MEETING REPORT

THE SECOND SEMINAR FOR MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

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Abstract: The Second International Seminar for Magnetic Resonance Imaging in the Republic of Macedonia, held in Ohrid in June 2011, attracted over 150 MR professionals from nine countries. The seminar consisted of educational lectures on the basics of magnetic resonance, followed by scientific presentations from the leading MR researchers from the Balkans.

Key words: Magnetic resonance imaging, MRBalkan.org, ISMRM.

For the second time in three years, Macedonia was the host of the Global Outreach Program of the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM).

The Second International Seminar for Magnetic Resonance Imaging in the Republic of Macedonia, held in Ohrid in June 2011, attracted over 150 MR professionals from the US, Canada, Germany, Turkey, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, and Macedonia. The seminar consisted of educational lectures given by the invited ISMRM speakers, followed by scientific presentations from the leading MR researchers from the Balkans.

The meeting featured lectures by 19 invited speakers from 13 MR research centers in North America and Europe. Dr. Walter Kucharczyk from the University of Toronto gave the introductory lecture on the physics of MR, followed by several talks on MR in neuroradiology. Dr. Garry Gold from Stanford University highlighted the advantages of MR in comparison with other imaging modalities, and focused on the MR applications in musculoskeletal
imaging. Dr. Miki Lustig from UC Berkeley introduced the basic MR pulse sequences and gave a hands-on tutorial on compressed sensing. Dr. Bruce Pike from the Montreal Neurological Institute introduced several advanced MR pulse sequences and provided a step-by-step guide for designing an fMRI experiment. Dr. Peter Boernert from Philips Research Europe gave an overview of the MR hardware and put together a comprehensive tutorial on RF pulse design. Dr. Ergin Atalar from Bilkent University spoke about interventional MR and the safety issues related to MR imaging.

While the above six speakers were invited by the ISMRM and provided the core of the educational portion of the seminar, their lectures were complemented by invited talks from researchers at Harvard University (Dr. Kawin Setsompop and Dr. Jonathan Polimeni), McGill University (Dr. Nikola Stikov), MIT (Dr. Borjan Gagoski), Oxford University (Dr. Aleksandar Petrovic), Philips Research Europe (Dr. Mariya Doneva), Stanford University (Dr. Joelle Barral, Dr. Bob Dougherty), Jozef Stefan Institute (Dr. Igor Sersa), Sarajevo School of Science and Technology (Dr. Almir Mutapcic), University of Novi Sad (Dr. Dusko Kozic) and University Ss. Cyril and Methodius (Dr. Elisaveta Stikova, Dr. Miodrag Vrcakovski). The young researchers from the Balkans also had a chance to present their research findings through oral and poster presentations.

The seminar was held under the auspices of the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts (MANU) and it received invaluable support from Dr. Momir Polenakovic and Dr. Gorazd Rosoklija at MANU, as well as Dr. Done Gersanovski, Dr. Mile Stankovski, and Dr. Nikola Jankulovski at the University Ss. Cyril and Methodius. The Balkan MR network keeps growing, and we are already planning the third seminar to be held in 2014.

Резиме

ВТОР МЕЂУНАРОДЕН СЕМИНАР ЗА ИМИЦИНГ СО МАГНЕТНА РЕЗОНАНСА ВО РЕПУБЛИКА МАКЕДОНИЈА

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Апстракт: Вториот интернационален семинар за имицинг со магнетна резонанса во Република Македонија се одржа во Охрид од 15 до 18 јуни 2011 година, и привлече повеќе од 150 MP професионалици од девет земји. Семинарот
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се состоеше од 40 образовни предавања од областа на магнетната резонанса, проследени со научни презентации на водечките МР истражувачи од Балканот.

Ключни зборови: имџинг со магнетна резонанса, МРБалкан.орг, ISMRM.

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