LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Post-mortem cross-sectional imaging: are we running before we can walk?

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In the recent commentary by Rutty and Morgan [1] responding to the Forensic Forum article of Pollanen and Woodford [2], the authors state that, to their knowledge, there are no national or international training standards for radiologists or pathologist working in the field of postmortem computed tomography (PMCT). They go on to suggest that such standards may arise through organizations such as the International Society of Forensic Radiology and Imaging (ISFRI, http://www.isfri.org. last visited June 2013).

We wish to draw to your attention that since the acceptance of this commentary for publication that at the annual meeting of ISFRI, held in May this year (2013) in

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International Society of Forensic Radiology and Imaging, Forensic Institute (Including Forensic Medicine and Radiology/ Imaging Unit), University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland Zurich, ISFRI instigated the formation of a number of multi-disciplinary (radiologists, radiographers, pathologists and others), international working groups to address this issue and others with the goal to provide guidance and Society positional statements to assist practitioners, groups, professional bodies/organizations and interested parties across the world practicing in this field of practice.

Since ISFRI was founded in Zurich in 2012 it has strived to bring together international practitioners within the field of forensic (post-mortem) radiology and imaging. The formation of these working groups is a significant set forward for the Society and the international community. The groups are currently considering the areas of data acquisition, best practice guidelines, education, certification, accreditation and networking. A positional statement has already been drafted by the group considering the application of radiology to Disaster Victim identification which it is hoped, as with other statements and guidelines as they are developed, will be published later this year in the Society associated Journal of Forensic Radiology and Imaging.

We hope this development is of interest to your readers and would encourage all who are practicing or have an interest within this field of practice to consider becoming associated with/members of ISFRI, thus helping the international post-mortem radiology community develop within this rapidly developing field of practice.

References

- Rutty G, Morgan B. Post-mortem cross-sectional imaging: are we running before we can walk? Forensic Sci Med Pathol. 2013. In press.
- Pollanen MS, Woodford N. Virtual autopsy: time for a clinical trial. Forensic Sci Med Pathol. 2013. doi:10.1007/s12024-013-9408-8.

