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The Value of Radiology



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Dear readers,

For this last issue of 2012, we feature a number of thought provoking pieces for radiologist and radiology managers.

Dr. E. Jane Adam, who chairs one of the Technology Appraisal Committees of the UK's National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence explains the place of health technology assessment in demonstrating the value of radiology. Dr. Adam argues that in a time of limited budgets in healthcare radiologists need to openly question and challenge the effectiveness and value for money of clinical pathways and see if they themselves should be changed, which is where health technology comes in.

Ultrasound is a commonly used technology, but how can you maximise its use in the radiology department? Dr. Sana Pascaline has talked to a number of hospital managers and radiologist colleagues about this issue and presents her views on some of the advantages and downsides of different ways of working.

Next, Prof. Clemens Decristoforo of the European Association of Nuclear Medicine Radiopharmacy Committee writes about the issue of availability of radiopharmaceuticals across Europe. Prof. Decristoforo argues the case for specific European guidelines that harmonise and support the small-scale, local preparation and use of radiopharmaceuticals to ensure best treatment for patients.

To round off the issue we review the 98th Scientific Assembly and Annual Meeting of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA). Patients First and the visibility of radiologists were major themes this year. We include a selection of presentations from this stimulating event, as well as some of the industry highlights.

Our regular features are also included – upcoming radiology congresses and news from our partner associations, including CIRSE, MIR, COCIR and IHE.

As always, I welcome your views on any of the topics covered in this issue, or indeed ideas for future articles. You can contact me at im-ed@healthmanagement.org

Sincerely

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