CTE Session 6
Technologists Committee
Tuesday, September 12, 08:00 – 09:30

Session Title
Extravasation Incidents Management

Chairpersons
Luísa Roldão Pereira (Maidstone, United Kingdom)
Pedro Fragoso (Essen, Germany)

Programme
08:00 – 08:30 Melissa Cruz (Carnaxide, Portugal): Extravasation incidents – theoretical principles and examples in Conventional Nuclear Medicine
08:30 – 09:00 James Elliott (Canterbury, United Kingdom): Extravasation incidents with PET agents and contrast media
09:00 – 09:30 Niloefar Ahmadi Bidakhvidi (Leuven, Belgium): Extravasation in radionuclide therapy – a step by step guide

Educational Objectives
1. Theoretical implications of extravasation and understanding of incidence of radiopharmaceutical extravasation in diagnostic and therapeutic administrations
2. Explain the importance of reporting incidents, both in the legal framework and patient’s care perspective
3. Share how to accurately report an extravasation incident
4. Provide a best practice guide on a sequential action plan in case of extravasation of contrast agents, adjuvant drugs and radiopharmaceuticals

Summary
Nuclear Medicine practitioners are trained to be proficient in the administration of radiopharmaceuticals as a core clinical skill, routinely performing intravenous injections in paediatric and adult patients, some of which with limited venous access. As the field advances, their scope expands from diagnostic to therapeutic injections as well as infusions and the administration of adjuvant medications. Additionally, in some centres technologists and nuclear medicine radiographers perform imaging with contrast media.
Extravasation of a medicine (commonly referred to as “tissuing”) is vastly explored in chemotherapy and radiology settings, particularly with agents used for magnetic resonance imaging and computerized tomography. Nevertheless, in regard to Nuclear Medicine, literature is still scarce and reporting mechanisms for incidents are highly variable in the world.
As frontline and patient facing keyworkers, technologists ought to be well prepared to deal with the unfortunate possibility of extravasation of a radiopharmaceutical.
This session will discuss the general concept of extravasation, highlighting a few practical examples and providing an evidence-based blueprint for an action plan for different scenarios. This will empower staff to be confident and educated to act promptly and pragmatically in face of an adverse event such as this.

Key Words
Radiopharmaceutical extravasation, tissuing, contrast