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The Report

News from the MRS

A quarterly publication of topics and events relevant to radiologists, radiation oncologists, and medical physicists that practice in Michigan.

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Spring 2026 | Issue 28

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Andrew Woodrow, MD
President
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Dear MRS Members,

As we move into the spring, I want to take a moment to share the progress the Michigan Radiological Society has made on the priorities outlined at the start of this year. Thanks to the dedication of our committees and volunteers, we are seeing meaningful momentum across advocacy, education, outreach, and member engagement.

Advancing Advocacy

Advocacy remains one of the most important missions of our society. I would like to recognize the outstanding work of our Legislative Committee co-chairs, Leah Davis, DO and Steven Kilanowski, MD, along with our lobbyist Ronald Stallworth. Their efforts in Lansing have been instrumental in advancing policies that protect both our profession and patient care.

Among many issues, they have recently been working to support renewal of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact through HB 5455 and SB 303, helping ensure physicians can continue to practice efficiently across state lines. At the same time, they have been actively advocating against the nurse practitioner scope expansion bill HB 4399 and the PA independent practice bill HB 5522, which both raise significant concerns about patient safety and the quality of care.

Inspiring Future Radiologists

One of our goals this year has been to introduce more students to the field of radiology and the opportunities within our specialty. We recently held in-person mixer events in the Detroit and Grand Rapids areas, which brought together large numbers of medical students and resident physicians in training. These events were a great opportunity to discuss careers in radiology, connect with practicing radiologists, and introduce trainees to the work of the Michigan Radiological Society.

The enthusiasm and turnout at these gatherings were extremely encouraging and highlight the importance of continued outreach to the next generation of radiologists.

Strengthening Member Engagement Across Michigan

These same events also helped strengthen connections within our own membership. Bringing radiologists together with trainees and early career physicians fosters mentorship, collaboration, and a stronger statewide professional community. We look forward to continuing similar opportunities for engagement throughout Michigan.

Strategic Planning and Artificial Intelligence Initiatives

Important work is also underway through our Strategic Planning Committee, led by Michael Kasotakis, MD, FACR and Mark Weiss, MD, FACR. This group is helping guide the long term vision of MRS and identifying ways to better serve our members.

At the same time, our ad hoc AI Committee, chaired by Michael Kasotakis, MD, FACR and Richard Brown, MD, is working to expand education and resources related to artificial intelligence. Their efforts will help ensure that Michigan radiologists remain informed and prepared as AI continues to influence imaging practice.

Fiscal Responsibility

I would also like to recognize the hard work of our Treasurer Ashok Srinivasan, MD, FACR and the Budget and Finance Committee. Their thoughtful stewardship has helped us trim expenses and maintain strong financial footing during increasingly challenging economic times. Their work ensures that MRS can continue to support advocacy, education, and member programs well into the future.

Looking Ahead

The coming months offer excellent opportunities for connection and collaboration. Many of us will be attending the upcoming meeting of the American College of Radiology beginning May 2, and I look forward to seeing many familiar faces there. Closer to home, I hope you will join us for the MRS Annual Spring Summit and Hickey Lecture on May 8 and 9. These events are always a highlight of the year and provide a wonderful opportunity for education, networking, and celebrating the strength of our radiology community.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support of the Michigan Radiological Society. Together we are strengthening our profession and ensuring a bright future for radiology in Michigan.

With gratitude,

Andrew Woodrow, MD

President, Michigan Radiological Society

“Safety First” Educational Vignette

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Introduction

This vignette transparently details an actual nuclear medicine safety event. Errors occur in every practice, and our intention is to foster awareness and encourage vigilance in the performance of nuclear medicine studies and the administration of radiopharmaceuticals in the daily care of our patients. We also are using this venue to model a just safety culture in radiology. This is founded on a balance between individual accountability and systemic improvements, avoiding a blame-focused approach to one that encourages transparent reporting of errors and near-misses. It requires leadership commitment, psychological safety, and differentiating between human error, at-risk behavior, and reckless behavior.

Key foundations of a Just Culture include:

- System Accountability over Blame: Shifting focus from "who did it" to "how it happened," acknowledging that, while individuals are responsible for their choices, many errors stem from flawed systems.
- Transparent Reporting: Creating a nonpunitive environment where staff feel safe reporting near misses and mistakes to foster learning, rather than concealing them out of fear.

Transparency provides the pathway to an objectively safer department.

Description of Event

At a large academic medical center in Michigan, a patient was injected with the incorrect pharmaceutical and incorrect quantity. The patient was scheduled for a lymphoscintigraphy procedure and incorrectly received an intradermal injection of 25 mCi of Technetium-99m (Tc-99m) Medronate (typically used for bone imaging¹) instead of the prescribed 3 mCi of Tc-99m Sulphur Colloid.

The error was identified after administration, and the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) was notified 5 days later. The event was attributed to human error, specifically a failure to verify the radiopharmaceutical and activity prior to injection to the patient. The event was classified as a “Medical Event” (10 CFR 35.3045(a)(1)). The patient and referring physician were notified, and based on clinical assessment, the physician determined no-long term adverse health effects were anticipated for the patient despite the incorrect pharmaceutical and incorrect dosage.

Corrective actions included incorporating the event into staff training and further emphasizing methods to reduce risk of misadministration. These include verifying the correct patient, correct radiopharmaceutical, and the correct dosage before administration.

Teaching Points

Under 10 CFR 35.3045, a “Medical Event” is not defined by patient harm but by a significant deviation from the authorized use of radioactive material². Many reportable medical events result in little or no clinical consequences; however, acknowledgment of these adverse events is critical in helping understand breakdowns in process, controls, and human actions. These events signal opportunities for improvement and are important clinical manifestations of errors that can be used for future learning.

Common Types of Reportable Medical Events

Listed are 5 of the most common types of reportable medical events, within the scope of radiologic intervention:

1. Wrong radiopharmaceutical: administering a radiopharmaceutical different from that prescribed – as in this case; even if the radionuclide (Tc-99m) is the same as intended
2. Wrong dose/dose deviation: a dose that differs from the prescribed dosage by more than 20% (and exceeds regulatory thresholds) is reportable – as in this case, the patient received over eight times the intended activity
3. Wrong patient: administering radioactive material to the incorrect patient
4. Wrong route of administration: administering radioactive material orally vs intravenously if the route was specified in the written directive
5. Wrong treatment site/wrong timing: administering radioactive material or performing a procedure at the wrong site, or administering radioactive material at the wrong time that differs from the written directive

Key Lessons from This Event

- It is imperative to actively and intentionally verify the correct patient, pharmaceutical, and dose prior to administration
- NRC reportable medical events are important to maintain a system of record keeping, but also to identify system weaknesses, improve protocols, and prevent recurrence
- Reportable medical events do not necessarily mean patient harm, but they always mean an opportunity to improve

References

Kit for the Preparation of Technetium Tc 99m Medronate. Food and Drug Administration. Updated date: 2025-09-08.

10 CFR Part 35: Changes to the NRC Rule Governing the Medical Use of Radioisotopes and Implications for Radiologic Practice. Foens CS, Fairbent LA, Guiberteau MJ. Journal of the American College of Radiology: JACR. 2006;3(2):96-101. doi:10.1016/j.jacr.2005.09.012.

Introducing the New MRS Career Portal

Connecting radiology professionals and employers across Michigan.

The Michigan Radiological Society is pleased to announce the launch of our new and enhanced MRS Career Portal, designed to better connect employers with top radiology talent and provide valuable career resources for job seekers across Michigan and beyond.

Our updated platform offers expanded tools and visibility, making it easier than ever to post positions, search opportunities, and build meaningful professional connections within the radiology community.

For Employers

The new Career Portal offers flexible paid packages that provide increased exposure and additional services to support your recruitment needs, including:

- Prominent job postings targeted to radiology professionals
- Extended posting durations and enhanced visibility
- Resume access and candidate matching tools
- Opportunities to promote your organization to a statewide professional audience

For Job Seekers

The Career Portal provides a centralized resource to support your career development, including:

- Access to current radiology job opportunities across Michigan
- Tools to upload and manage your resume
- Career resources and professional connections within the radiology community

This upgraded platform reflects our commitment to strengthening the radiology workforce and supporting both employers and professionals at every stage of their careers.

We encourage you to explore the new Career Portal and take advantage of the enhanced services now available.

Visit the MRS Career Portal:

<https://michigan-rad.careerwebsite.com/>



Upcoming Events and Important Dates

The Michigan Radiological Society offers a variety of educational and professional engagement opportunities throughout the year. We encourage members, residents, and students to participate in these important programs and mark their calendars for upcoming events.

Q&A with Matched Medical Students

April 9, 2026 | Virtual Event

Join us for an interactive session designed to connect newly matched medical students with radiology leaders and residents. This event provides valuable guidance, insight, and mentorship as students begin their journey into radiology training.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5894626835?omn=81031646034> - Meeting ID: **589 462 6835**

MRS Annual Meeting & 29th Annual Resident & Fellow Section Conference

May 8-9, 2026 | Detroit, Michigan

The Society's premier annual gathering will feature the 89th Annual Preston M. Hickey Memorial Lecture, the Gold Medal Presentation, the General Business Meeting, and leadership transition activities.

- **May 8:** 29th Annual Resident and Fellow Section Conference
- **May 9:** Annual Meeting and Hickey Lecture

Medical Student Symposium

May 28, 2026 | Virtual (Zoom)

This annual event provides medical students with the opportunity to present research, engage with faculty and residents, and explore career pathways in radiology. The symposium continues to highlight the talent and innovation of future radiologists.

Save the Date – 2026 Breast Imaging Conference

November 14 & 15, 2026

Fort Pontchartrain, Detroit

The Michigan Radiological Society will host its annual Breast Imaging Conference in 2026, bringing together nationally recognized experts and clinicians for advanced education in breast imaging and patient care. Additional information, including dates and registration details, will be announced in upcoming communications.

Details coming soon

We look forward to your participation in these programs as we continue to advance education, collaboration, and professional development across Michigan's radiology community.



Get Involved: Share Your Research and Lead the Future of Radiology

The Michigan Radiological Society invites residents and fellows to take an active role in shaping the future of radiology through research presentation and leadership opportunities. We encourage trainees from across Michigan to participate, share their work, and contribute to the continued growth of our profession.

Call for Abstracts

Residents and fellows are invited to submit abstracts for presentation at the upcoming Resident and Fellow Section Conference. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase research, clinical cases, and educational projects while gaining valuable presentation experience.

Participation in the abstract program supports scholarly activity requirements and provides a platform for collaboration and professional development.

Submit your abstract and learn more:

<https://michigan-rad.org/call-for-abstracts/>

Resident & Fellow Section Executive Board Opportunities

The Resident and Fellow Section is seeking motivated trainees to serve in leadership roles on the Executive Board. These positions provide an opportunity to develop leadership skills, represent your peers, and help guide initiatives that support residents and fellows across Michigan.

The application process is anonymized and candidates are evaluated by members of the Resident Affairs Committee prior to the annual conference.

Available leadership positions may include:

- President-Elect
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Webmaster
- Fundraising Chair
- Resident Liaison
- Fellow Liaison



Applications are reviewed and positions are filled through a structured selection process designed to ensure fair representation across residency programs.

Apply to serve on the Executive Board:

<https://michigan-rad.org/resident-fellow-section-officer-application/>

New Standard Timeline Beginning in 2027

Beginning in 2027, the following annual schedule will apply to both abstract submissions and Resident & Fellow Section Executive Board applications:

January 1 – Submission and Application Period Opens

April 1 – Deadline for All Submissions and Applications

Establishing a consistent timeline each year will help residents and fellows plan ahead and ensure a streamlined and transparent selection process.

We encourage all residents and fellows to participate and take advantage of these opportunities to share their work and serve in leadership roles within the Society.