

## Response to the article: The need of radiopharmacist in Sri Lanka

Dear Sir,

Was with great interest that I read the article: "The need of radiopharmacist in Sri Lanka" Archives of Pharmacy Practice, vol 04, issue 4, Oct/Dec 2013, by Dr. Riyasha *et al.*

In the text the authors state that (in verbatim): "A recently published study from Brazil highlighted that there is no need of radiopharmacist in their nuclear medicine units".

And cited the article: Brasil MP, de Barros MP, Antunes LJ, Santos-Oliveira R. Hospital nuclear pharmacy survey: Preliminary aspects in Brazil J Young Phar 2012, 4, 279-81.

As the corresponding author of this article I must have to say that the authors are completely wrong in this affirmation. The article says exactly the opposite, in verbatim.

"The concept of hospital nuclear pharmacy without radiopharmacist is absolutely wrong and may cause damages to the patient".

I really require that this information should be published because as President of the Brazilian Association of Radiopharmacy and Coordinator of Radiopharmacy Committee of the Federal Council of Pharmacy, this type of erroneous information can be used in a wrong way in my country, with severe consequences.

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Access this article online	
Quick Response Code: 	Website: <a href="http://www.archivepp.com">www.archivepp.com</a>
	DOI: 10.4103/2045-080X.132674

## Author's Reply

Sir,

I am truly appreciative to Ralph Santos-Oliveira, author of the article "Hospital Nuclear Pharmacy Survey: Preliminary Aspects In Brazil" published in Volume 4, Issue 4 of the *Journal of Young Pharmacists* for reading the letter, "the need of radiopharmacist in Sri Lanka" published in Volume 4, Issue 4 in the *Archives of Pharmacy Practice* and thereby gave his comments.

I penned down the following clarification with regard to the comments made by the author.

- The author pointed and commented on the verbatim in our article "A recently published study from Brazil highlighted that there is no need of radiopharmacist in their nuclear medicine units"; this verbatim is interpreted on the pretext of the following verbatim mentioned in the abstract of the article and as well as the verbatim under the results and discussion

of the article "Hospital Nuclear Pharmacy Survey: Preliminary Aspects In Brazil" published in Volume 4, Issue 4 of the *Journal of Young Pharmacists*.

"The results showed that most of the hospitals (>80%) did not have pharmacist and all of them (100%) considered that a pharmacist in the nuclear pharmacy is not required" (Abstract)

"The answers collected from the questionnaire also revealed that from all hospitals studied, 100% of the nuclear medicine services considered that keeping a pharmacist is not essential and would raise the cost for the hospitals" (Results and Discussion)

- The author stated the following verbatim in support of his comments "The concept of hospital nuclear pharmacy without radiopharmacist is absolutely wrong and may cause damages to the patient". This verbatim is mentioned in the conclusion as a suggestion and it is not a research finding.

Still to be precise, I truly endorse the views of author

and moreover, as a pharmacist myself, totally support the view that “the concept of hospital nuclear pharmacy without radiopharmacist is absolutely wrong”.

On a personal note, seeing the prestigious affiliation of author with “Brazilian Association of Radiopharmacy, I strongly recommend the author to write an article on the radiopharmacy in Brazil and highly appreciate if the editor-in-chief of the journal would publish that after peer-review.

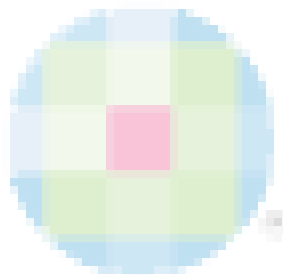
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Access this article online	
Quick Response Code: 	Website: <a href="http://www.archivepp.com">www.archivepp.com</a>
	DOI: 10.4103/2045-080X.132676



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