



## Welcoming Message



### Welcome to Seoul and to the 4<sup>th</sup> AOCNHNR.

On behalf of the organizing committee, we would like to extend our sincere and cordial welcome to all the distinguished delegates and their family.

The local organizing committee have made an effort to offer the high standard of scientific programs and exciting social activities. The scientific programs are mainly focused on the educational and instructive lectures from the prestigious international speakers, comprising refresher courses, special lectures, and luncheon lectures, and symposia. Also are included free communications (both oral presentation and scientific exhibition) covering the current radiological practice and research of the brain, the head and neck, and the spine. As the social programs, opening reception, joint banquet with WFITN, and congress tour are provided. Various optional tour programs are also arranged.

As you are aware, this AOCNHNR meeting is held in conjunction with the 6<sup>th</sup> WFITN so that many participants can enjoy both meetings. This AOCNHNR meeting will surely be a memorable occasion not only for exchanging scientific knowledge and ideas in the field of neuroradiology and head & neck radiology, but also for promoting the friendship among the participants from all over the world, particularly from the Asian and Oceanian regions.

We hope and believe all of you enjoy this AOCNHNR 2001 Seoul through the scientific and social programs, our traditional culture, and the historical heritages in Korea.

Jung Ho Suh, M.D.  
Congress Chair

Kee-Hyun Chang, M.D.  
Organizing Committee Chair



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## HISTORY OF NEURORADIOLOGY IN KOREA

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Neuroradiology began to evolve as a subspecialty of diagnostic radiology in the late 1970s when the first computed tomographic (CT) scanner was installed in Korea. The EMI scanner was installed at Kyunghee University Hospital, Seoul in 1977. In 1978 when other university hospitals also acquired CT, a few radiologists initiated a meeting to discuss CT cases, mostly of the brain. To learn about this new field of diagnostic radiology, and to teach other radiologists/trainees who did not have access to CT, they established an informal study group and got together monthly for discussing and exchanging their experiences. In the early 1980s, a consensus was reached among the members of this group to separate this meeting into neuroradiologic and nonneuroradiologic sections. This was the background of birth of neuroradiologic subspecialty in Korea.

In 1983, the Korean Society of Neuroradiology (KSNR) was formally organized by a handful of the radiologists who pioneered neuroradiology in Korea: Dr. Jung-Ho Suh (Yonsei University Hospital, Seoul), Dr. Kee-Hyun Chang (Seoul National University Hospital, Seoul), Dr. Chang-Gok Ham (Hanyang University Hospital, Seoul), and Dr. Soo-Jee Suh (Kyunghee University Hospital, Seoul) and Dr. Choong-Ki Eun (Kyunghee University Hospital, Seoul). Dr. Jung-Ho Suh was elected as the first President of the society, and Dr. Kee-Hyun Chang as the Secretary-General. In 1995, Dr. Kee-Hyun Chang succeeded Dr. Suh to become the new President. Strong leadership by these two people, among others, has been the main force behind the development of neuroradiology in Korea. However, very special thanks must be given for the critical and enthusiastic support given in this emerging subspecialty by Dr. Man-Chung Han (Professor Emeritus of Department of Radiology, Seoul National University College of Medicine) himself a cardiovascular radiologist and an honorary member of RSNA.

Ten years after the first CT was installed in Korea, the first domestically constructed clinical magnetic resonance (MR) scanner was successfully developed by Dr. Zang Hee Cho in collaboration with many scientists, radiologists, and industrialists. This 2.0 Tesla superconducting unit (Gold Star Electronics, Korea) was initially installed at Seoul National University Hospital and then at Kyemyung University

Hospital (Daegu). The impact of MRI on Korean neuroradiology was enormous, as it was in other countries. Throughout Korea there are now in operation more than 800 CT units and more than 200 MR units (both foreign and domestic, with both low and high field strengths). Recently Medison Ltd., Korea, has introduced another domestically manufactured, commercially available MR unit (Magnum 1.0T).

As of January 2002, the KSNR comprised approximately 100 members, nearly 10% of all Korean radiologists. Twenty to twenty-five of the members are dedicated wholly to neuroradiology. The others practice neuroradiology as one part of their work. To be accepted as a member of the KSNR, the individual must be a physician who is certified (or eligible for certification) by the Korean Board of Radiology. The individual must be interested in neuroradiology, but no other specific neuroradiologic requirement is asked of the candidate. The Korean system of Board Certification was adopted from North America year ago. To become Board eligible, one must complete 5 years of postgraduate training: 1 year of internship plus 4 years of radiology residency. The actual Board certificate in Radiology is given to those who pass both a written examination and oral tests. Korean medical centers and university hospitals provide 1-year (rarely 2-year) fellowships in neuroradiology following the radiology residency, as well as fellowships in other radiology subspecialties. Most neuroradiologists, however, especially those in academia, prefer to spend some time outside the country, usually 1 or 2 years in the United States or Europe to refresh and extend their knowledge.

A monthly neuroradiology meeting is held in the Seoul area on the third Monday of every month except August. Approximately 20 members attend each meeting to discuss interesting cases. Three other regional meetings are also held monthly in the southern parts of Korea at Pusan, Daegu, and Kwangju. In addition, national meetings are held twice a year, one in the spring and another in the autumn. These are open to both member and nonmember physicians, including radiology residents. The format of each meeting is decided by committee members, and usually consists of free paper presentations plus a symposium arranged to address a specific subject. It is the KSNR's custom to invite a prominent neuroradiologist from outside the country to speak at the one of the biannual meetings.

The recent development of interventional neuroradiology has attracted Korean radiologists to this field. In 1983,

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FIG. 1 - From left to right, J Ho Suh, M Sage, C Kee-Hyun, M Takahashi, K Dong Ik, AOCNHNR 2001

FIG. 2 - From left to right, K Dong Ik, M Mawad, P Lasjaunias, J Moret, H Moon Hee, C In Sup, WFITN 2001



interventional procedures of the neurovascular field were performed in Seoul National University Hospital and Yonsei University Hospital. The field of interventional neuroradiology was included in neuroradiology subspecialty until earlier 1990's and all the procedures were initiated and performed by radiologists with neuroimaging background. In 1994, a few neuroradiologists who were interested in this field established an informal study group of interventional neuroradiology and began to have monthly meeting for case discussion. The members of initial stage of this meeting were Hye Young Seol (Korea University Hospital, Seoul), Dong Ik Kim (Yonsei University Hospital), Sun Yong Kim (Younghnam University Hospital, Daegu), Nam Joon Lee (Korea University Hospital), Moon Hee Han (Seoul National University Hospital), Hong Sik Byun (Sam Sung Medical Center, Seoul), and Dae Chul Suh (Asan Medical center, Seoul). Dr. Byun served as secretary of the study group until 1997 when Korean Society of Interventional Neuroradiology (KSIN) was formally organized with 25 members of neuroradiology background. Dr. Seol was elected as the first president of the society.

Most of the active members of KSIN have taken 1-year or 2-year training fellowships in neurointerventional field at various centers outside Korea, mainly in the United States or France. As a result, a number of centers within Korea are now able to perform interventional neuroradiology procedures at a high level. Now KSIN has 65 active members including several members with neurosurgery background and approximately 25 members meet monthly in Seoul to discuss their cases. Spring symposium and autumn annual meeting are held annually since 1999.

For the last 20 years, the KSNR and KSIN have actively participated in international neuroradiology societies in Asia and elsewhere. In September 2001, The 4<sup>th</sup> Asian and Oceanian Congress of Neuroradiology and Head and Neck Radiology (AOCNHNR) was held in Seoul hosted by KSNR and Dr. J. H. Suh and Dr. K. H. Chang have lead the organizing committee. There were 385 registered participants, including 160 international participants from (representing) 23 countries. In addition to intensive academic sessions beginning from 8:00 AM and lasting until 5:30 PM, there were many social programs for all the participants to promote their international friendship and to

enjoy Korean culture: there were two dinner parties (Fig. 1) and a half-day tour course to Korean Folk Village in addition to the opening reception. In the banquet that was held as a joint banquet with WFITN, Korean traditional music and dancing, and 'NANTA' were performed on the stage. 'NANTA' is a non-verbal performance of reckless rhythms that dramatize Korean percussion in a strikingly comedic stage show. This must have been the most exciting memorable and enjoyable experience for all the participants. In the tour course arranged in the afternoon of the fourth day, most of the international participants joined to enjoy and to understand ancient traditional Korean culture through walking in the Folk Village located approximately 40 km south of Seoul. There were reconstructed farmhouses typical of every province of Korea, noble mansions, and an outdoor marketplace with plenty of crafts and tasty treats for sale. The meeting was praised as the largest and highest in neuroradiology meetings ever held in Asian-Pacific region by many participants.

In the same week, KSIN hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> Congress of World Federation of Interventional and Therapeutic Neuroradiology (WFITN) in parallel with AOCNHNR. Dr. In Sup Choi (Lahey Clinic Medical Center, MA, U.S.A.) served as the president of the meeting and Dr. D. I. Kim chaired the organizing committee. There were 426 registered participants from 31 countries. Despite a terror in New York WTC building 2 weeks before the meeting, most of the leading professionals have attended the meeting and enjoyed sharing experiences with many friends from all over the world. The meeting was a real success in academically and financially. The participants enjoyed beautiful presentations, lectures from renowned practitioners and researchers, and Korean cultures as well through several social events (Fig. 2).

Radiology subspecialties, including neuroradiology and interventional neuroradiology, are not likely to be formally recognized by the state or the Korean national organizations for accreditation in the near future. However, Korean neuroradiology will prosper as a subspecialty of radiology because of the active, energetic current members and the bright young radiologists entering this field. We believe that international relationship was one of the important factors for progress of neuroradiology subspecialty in Korea. So the KSNR and KSIN are now ready to share any responsibility in international societies.



FIG. 3 - Logo of Korean Society of Neuroradiology (KSNR)



FIG. 4 - Logo of Korean Society of Interventional Neuroradiology (KSIN)