNR has kept the meeting registration fees unchanged since 2005, despite increasing costs and a program this year expected to be approved for 33.25 hours of CME. This year’s program offers an additional 5 hours (including the Study Club) more than the previous programs. The deadline for submission of scientific papers and educational exhibit abstracts is July 15, 2008. To allow the most appropriate feedback on submissions at the earliest possible time, the assigned committee has agreed to review submissions at regular intervals, with early submissions offering the potential advantage of early acceptance. The Call for Abstracts Form will soon be available on the ASHNR website as well as in the registration brochure to be mailed out shortly.

Meeting registration payments should be directed to the ASHNR 42nd Annual Meeting, P.O. Box 380, Springville, Alabama 35146. For more information, contact Ron Ryals, Ryals and Associates, Inc. at 205-467-3158 ext. 103 or ron@ryalsmeet.com. In addition, Ken Cammarata, ASHNR Business Manager (kcammarata@asnrg.org or 630-574-0220, ext. 226) and I (ekassel@mtsniain.on.ca or 416-586-4800, ext 5959#) are available to assist or direct your enquiries. We look forward to seeing you in New Orleans in May-June and in Toronto in September.

The January 2008 issue of RSNA News included articles featuring two ASHNR members.

The “People In The News” section featured Katherine A. Shaffer, M.D. from Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital in Milwaukee, Wisconsin who received the Marie Sklodowska-Curie Award given by the American Association for Women Radiologists. This award was presented to Dr. Shaffer at the AAWR luncheon during RSNA 2007. The Marie Sklodowska-Curie Award is presented annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of radiology.

In the same section it was also mentioned that Christine M. Glastonbury, M.B.B.S. from the University of California, San Francisco was presented with the 2007 AAWR Early-Career Award from the AAWR Research & Education Foundation. This award is presented to an individual who is working toward a position of leadership within academic medicine.
# Head and Neck Radiology Programming at NER Foundation Symposium 2008 and ASNR 46th Annual Meeting

Following is the head and neck radiology portion of the scientific program schedule at the NER Foundation Symposium 2008 and ASNR 46th Annual Meeting.

## NER Foundation Symposium 2008 – Emergency Neuroradiology

**Sunday, June 1, 2008**

7:40am-9:40am  
*Head and Neck Emergencies*  
Moderator: Suresh K. Mukherji, MD

7:40am-8:05am  
*Orbital-Ocular Emergencies* – Kristine M. Mosier, DMD, PhD

8:05am-8:45am  
*Head and Neck (ENT) Emergencies* – Suresh K. Mukherji, MD

8:45am-9:00am  
*Pediatric Temporal Bone Emergencies* – Susan I. Blaser, MD

9:00am-9:40am  
*Craniofacial Trauma and Post-Traumatic Deformities—What the Surgeon Needs to Know and Why?*  
– Oleh Antonyshyn, MD, FRCSC

## ASNR 46th Annual Meeting

**Monday, June 2, 2008**

1:30pm-3:00pm  
*Neoplastic Diseases in the Head and Neck- Self-Assessment Module (SAM) (AR+)*  
Moderator: Laurie A. Loevner, MD

1:30pm-2:00pm  
*Nasopharynx: Anatomy and Patterns of Cancer Spread* – Nancy J. Fischbein, MD

2:00pm-2:30pm  
*The Larynx: Anatomy and Patterns of Cancer Spread* – Laurie A. Loevner, MD

2:30pm-3:00pm  
*Head and Neck Neoplasms in Children* – Caroline D. Robson, MB, ChB

3:30pm-5:00pm  
*Parallel Scientific Papers*  
Head and Neck: Orbital, Faces and New Techniques

5:00pm-6:30pm  
*Skull Base and Cranial Nerves*  
Moderator – Wendy R.K. Smoker, MD

5:00pm-5:30pm  
*The Pediatric Skull Base* – Gary L. Hedlund, DO

5:30pm-6:00pm  
*The Patient Presenting with a Motor Cranial Neuropathy* – Wendy R.K. Smoker, MD

6:00pm-6:30pm  
*Complex Cranial Neuropathies: The Intersection of Anatomy and Pathology*  
– Christine M. Glastonbury, MBBS

**Tuesday, June 3, 2008**

7:45am-8:45am  
*Maintenance of Certification (MOC)-ENT and Adult Spine Review Session (AR+)*  
Moderator: Christine M. Glastonbury, MBBS

7:45am-8:15am  
*ENT* – Christine M. Glastonbury, MBBS

3:30pm-5:00pm  
*Parallel Scientific Papers*  
Head and Neck: Pharynx, Larynx, Soft Tissue, Sinonasal and Other

5:00pm- 6:30pm  
*Pitfalls and Challenges in Head and Neck*  
Moderator: Edward E. Kassel, MD

5:00pm- 5:35pm  
*Pitfalls in CT/PET* – Peter M. Som, MD

5:35pm- 6:05pm  
*Challenges in Imaging the Post-Treatment Head and Neck Oncology Patient*  
– Lawrence E. Ginsberg, MD

6:05pm- 6:30pm  
*Pitfalls in Sinonasal Imaging* – Edward E. Kassel, MD

**Wednesday, June 4, 2008**

1:15pm-2:00pm  
*Post-Operative Neck* – Lawrence E. Ginsberg, MD

**Thursday, June 5, 2008**

1:30pm-3:00pm  
*General Session: How I do it… Thyroid Lesions and Venous Thrombosis*  
Moderator: Laurie A. Loevner, MD

1:30pm-2:15pm  
*How I Deal With Thyroid Lesions* – Laurie A. Loevner, MD
A number of high-quality scientific papers and educational exhibits were presented at the ASHNR 41st Annual Meeting held September 26–30, 2007, in Seattle, Washington. Congratulations to the award recipients and to everyone who submitted presentations.

Radiologist-in-Training Award

Nila H. Alsheik, MD

Maxillofacial Trauma Presenting to a Level 1 Trauma Center: Imaging Findings, Classification, and Complications in 1,000 Consecutive Patients

University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinic, Madison, Wisconsin

Educational Exhibit Awards

First Place

M Kang, MD; E Escott, MD; W Rothfus, MD; A Kassam, MD

MRI Appearance of Vascular Pedicle Nasoseptal Flap

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Second Place

A Khorsandi, MD; P Kang, MD; JE Silberzweig, MD; M Ghesani, MD; V Maccarrone, MD; RA Holliday, MD

All That Glitters Is Not Gold: Pitfalls in PET/CT Scanning of the Extracranial Head and Neck

Beth Israel Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, New York

Third Place

JJ Baima, MD; WRK Smoker, MD; LR Gentry, MD; MA Michel, MD; DR Reede, MD

Don’t Talk With Your Mouth Full (of Your Tongue): Causes of Macroglossia

University of Iowa Hospitals, Iowa City, Iowa

Message From the President continued from page 1

affected? What will be the incentive for compliance – a carrot or a stick?

Before attending these meetings I would like to hear from you. What are your concerns? What safety initiatives have you developed in your practices that aren’t “common knowledge?” What would you like the leadership of the ACR, ABR and RSNA to know? Feel free to email me at Larsontlmm@msn.com.
The ASHNR wishes to acknowledge and thank the following members who have contributed to the ASHNR Core Curriculum Fund from November 1, 2007 through April 15, 2008. The funds collected will be used by the Society to provide quality benefits and educational programs.

To make a tax deductible donation to the fund, please send your check, made payable to the ASHNR Core Curriculum Fund, to: ASHNR Core Curriculum Fund, 2210 Midwest Road, Suite 207, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523-8205.

Members Demonstrate Support by Contributing to Core Curriculum Fund

The following eight Active members and thirteen In-Training members joined the Society since the 41st Annual Meeting in Seattle in September 2007.

**Active**

Michael D. Baker  
Wake Forest University  
Baptist Medical Center  
Winston-Salem, NC

Scott D. Didier  
MSIT-Baptist Memorial Hospital  
Memphis, TN

John K. Hopkins  
Los Angeles, CA

Puneet S. Pawha  
Yale University School of Medicine  
New Haven, CT

Varadareddy T. Reddy  
Golder C.A.T. Scan and MRI Center  
Odessa, TX

Reuben Rock  
Jefferson Radiology  
Hartford, CT

Komal B. Shah  
UTMD Anderson Cancer Center  
Houston, TX

Fernando H. Duran, MD  
Lawrence E. Ginsberg, MD  
Julian P.N. Goh, MBBS  
Roy A. Holliday, MD  
Patricia A. Hudgins, MD  
Edward E. Kassel, MD  
Bernadette L. Koch, MD  
Timothy L. Larson, MD

Laurie A. Loevner, MD  
Alexander S. Mark, MD  
Michelle A. Michel, MD  
C. Douglas Phillips, MD  
Justo Rodriguez, MD  
Bradley S. Strimling, MD  
Ellen K. Tabor, MD  
Lorna S. Williams, MD

**In-Training**

Avanti Ambekar  
University of California, San Francisco  
San Francisco, CA

Brenton L. Harris  
University of Iowa  
Iowa City, IA

Vaios Hatzoglou  
Beth Israel Medical Center  
New York, NY

Howard S.H. Liu  
Yale New-Haven Hospital  
New Haven, CT

Kevin T. Ng  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Ellen Parker  
University of California, San Francisco  
San Francisco, CA

Eric A. Roberge  
Madigan Army Medical Center  
Tacoma, WA

Kara M. Schwartz  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, MN

Rathan M. Subramaniam  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, MN

Huy (Brandon) Tran  
Brigham and Women’s Hospital  
Boston, MA

Eric Wandler  
Beth Israel Medical Center  
New York, NY

Robert Yeung  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Toronto, Canada’s most populous city (5th largest in North America) and the world’s most multicultural city, sparkles with exciting museums, interesting neighborhoods, good theaters, and a lively waterfront. The temperature in September is ideal for daily strolls. Exploring the nearby neighborhoods by foot or public transit is safe. Visit boutiques and cafes along Queen Street West, or Front Street East to St Lawrence Market, or the Distillery District. Travel to the lakefront and Queen’s Quay shops and jogging paths, or take a boat trip to Toronto Island parks. Walk a few blocks to the huge Eaton Centre shopping complex, or take a 2-minute subway ride to the Bloor-Yorkville shops and restaurants, as well as to the museums. The city’s cultural diversity is just around the corner-Chinatown, Greektown and Little Italy.

The theatre and financial districts are adjacent to the Hilton Toronto, as are the CN Tower and major sports and entertainment venues. The city offers depth and quality in its theatre and sports entertainment options, but the city’s greatest strength is its local neighborhoods and inner city vitality with unique shopping and dining establishments. In addition, the acclaimed Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), the most successful public film festival in the world, will coincide with our annual meeting dates (September 10-14, 2008), greatly augmenting your entertainment and star-gazing options. Bring a camera— you never know!

**Major Downtown Tourist Attractions**

These include the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) (www.ago.net); the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) (www.rom.on.ca); and its new Michael Lee-Chin Crystal; Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, located one-half block from the ROM, (www.gardinermuseum.on.ca); the Bata Shoe Museum, one of the world’s finest, (www.batashoemuseum.com); Textile Museum of Canada (TMC), one of only eight worldwide; CN Tower, Toronto’s tallest and most defining landmark (http://www.cttower.ca); and the Hockey Hall of Fame, which contains an outstanding combination of treasured artifacts, multi-media exhibits, and interactive games. Try your slapshot, assess your goalie skills, or your play-by-play broadcasting abilities (http://www.hhof.com.)

**Arts and Entertainment**

Toronto is the undisputed entertainment capital of Canada, offering lavish Broadway-style musicals, traveling road shows, classical concerts, comedy clubs, and sporting venues, all located in the downtown area. Rogers Centre (formerly the SkyDome) is the home of the Toronto Blue Jays of major league baseball and offers an excellent one-hour, behind-the-scenes guided tour of the facility (http://www.rogerscentre.com.) Air Canada Centre is the relatively new home of the Toronto Maple Leafs of the National Hockey League, and the Toronto Rock of the National Lacrosse League as well as concerts by famous individual entertainers and musical groups/bands (http://www.aircanada-centre.com.)

**Four Seasons Centre for Performing Arts**

Located directly across the street from the Hilton Toronto Hotel, The Four Seasons Centre, a world-class facility recently completed in 2007, was built specifically for opera and ballet performances and is home to the Canadian Opera Company. Hour-long tours provide the opportunity to show its architecture and innovative acoustic design, the unique glass system used on the facades, the remarkable engineering for the world’s longest suspended glass staircase and the phenomenal advancements in modern engineering and acoustic design that went into creating the horseshoe-shaped European style auditorium.

**Concert Halls**

These include the Roy Thompson Hall and Massey Hall (www.toronto-theatre.com) and the Sony Centre for Performing Arts (http://www.sonycentre.ca.)

**Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF)**

Now in its 32nd year, TIFF is widely recognized as the most important film festival after Cannes, and is the most successful public film festival in the world, and the dominant North American Film festival. The festival dates coincide with our meeting dates, creating an exciting time to be in Toronto. The 2007 Festival screened 349 films over ten days (http://www.tiff08.ca/)
The following theatres are within a few minutes walk from the Hotel:

Royal Alexandra Theatre
(Broadway Hits)
260 King St. West, Toronto ON
M5V 1H9
Box office: (416) 872-1212
or 1-800-461-3333
(The Royal Alexandra is the oldest operating theatre in North America)

Princess of Wales Theatre
(Musicals)
300 King St. West, Toronto ON
M5V 1J2
Box office: (416) 872-1212
or 1-800-461-3333

Canon Theatre
(Broadway Hits)
244 Victoria St., Toronto ON
M5B 1V8
Box office: (416) 872-1212
or 1-800-461-3333

The Second City
(Comedy)
51 Mercer St., Toronto ON
M5V 9G9
Box office: (416) 343-0011

Murder Mystery Toronto.com
55 John St., Toronto ON
Box office: (416) 397-7173

Major Toronto attractions more distant within the city include: The Ontario Science Centre, The Toronto Zoo, Ontario Place (a lakefront entertainment and playground complex) and, just north of the city, the McMichael Art Gallery, featuring Canada’s Group of Seven artists, and Canada’s Wonderland.

Niagara Falls
Located approximately 90 minutes from downtown Toronto, Niagara Falls is a wonderful excursion for the greater part of a day, and can be arranged through Tour operators in Toronto. Visit the Falls along the scenic Niagara Parkway, stand just a few feet from the fall-line, and/or enjoy the beauty and majesty from water level on the Maid of the Mist boat ride. Visit the historic town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and the Niagara wineries. This may be arranged for our planned free afternoon to enjoy the City, or even better, arrive a day early to spend a more leisurely day enjoying this world famous site.

Additional Resources:
What to see/do? Where to eat/shop? Toronto weather, public transit, maps, currency conversion, special events, etc.

- www.torontotourism.com
- www.torontocitytourist.com
- www.mytorontomeeting.com/visitor
- www.torontoplus.ca
- www.toronto.com
- www.ashnr.org
- kcammarata@ashnr.org
- ron@ryalsmeet.com
- www.toronto.hilton.com
- ekassel@mtsinnai.on.ca
and, addresses as listed for individual sites

ASHNR 2008 Radiologist-in-Training Award

For the eleventh consecutive year, the ASHNR will sponsor the Radiologist-in-Training Award at the 42nd Annual Meeting in Toronto. The award was established in 1998 to promote interest and research in head and neck imaging from among residents and fellows in radiology.

Encourage your residents and fellows to apply for this award. You will be able to download a copy of the Call For Abstracts form from the ASHNR website, www.ashnr.org. The form will also be included in the registration brochure that will be mailed to members and posted on the website. To be considered for the Award, an individual must:

1. Complete and submit a Call For Abstracts Form by July 15, 2008
2. Indicate the desire to be considered for the award (oral presentation only)
3. Include a letter from the principal author’s Program Director confirming the principal author is a current resident or fellow in radiology.

Following the submission of their manuscript to the American Journal of Neuroradiology (AJNR), the award recipient will receive a $1,000 honorarium and reimbursement of their meeting registration payment. The submission of the manuscript does not guarantee publication; the AJNR has first rights of publication of the winning paper.

Resources available at www.ashnr.org

We encourage you to visit the ASHNR website, www.ashnr.org. Soon, you will find complete information on the ASHNR 42nd Annual Meeting. You will be able to register online and make your hotel reservations, as well as download the complete registration brochure that includes the program schedule. You will also find a link to the American Journal of Neuroradiology, ASHNR’s official journal, and a membership application. Invite a colleague to apply.

In the Members Only section, you can access the online membership directory, and past issues of ASHNR News. To access the Members Only section, use the following User Name and Password:

User Name: ashnrmember
Password: world
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