



## Introducing the Canadian College of Radiopharmaceutical Scientists (CCRS)

As an initiative of the Canadian Association of Radiopharmaceutical Scientists and the Canadian Society of Nuclear Medicine, a taskforce has been established to develop a plan for certification of current practitioners of the radiopharmaceutical sciences and provide a platform for professionals who wish to pursue a career in radiopharmaceutical discipline.

Certification is initially to be voluntary, and upon successful adoption of the process by stakeholders, mandatory certification will be pursued.

Goals of certification include: providing a career structure for radiopharmaceutical scientists, promoting awareness of radiopharmaceutical science as a career choice, setting and maintaining standards for the radiopharmaceutical sciences and facilitating movement nationally.<sup>1</sup>

### **What is the Canadian College of Radiopharmaceutical Scientists (CCRS)?**

The Canadian College of Radiopharmaceutical Scientists (CCRS) is the self-governing body for certification. It is a national, voluntary, non-profit organization, governed by established scientists in the field of radiopharmaceutical sciences, that certifies professionals working in the field of radiopharmacy.

### **What does CCRS do?**

Its objectives include:

- Ensuring competence in persons working in radiopharmaceutical sciences
- Identifying excellence in persons working in radiopharmaceutical sciences and outstanding contributions by persons working in radiopharmaceutical sciences
- Promoting knowledge and disseminating information related to the radiopharmaceutical sciences
- Providing leadership and direction on issues of importance to the health care system relating to the use of radiopharmaceuticals.

Through leadership, innovation and cooperation with other health care organizations, it will serve the public and guide the profession of radiopharmaceutical sciences.

### **The CCRPS will have as its core business the following:**

- Registration of members through an examination/certification process
- Ensuring the standards of excellence of the organization by prescribing and enforcing ongoing competency requirements, including certification

- Communications with members and the public regarding the objectives of the College
- Investigation of complaints against members by other members, other professionals, organizations and by the public

### **Who are Members?**

The goal of College is to include all professionals working in the field of radiopharmaceutical science as its members. Initially, current professionals will have the opportunity to join the College as members and obtain certification by subscribing to a code of conduct and ongoing competency requirements (continuing education). Eventually, all new professionals in the field will be required to pass a certification examination.

### **How does the College operate?**

The CCRS is governed by elected members called Directors. The Board of Directors set the operating rules for the College based on the input of its members.

### **Where do I get more information?**

For more information, contact:

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<sup>1</sup> Machulla HJ, Wiebe LI, Mercer JR, McQuarrie SA. Proceedings from the International Radiopharmaceutical Education Consortium. *J Pharm Pharmaceut Sci* 4 (2): 52-75, 2001. Accessed March 20, 2006 at: [http://www.ualberta.ca/~csps/JPPS4\(2\)/S.McQuarrie/IRECworkshop.pdf](http://www.ualberta.ca/~csps/JPPS4(2)/S.McQuarrie/IRECworkshop.pdf)