

TOPIC 19 – OPPORTUNITIES IN NUCLEAR MEDICINE

Thursday, 3 December 2015

Conference Room, Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission
Level 5, 50 Grenfell Street, Adelaide SA 5000

Mr Prab Takhar, South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) (8am)

Prab Takhar is the Director of the Molecular Imaging and Therapy Research Unit at SAHMRI and has over 14 years of experience in medical research and development in both the private and public sectors. He has been involved in the start-up of global radiopharmaceutical facilities and has extensive knowledge in operating procedures for PET, SPECT, cyclotrons and radiopharmaceuticals. Mr Takhar holds a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Physics, a Master of Philosophy in Radiation and Medical Imaging alongside a Master of Science in Medical Physics. He has been in South Australia for two years developing diagnosis and soon treatment agents for the State and Australia.

Topics to be addressed at this public session:

- ⊕ Current trends in demand for medical isotopes in South Australia, Australia and the wider region
- ⊕ Potential future opportunities for South Australia in the radiopharmaceuticals market
- ⊕ Advantages and challenges to realising such opportunities in South Australia
- ⊕ Development of therapies for disease using targeting molecules carrying specific isotopes.

Professor Eva Bezak, University of South Australia (8am)

Professor Eva Bezak is a Professor in Medical Radiation in the School of Health Science at the University of South Australia. She holds a Master of Science in Medical Physics and a PhD in Nuclear Physics. Professor Bezak is currently an affiliate Associate Professor at the University of Adelaide and was previously a Chief Physicist at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. She has also served as a member of the National Radiation Oncology Tripartite Committee to develop quality and performance standards for Radiation Oncology. Professor Bezak's research focuses on novel diagnostic and therapeutic radioisotopes and techniques involved in the treatment of cancers. She is currently appointed a member on the South Australian Radiation Protection Committee. Recently, she was a member of the expert working group under the Australian Academy of Sciences to prepare a report on future accelerators in Australia, including for medical purposes.

Topics to be addressed at this public session:

- ⊕ Potential future opportunities in nuclear medicine for South Australia
- ⊕ Advantages and challenges to realising such opportunities in South Australia

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Mr Marco Baccanti, Health Industries South Australia (10am)

Health Industries SA is an agency of the South Australian government with the aim of developing partnerships with global life sciences companies, to strengthen the State's reputation as a global leader in health research. Marco Baccanti was appointed as the Chief Executive of HealthInSA in 2014. Mr Baccanti has been responsible for the successful establishment and growth of health precincts around the world. A qualified industrial chemist with additional marketing and business administration qualifications, he has 18 years' experience in Chief Executive and Managing Director roles in multinational organisations in Italy and the United Arab Emirates. Mr Baccanti has established partnerships with the World Economic Forum, the World Health Organisation, and national and regional governments, and has overseen establishment of 70 companies through the Dubai Biotechnology Park.

Topics to be addressed at this public session:

- ⊕ HealthInSA's role in promoting and facilitating new developments in South Australia's health sector
- ⊕ The potential markets for medical radioisotopes manufactured at the SAHMRI cyclotron and the education or training of operators of cyclotrons
- ⊕ How potential opportunities in these markets might be realised in South Australia.

Mr Shaun Jenkinson, Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) (11am)

ANSTO is a public research organisation responsible for delivering specialised advice, scientific services and products. ANSTO manufactures radiopharmaceuticals through its business arm, ANSTO Health. Nuclear medicines are widely used diagnostic imaging and increasingly as therapeutics. Shaun Jenkinson joined ANSTO in 2010 and is currently the Group Executive for Nuclear Business, responsible for all commercial operations including ANSTO Health, ANSTO Minerals, ANSTO NTD Silicon, ANSTO Radiation Services, Molybdenum 99 Operations and the Business Development function. Mr Jenkinson has a degree in Biotechnology and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He has 20 years' experience in the pharmaceutical industry and more recently, durable medical equipment and medical devices.

Topics to be addressed at this public session:

- ⊕ ANSTO's current production of radiopharmaceuticals and the market it supplies
- ⊕ Potential future opportunities for the manufacture of specific diagnostic or therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals.