



RADIOMI NEWS

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RADIOMI International Meeting II

with the RADIOMI fellows

RADIOMI International Meeting II in Amsterdam was a unique opportunity to meet experts in the field of radiochemistry and to see different kind of applications, such as Zirconium, nanoparticles and development of new PET tracers for neuroimaging.

by Aleksandra

The second international RADIOMI meeting, hosted by the VU University Radiochemistry Department, provided a fantastic opportunity to once again meet the RADIOMI fellows and supervisors and to both present our own findings and see how all the other fellow have been progressing with their respective research.

by Thomas

I am the newest fellow, and in this Meeting I had the opportunity to meet the RADIOMI network members, which was a pleasure for me. I feel very fortunate to be a part in this project.

by Ana Lima

The Second RADIOMI International Meeting in Amsterdam opened with three interesting speeches. First Dr. Pal Mikecz presented "Nanoformulations for Contrast Agents and Drug Delivery" which was a possibility to

learn more about the progress made in this field.

During the second speech held by Prof. Victor Pike, "Advances in the utility of hypervalent substrates for radiofluorination and PET radiotracer synthesis", was emphasized both the scientific importance and progress made in accessing radiolabelled arenes by using hypervalent Iodine salts.

Last but not least, Dr. Danielle Vugts (VUmc Amsterdam) brought us into the ^{89}Zr world by holding a very interesting speech titled " ^{89}Zr -Immuno-PET: from production to clinical application".

Day 1 closed with a dinner organized by Prof. Bert Windhorst and the team of VUmc, during which we had the possibility to taste some Dutch plates, speak about science and several problems that deserve attention nowadays.

by Ermal

RADIOMI School II

RADIOMI School II closed with "Hand On radiochemistry held by the RADIOMI Associate Partners.

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Last but not least impressions

During Day 2, the RADIOMI fellows had the opportunity to present their background, current research area and results obtained to date. It was a good opportunity to improve our skills in communication and receive important feedback and advices from the present experts, like Prof Pike and Prof Luxen.

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RADIOMI Open days

15.09.2014 – UTU, Finland

26.09.2014 - Cic biomaGUNE, Spain

16.01.2015 – UCBL, France

RADIOMI Poster Awards

A. Pekošak (VUmc), L. Pfeifer (UOXF)



FP7-PEOPLE-2012-ITN

Project number: 316882

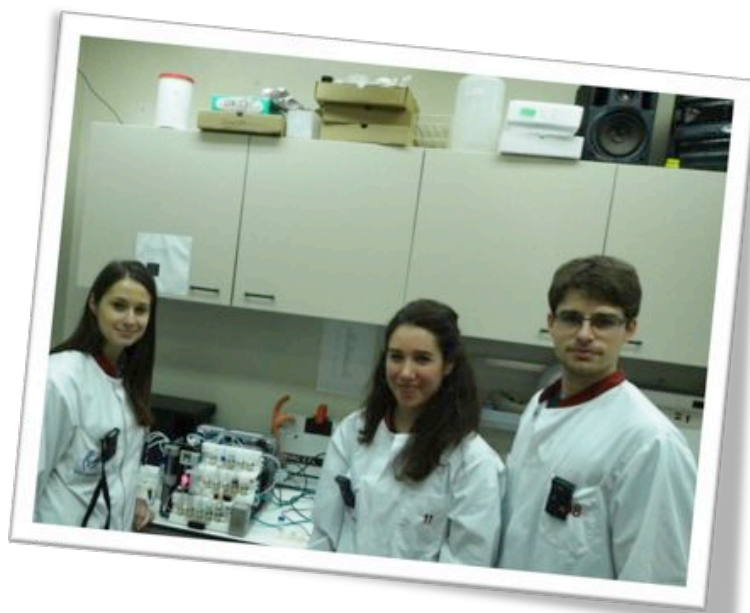
Mid-Term Review Meeting

During Day 2, a Mid-Term Review Meeting was held in which all ESRs, PIs, the Associate Partner Representatives, the Project Officer from the European Union and the Expert reviewer attended.

It started with the discussions held by the ESRs presenting our personal and professional backgrounds and our scientific achievements during the first year of this experience. I was really happy to get into a closer contact with the work of everybody and impressed about the outstanding achievements that my colleagues reached within a year.

After our scientific discussions we had the opportunity to speak with the Project Officer and discuss about our experience, relative problems and future opportunities.

by Ermal



RADIOMI School II

with the RADIOMI fellows

RADIOMI School II was organised by Prof. Albert Windhorst during the last eight days in Amsterdam. It was divided in lectures and practical session. During the lectures given by Dr. Jordi Llop and Prof. Olof Solin we had the pleasure to discuss some important aspects of nitrogen-13 and fluorine-18 chemistry. In addition, Prof. Josee Leysen and Dr. Leo Klomp provide us valuable advices on how to write a scientific paper and grant proposal. Whereas, in the practical session we had the opportunity to carry out ^{89}Zr , ^{123}I and ^{18}F labelling under the supervision of Post Docs and professors. Moreover, the "Hands-on automation" session planned by Prof Windhorst and the RADIOMI associate partners was very useful to understand how automated systems produce different radiotracers.

by Carlotta

As before in Oxford, the RADIOMI International Meeting provided us amazing knowledge with the lectures of the colleagues and invited guests. During these two days we had the pleasure to know the news surrounding radiochemistry: new nanoformulations for contrast agent and drug delivery presented by Dr. Pál Mikecz; advances in the utility of hypervalent substrates for radiofluorination and PET radiotracer synthesis by Dr. Victor Pike and ^{89}Zr immuno-radiolabelling application by Dr. Danielle Vugts. Furthermore, the RADIOMI fellows from partner universities had the opportunity to show the results on their research during the last semester, promoting a pleasant discuss within the network.

by Eunice



School II started with interesting a talk held by Dr. Jordi Llop titled "Radiochemistry Nitrogen-13" which gave us the possibility to better know the advantages and drawbacks of using ^{13}N . In the afternoon followed a lecture concerning Radionuclide production, held by Prof. Olof Solin. Next days we had the opportunity to learn more about Radiometals, ^{123}I , ^{18}F and ^{11}C chemistry, lectures held by Prof. Albert Windhorst and Dr. Danielle Vugts.

The two lectures, "Writing a scientific manuscript" and "Grant writing", held by Prof. Josee Leysen and Dr. Leo Klomp gave us the possibility to learn more about these two fields which are important for the work of a young scientist as they are part of his daily life.

by Ermal



During the intensive second RADIOMI School, we had the chance to learn about the production, radiochemistry and automation of the main radioisotopes (Nitrogen-13, Fluorine-18, Carbon-11 and radiometals) and the strategy on how to write a scientific manuscript and a research grant. The challenge of this second school was the hands-on experience in radionuclide production (for example: ^{89}Zr radiolabelling of antibodies; ^{18}F synthesis in different conditions and quality control analysis of these chemistry processes). The automation process of different radionuclides was demonstrated by RADIOMI Associated Partners.

by Eunice

I thoroughly enjoyed the subsequent school 2 that covered a wide range of aspects of both Radiochemistry and scientific writing and I particularly benefited from the critical analysis of scientific manuscripts led by Prof. Josee Leysen and from seeing the various synthesis devices available on the market today.

by Thomas

I very much enjoyed the lectures from Dr. J. Llop and Prof. S. Olof, especially as they are part of the program, and they were happy to share their knowledge from their labs with us. They were all giving us good practical advice and were open for discussions.

Additionally, the work in the lab gave this course a special touch. Practicing what you have learned in lectures, is very much important and helps you remember easily. I am very glad we had this opportunity to work with radionuclides, that are not part of our own studies.

The two-day course with the vendors of the radiosynthesis machines was also very exciting. To see and get the devices explained in small groups was best for learning and asking any questions possible.

by Ulrike

Prof. Windhorst, Dr. Llop and Prof. Olof prepared for us really interesting lectures, also from the practical aspect. Moreover, Prof. Leysen gave us the insight in manuscript writing, with emphasis how good manuscript looks like. Another non-scientific lecture, grant writing from Dr. Klomp also provide us lot of interesting information how to successfully apply for a grant.

In the last week of School II we had a chance to do some practical work in the lab and work also with radiometals. Last two days associated partners in the RADIOMI project prepared us an educational overview of their radiosynthesis machines with a practical explanation in small groups.

by Aleksandra

I could attend lectures from the others fellows, where they showed amazing results about their current progress in their projects; and outstanding lectures from well-known radiochemistry researchers like Prof. Victor Pike.

During the workshop we learnt about F-18, C-11, N-13 radiochemistry, radionuclide production, radiometals like Zr-89. As well as manuscript and grant writing, which is valuable for our training and future career.

The organized practices from Prof. Albert Windhorst, were very interesting because we worked with other radioisotopes that we do not use currently in our labs, such as: Zr-89 or I-123.

by Ana Lima

The RADIOMI meeting in Amsterdam was a valuable learning experience for all of us. Dr. Llop taught us that drawbacks in nitrogen-13 chemistry can actually be advantages. We performed actual radiolabelling with fluorine-18 and iodine-123, which gave us valuable insight in scale, physical limitations and needed precautions when working with radionuclides. The automation courses were fascinating (I also didn't mind the "bribing" at all), allowing us to get to know some people in the industry, as well as getting acquainted with the technology in our labs. And the grant writing and manuscript writing courses added valuable transferable skills to our repertoire.

by Ture

Last but not least

by the RADIOMI fellows

It was a privilege to visit the beautiful city of Amsterdam for the first time. All the lectures were encouraging for learning. The presentations from each ESRs were awesome. Also the experience with all ESRs and PIs was fantastic. It was a pleasure to meet the REA project officer, the expert reviewers for the first time. Paper writing

followed by grant writing was a phenomenal learning experience. Overall in Amsterdam was very special and memorable.

by Sameer

RADIOMI International Meeting II was a great opportunity to meet again the RADIOMI fellows and the respective professors of the different partner universities. It was a real pleasure to attend at the talks of Prof. Victor Pike, Dr. Pal Mikecz and Dr. Danielle Vugts. They emphasised relevant topics regarding synthetic chemistry, radiochemistry and medicinal chemistry.

by Carlotta

I spent an enjoyable two weeks in Amsterdam and am glad to have been given this possibility to get to know more people in the field of radiochemistry. I am looking forward to welcoming all the RADIOMI fellows and supervisors in Turku next spring.

by Thomas

It was a pleasure for me to be in Amsterdam for the RADIOMI International Meeting 2 and the RADIOMI School 2. The RADIOMI events were a good opportunity to re-encounter the RADIOMI network and to meet new people that joined the RADIOMI project.

As always, the RADIOMI events have enriched me both personally and professionally!

by Eunice

Altogether it was a good experience for both professionally and personally. It was nice to know people from different countries and different cultures and share with them experience and different points of view.

I am looking forward to the next meeting in Turku!

by Ana Lima

On the social level, Amsterdam was quite like Oxford, but without the ridiculous closing times of the bars. Special thanks to Ulrike and Alexandra for organizing the nice Tibetan restaurant and brewery/bar, and for the extensive list of bars and restaurants to visit! Thanks also to the various professors not shying away from exploring the Amsterdam night life with us. It'll be a challenge for Thomas, Anna and Prof. Olof to top this meeting next March!

by Ture

In a few words this experience was amazing from both points of view, professional and personal. I had the opportunity to learn a lot concerning to radiochemistry and to visit the

wonderful city of Amsterdam. A special thank goes to the VUmc staff which for all

the help and the dedication during the courses, and also for the last "borrel" organized the last night with drinks and

typical Dutch fried snacks.
by Ermal

RADIOMI International Meeting 2 was an excellent opportunity to meet all the supervisors and students involved in the

project and to gain new knowledge in radiopharmaceutical chemistry.
by Aleksandra

Message from the Organiser of RADIOMI School II

Professor Albert Windhorst, VUmc, The Netherlands



From November 5 until November 14 we had in Amsterdam the second school of the RADIOMI project. As host of this school I organized a program with several classes about the chemistry of nitrogen-13 (given by Dr. Jordi Llop), carbon-11, fluor-18 and radiometals (given by Dr. Danielle Vugts). Prof. Olof Solin taught about radionuclide production. Also complementary skills were taught: Manuscript writing (Josee Leysen) and grant writing (Leo Klomp). The final two days were dedicated to automation of radiosynthesis. The associated partners of RADIOMI presented to the students their commercially available synthesis modules.

Large part of the school was hands-on, students performed labeling experiments with fluor-18 and zirconium-89 and enjoyed hands-on demonstrations of the synthesis modules.

Of course social events are an important aspect of such a school. It is not only about learning radiochemistry, but also get to know each other and creating friendships. The two Amsterdam based RADIOMI students, Ulrike Filp and Aleksandra Pekošak organized a 'RADIOMI party' where also the associated partners were invited and all the lab personnel of the Radionuclide center. It was a fantastic event, which lasted until the early morning hours.

It was a successful school, to my opinion. All teachers were very enthusiastic about the students and I had many positive replies from the students.

Personally speaking - an interview with RADIOMI ESR



Aleksandra Pekošak, VUmc, The Netherlands

1. What did you present at the 33rd European Peptide Symposium?

At the 33rd European Peptide Symposium I presented the poster with title "Challenges of stereoselective synthesis of [¹¹C]phenylalanine to obtain carbon-11 labeled peptidic PET tracers." I made an assumption that the audience will have limited/basic knowledge of radiopharmaceutical chemistry, therefore the introduction gave a quick overview what PET is and the limitations radiochemistry is facing working with carbon-11, followed by the main goal of my project. Second part of the poster concluded radiosynthesis of key labeling precursor [¹¹C]benzyl iodide and finally labeling of racemic and L-[¹¹C]-phenylalanine.

2. Was it difficult to win the poster prize?

Well, at such a large and diverse European symposium, with almost 400 poster in total, was certainly challenging to draw the attention. For the young researchers organizers provided special "Dr. Bert L. Schram Young Investigators' Mini-Symposium", however even at the mini symposium there were many young and outstanding students presenting their work. Receiving the prize was a great acknowledgment and inspiration, especially as this was my first poster at all.

3. Which tips for winning competitions would you share with the RADIOMI fellows?

Definitely the poster depends on the symposium and on the audience, therefore I would suggest to thoroughly examine the background of the audience before making the first draft. After identifying the audience, I would suggest to start with the outlook of your work, by using tables, graphs, schemes etc. I would also like to emphasize that the poster should be visually attractive. For the final poster session I would simply add that the presenter should be confident in the results, motivated to present and make presentation as attractive as possible.

Editorial Team

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