

# EANM to Showcase Advancements in Theranostics at its EANM'24 Annual Congress

October 19-23, 2024 | Hamburg, Germany

EANM Press Release

Hamburg, Germany - The European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM) looks forward to hosting its renowned Annual Congress at the Congress Center Hamburg (CCH). This landmark event, known for advancing global medical innovation, will gather over 7,500 participants from around the world. The EANM Annual Congress serves as a unique forum for medical professionals and industry leaders to exchange pioneering advancements and explore strategies to enhance patient care in the field of nuclear medicine. Attendees will engage in discussions on the latest theranostics developments, impactful clinical evidence, cutting-edge radiopharmaceuticals, and novel imaging technologies.

# **Importance of Nuclear Medicine**

Nuclear medicine is a crucial medical discipline significantly enhancing patient care by offering noninvasive diagnostic and therapeutic solutions. By employing radiopharmaceuticals and advanced imaging technologies, it enables precise visualisation of organ function and structure. This field is integral to various medical specialities, including oncology, cardiology, and neurology, and is pivotal in diagnosing, managing, and treating numerous diseases. Committed to quality improvement and technological innovation, nuclear medicine adheres to stringent safety standards and rigorous health technology evaluations, ensuring the protection and well-being of patients.

# **Pioneering Theranostics**

Theranostics, a specific branch of nuclear medicine, integrates diagnostic imaging and targeted therapy by selecting radionuclides based on their properties. This innovative field combines the terms therapy and diagnostics, reflecting its dual function. Diagnostic radiopharmaceuticals are employed to identify patients suitable for subsequent treatment by targeting specific molecular features of the disease. The corresponding therapeutic agents, also radiopharmaceuticals, target the same features, thus creating radiotheranostic pairs that enable clinicians to 'see what they treat' and 'treat what they see'.

This dual capability is a significant advancement in medicine, allowing for simultaneous or sequential diagnosis and treatment, which can save time and money and mitigate undesirable biological effects associated with separate strategies. In cancer treatment, for example, theranostics utilises positron emission tomography (PET) to locate cancer cells throughout the body, followed by targeted radiation to eradicate them, thereby minimising damage to surrounding healthy tissues. This approach represents a transformative 'one-two punch' against cancer, offering precision and efficacy in treatment.

# **Plenary Session on Theranostics**

Recognising the considerable potential of this pioneering field in revolutionising cancer treatment, the EANM'24 will feature an extensive plenary session entitled 'The Age of Theranostics'. This session will explore the advancements and prospects of theranostics, highlighting its vital role in personalised cancer care.



Furthermore, the congress will provide extensive continuing medical education opportunities, ensuring that attendees remain well-informed of the latest developments. Lastly, there will be a dedicated theranostics track, designed to equip participants with cutting-edge knowledge and practical insights, thereby enhancing their capability to apply these innovations in clinical practice.

# **Theranostics Centre of Excellence Network**

Beyond the EANM'24, the EANM has established and recently launched a Theranostics Centre of Excellence (CoE) certification. The primary objective of this certification is to ensure a harmonised theranostic approach of the highest quality across various centres. These specialised theranostic centres provide a harmonised approach towards personalised procedures, benefiting patients foremost, but also serving other stakeholders, including industry and regulatory authorities.

In addition, the EANM is committed to ensuring continuous education in the field through its ESMIT programme and courses. It currently offers self-paced classes on the fundamentals of research in imaging and theranostics. The forthcoming EANM Focus Meeting 6, to be held in Malta, from January 30 to February 1, 2025, will critically evaluate the impact of imaging on breast cancer care, with a special emphasis on the application of nuclear medicine techniques in various clinical settings. Discussions will include new developments in radiopharmaceuticals and theranostic approaches, underscoring the promising future of breast cancer treatment and diagnosis.

The EANM is steadfast in its dedication to advancing the field of nuclear medicine and theranostics and looks forward to welcoming participants to what promises to be a landmark event in Hamburg, Germany, from October 19 to October 23, 2024.

Find out more about the EANM'24 Congress here and register now.

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