

continued from page 19

gists has been fulfilled with the signature of 30 National Breast Societies of a Memorandum of Understanding and a white paper on breast cancer screening, which has recently been published in *European Radiology*.

This network will enable the establishment of guidelines that will help breast radiologists to cope with some prevalent scepticism and challenges to the use of breast MRI or breast cancer screening. It will also serve as a network through which meaningful multicentre

research studies can be conducted and young radiologists can establish contact with other peers from various European countries.

This is in addition to the very successful EUSOBI Young Club with more than 60 members, which was created in 2014 in order to create connections and foster collaboration between young researchers with an interest in breast imaging.

EUSOBI has also started to publish a series of open-access papers with information for women, targeting the public and referring clinicians. The paper on breast MRI reached 1,800 downloads in less than one year.

An update of the mammography paper was just published, including tomosynthesis and contrast-enhanced spectral mammography. The women's information papers on ultrasound and another on breast interventions have been already published in the IDoR book. They will be finalised soon in order to appear in scientific literature as well.

All women's information papers are planned to be translated into many languages by the national breast societies.

Breast radiologists continue to apply for the EUSOBI European Diploma in Breast Imaging in

great numbers. A large number of European and non-European colleagues have already succeeded in obtaining this high-level proof of excellence.

One of our main challenges is to increase the visibility of breast radiologists within the medical community. EUSOBI will soon host an imaging session at one of the main oncological congresses in order to further this goal. Breast radiologists will present on special issues in breast cancer screening, preoperative MRI, neo-adjuvant treatment response evaluation and other cutting-edge issues.

We are looking forward to welcoming new active breast radiologists and students as members in order to broaden the coverage of countries and age ranges, and to have more and more professionals join EUSOBI – a kind and open group of breast imagers.

Prof. Gabor Forrai is head of the department of radiology at Duna Medical Center in Budapest, Hungary, head of the breast screening centres in Vác and Eger County Hospitals, and President of the European Society of Breast Imaging.

EuroSafe Imaging Stars: University Hospital of Pisa

EuroSafe Imaging Stars is EuroSafe Imaging's latest initiative to promote quality and safety in medical imaging. By recruiting a network of imaging departments committed to best practice in radiation protection, the Stars initiative will give radiation protection efforts greater visibility, have a direct impact on clinical practice and enable the European Society of Radiology to collect data for analysis and benchmarking.



Prof. Davide Caramella is chairman of radiology and director of the residency programme in radiology of the University of Pisa.

One of the EuroSafe Imaging Stars institutions is the University Hospital of Pisa, Italy, which is a large tertiary care centre attracting patients in need of highly specialised surgical and oncologic treatments. The imaging services are ensured by three radiological units, by a neuroradiology unit and by a nuclear medicine unit. Interventio-

nal radiology is available for managing whole body as well neuro cases.

Please read below an interview with Prof. Davide Caramella, chairman of radiology (Radiodiagnostica 1) and director of the residency programme in radiology of the University of Pisa, which is a five-star facility.

ECR Today: Your radiology department joined the EuroSafe Imaging Stars network. Why did you apply and what are your thoughts on this initiative?

Davide Caramella: The University of Pisa is at the forefront of undergraduate, as well as postgraduate, teaching for radiographers and medical doctors. Those who choose to study in our institution come from all parts of Italy and abroad. This has strengthened our determination to achieve the quality standards that we teach in our courses, in terms of radiation protection of patients, in our daily practice. That's why we were among

the first five European hospitals to obtain the five Stars from the EuroSafe Imaging Stars initiative.

ECRT: One important contribution EuroSafe Imaging Stars are expected to make is to participate in the data collection initiatives through the 'Is your Imaging EuroSafe?' surveys on CT dose. What is your opinion on these surveys and how useful do you think the EuroSafe Imaging survey findings will be for your daily clinical activity?

DC: Surveys are really useful and can be the starting point for planning focused initiatives that may help to change suboptimal practices. The ideal output of any survey would be a 'check list' that can be recommended to all radiological centres in Europe, in order to guarantee that patient safety is ensured with the highest degree of reliability and reproducibility.

ECRT: What are your suggestions for improving the EuroSafe Imaging Stars initiative?

DC: A welcome extension would be a campaign of information targeted at all stakeholders (patient associations, scientific societies outside radiology, governments, etc.) stating the importance of increasing awareness in the field of radiation protection of patients. In this media campaign, the EuroSafe Imaging Stars network could be mentioned as a group of radiological centres that are already championing the issue of dose optimisation in a transparent and cooperative manner.

ECRT: Which future cooperation and activities within the network of Stars would you like to see?

DC: Starting with CT, EuroSafe Imaging Stars network participants should be encouraged to publish their optimised disease-specific protocols for all CT equipment and versions on a dedicated website. Peer review of the protocols should be ensured by the EuroSafe Imaging Stars network participants themselves.



ECRT: Would you recommend other facilities to become EuroSafe Imaging Stars? If so, what arguments would you use to convince them?

DC: Each facility joining the EuroSafe Imaging Stars network gains a special visibility that can be used to reassure patients and referring physicians that a specific radiological centre assigns great importance to excellence in imaging with an emphasis on radiation protection of the patient.

RTF MEET & GREET SESSIONS

Visit the **RTF Booth in the ESOR & Rising Stars Lounge** (M Building) to meet Radiology Trainees Forum (RTF) representatives from different European countries.

Join your European colleagues and RTF representatives in an informal and relaxed discussion, exchange opinions and points of view with them and present your ideas at the **RTF Meeting Point** in the **ESOR & Rising Stars Lounge**. Take advantage of this great opportunity!

Rtf
Radiology Trainees Forum