

# In Step With **CAPINTEC**

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SNM/Spring 2005 Edition

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## ICANL Nuclear Laboratory Accreditation

Written by Art Hall, FSNMSTS

Capintec applauds the efforts put forth by the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Nuclear Medicine Laboratories. We are excited about the growth of Nuclear Medicine and salute the nuclear medicine community for the efforts put forth to ensure that "Quality" nuclear medicine is at the forefront. Capintec's "Building a Quality Nuclear Medicine Department and Obtaining Accreditation" programs have featured presentations from ICANL and we are pleased to see the continued expansion of the ICANL accreditation programs. Capintec's commitment to keeping "Quality" in nuclear medicine and compliance with ICANL accreditation is just one example of how you can keep your department out in front.

Nuclear Medicine Laboratories undergo a series of inspections on an annual basis. These can be State Inspections in Agreement States, Nuclear Regulatory Inspections in non agreement states and federal institutions, Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) inspections and in some instances the College of American Pathologists (CAP) inspections. These inspections each look at different aspects of the Nuclear Medicine Department/ Service. In recent years ICANL has taken on many of the aspects of the above mentioned agencies. In addition some providers desire that the Nuclear Medicine Laboratory be approved by ICANL. Incorporated in 1977, this not for profit organization has 16 board members that oversee a voluntary peer review. This review helps departments improve the quality of testing by standardizing the testing techniques and reporting. In addition an overall goal is to improve testing and patient care. There are multiple accreditation modules; however we will concentrate on the General Nuclear Medicine accredita-

tion module. Before you can be accredited, you must submit an application, purchase materials, and pay an application fee. ICANL was created to promote standardized testing and interpretation while improving the quality of personnel and promoting quality control. Accreditation will improve the organization and standardization of the laboratory while improving the overall quality assurance. In addition the use of ICANL for laboratory accreditation will validate the results that are produced in the laboratory.

The accreditation process follows a series of standardized reviews. Once the review has been completed and submitted the information is received and reviewed by ICANL staff. Once everything is in order an on-site visit will be arranged to review the operations of the department. This inspection can be from 4-8 hours depending on the size of the laboratory. Personnel must demonstrate appropriate training in Nuclear Medicine and in addition the personnel must show proof of ongoing continuing education. While the personnel directly involved in the testing must maintain training, the ancillary personnel must demonstrate competence in patient scheduling and education. The facility must be adequate for the patient and staff and the reception, storage, radioactive storage areas and imaging areas must meet standardized requirements. A review of the patient education, consultation, examination and interpretation will be reviewed. All patient records must be complete and secured and all digital data must be securely stored.

ICANL will review equipment used in the laboratory to make sure that it is calibrated, maintained and routinely tested and inspected.

... compliance with ICANL accreditation is just one example of how you can keep your department out in front

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All of these records must be kept on file. Capintec provides recommendations and procedures to help the nuclear medicine laboratory fulfill the obligations for safety, calibration and inspections. Capintec equipment meets all federal guidelines and provides the laboratory with a high level of confidence when measuring activities of radioactive pharmaceuticals, wipe testing incoming and outgoing packages, and wipe testing in required areas of the lab and identification of unknown radioactive contamination. Capintec equipment is designed to detect and alert the user of contamination outside of established limits or triggers. Equipment must also be sensitive enough to delineate and provide detection levels low enough to meet federal or state requirements. In addition, our well testing and probe testing equipment provide detailed information about radioactive pharmaceuticals that are used for patient testing involving body fluids or externally measured activity. These lab procedures help in the diagnosis and treatment of many disease conditions that are treated by the nuclear medicine laboratory whether as an outpatient or inpatient. Capintec provides high quality radiation monitoring devices and portable survey meters that make it easy for the department to meet the standards established by the ICANL accreditation process. These are important components of nuclear medicine accreditation.

The ICANL inspection reviews all of the processes of work flow to make certain the hot lab is secure and there is adequate patient privacy for pre testing, testing and post testing. ICANL will also review the processes involved in performing nuclear medicine studies. A sample of this would include the general protocol, clinical procedures, equipment quality control, radiation safety, radioactive material handling, administrative protocols, imaging protocols and therapy protocols. This comprehensive inspection will make note that protocols are reviewed at least every three years, that compliance records are maintained and readily available and that personnel are maintaining their competency. This inspection will review the operations with respect to federal, state and any local requirements.

Storage of radioactive waste is an important component of the ICANL inspection and the shielding and storage cabinets designed and distributed by Capintec provide the customer with a reliable radiation containment cabinet that is also lockable. Adequate shielding is important for the working staff in a nuclear medicine setting.

Additionally, the ICANL survey will review processes of operation which will include how testing is ordered, performed and reported. There will be a review of the process of informed consent, patient education, departmental policy for hazardous material, infection control, medical emergencies as well as the preparation and storage of non-radioactive pharmaceuticals.

Finally, a considerable amount of time is spent on the Quality Assessment of the overall departmental operation which includes such items as appropriateness, scheduling, wait times, report times, as well as an overall review of all aspects of imaging and laboratory management. The outcome of the ICANL inspection is not much different than the expected outcome of patient testing. A clear, concise report that covers the process details, and results provide information that can be acted on in a positive and responsive manner. For further information regarding a ICANL survey, please review the site at [www.icanl.org](http://www.icanl.org) ■

## Planning to Build a Hot Lab? **Start Here!**

If you are setting up a new department, remodeling an existing hot lab, or seeking a product to meet a specific requirement, start here with some of our most popular and facilitative products:

- ▶ The **CRC-15W** is an innovative combination well counter and dose calibrator ...two components in one durable, reliable package!



- ◀ Capintec **L-Block standard and mini-shields** provide effective radiation protection without a bigger price tag. Has the highest density lead glass around!



- ▶ Ask about our top quality, custom made **lead-lined cabinetry and countertops**, available in a wide variety of materials!



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**Start Here.**



# Capintec Biospace

COLLABORATES WITH

Written by Jon McKown

Capintec, Inc., your leading supplier of energy measurement products, is now the exclusive distributor of Biospace Mesures' IMAGING products for the US and Canada. With innovative imaging devices such as Digital Beta imagers and their real-time imaging capabilities, Biospace's NOBEL PRIZE winning technology will facilitate your workflow by saving time and producing higher quality results.

The  $\beta$  IMAGER™ and  $\mu$  IMAGER™ have revolutionized the tedious days of long exposures. Rendering acquisitions in just hours (not weeks!), Biospace's  $\beta$  IMAGER™ is an extremely high sensitivity, high resolution, real-time imager that enables you to detect low radioactivity levels for simply outstanding results. Biospace's  $\mu$  IMAGER™, a high resolution imager, is the digital solution to micro autoradiography. Boasting a 15 $\mu$ m spatial resolution for tritiated samples, the  $\mu$  IMAGER™ is up to 500 times faster than film, 20 to 50 times faster than phosphor imagers and sensitive to virtually all isotopes.

Both  $\beta$  IMAGER™ and  $\mu$  IMAGER™ allow fast, real-time imaging of positron,  $\beta$ - and  $\beta$

tracers : 18F, 11C, 15O, 3H, 14C, 35S, 33P, 32P, 99mTc, 125I and electrons associated with 125I, 131I, 99mTc, 201Tl, 111I, etcetera. Patented software programs enable simultaneous, dual and triple label sample analysis.

Biospace's new line of in vivo imaging tools for molecular imaging is sure to set a new standard for precise, accurate results. The  $\beta$  MICROPROBE™ allows the measurement of  $\beta$  labeled molecules on anesthetized or conscious animals; as well as for tracer experiments in an organ, tumor, or a blood vessel. Sensitive to 11C, 18F, 32P, 131I and many other  $\beta$  labels, the  $\beta$  MICROPROBE™ provides a low cost, simple alternative to small-animal PET for pharmacokinetics, behavior studies, FDG studies, radio tracer development, input function measurements, and more. Featuring variable sampling rates as fast as 1 second, highly sensitive 250, 500 and 1000-micron probes offer 1-millimeter resolution.  $\beta$  MICROPROBE™ is more compact than ever, portable, and is driven by a laptop computer.

The  $\gamma$  IMAGER™, a planar, bench top gamma camera dedicated to in vivo scintigraphy of small animals, is a vast improvement in small detector size and resolution over its larger counterparts. The  $\gamma$  IMAGER's 4 inch diameter field of view, high sensitivity and 2 mm intrinsic resolution make it an excellent tool for Technetium, Iodine, Indium or other radio label imaging on rodents.

**New feature:**

Simultaneous imaging by 2 planar  $\gamma$  IMAGER™ detectors using 1 computer. Based on the  $\gamma$  IMAGER, Biospace's  $\gamma$  IMAGER-S™, is a high resolution, highly sensitive, compact and expandable SPECT system suitable for small animals and is available in single or dual head versions.

**New feature: micro CT module**

A large FOV, real time, micro CT module for image registration enables the fusion of CT's high resolution anatomical detail and the functional information provided by the  $\gamma$  IMAGER-S™ ■

Jon McKown is the Product and Sales Specialist for Biospace IMAGING Products. Jon joined Capintec in December 2004 and operates out of our New Jersey headquarters. In addition to a 5 year affiliation with Biospace Mesures as "Manager, Imaging Systems" for North America, he brings over 35 years of experience in radioactivity detection, clinical and small animal molecular imaging. This includes experience in gamma scintigraphy, SPECT, PET, CT, x-ray, ultrasound, QWBA, digital autoradiography, micro-autoradiography and micro-array imaging techniques. Jon's present responsibilities include: coordination of Biospace imaging products sales, service, applications support, direct customer contact, installation coordination and on-site product demonstrations. Jon has a Bachelor of Science degree ■

## Capintec 2005 Show Schedule

Jun. 1-3.....	<b>ABS Meeting</b> .....	San Francisco, CA
Jun. 18-22.....	<b>SNM</b> .....	Toronto, ON, Canada
Jul. 25-28.....	<b>AAPM</b> .....	Seattle, WA
Sept. 15-17.....	<b>S.E. Chapter SNM</b> .....	Atlanta, GA
Sept. 29-Oct. 1.....	<b>ASNC</b> .....	Seattle, WA
Sept. 29-Oct. 1.....	<b>Western Reg. SNM</b> .....	Copper Mountain, CO
Oct. 15-19.....	<b>EANM</b> .....	Istanbul, Turkey
Oct. 26-20.....	<b>ASTRO</b> .....	Denver, CO
Oct. 28-29.....	<b>SNM Northeast Reg</b> .....	Newport, RI
Nov. 11-13.....	<b>JSNM</b> .....	Tokyo, Japan
Nov. 22-Dec. 2.....	<b>RSNA</b> .....	Chicago, IL

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Capintec at

# SNM

# 2005

**NEW PRODUCT!**

**Capintec, Inc. at SNM: Booth #840**

Metro Toronto Convention Center  
Toronto, ON, Canada  
Exhibit Date: June 18-21, 2005

If You Are Not Going to SNM, Call Capintec  
For More Information about Capintec  
at SNM: **201.825.9500** or  
toll free at **800.631.3826**

*Performance...Quality...Service*  
**Start Here with Capintec!**

Come to Capintec Booth  
#840 to see a **NEW** and  
**EXCITING** product!

While visiting us, be sure  
to enter our **FREE** drawing  
for a chance to win a  
top quality Capintec Pin-  
Tec or C-Tec syringe  
shield! If you can't make  
it to SNM, simply visit us  
at [www.Capintec.com](http://www.Capintec.com) to  
register online for the  
giveaway!