

## EXCO ACTIVITIES DECEMBER 2023 to APRIL 2024

Exco, in terms of the constitution, represented SORSA and members in a range of activities from December 2023 to April 2024.

- SORSA was represented at the Durban University of Technology (DUT) advisory board meeting.
- SORSA participated in the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) first year orientation programme. SORSA's representative shared details about SORSA.
- SORSA was represented at the National Department of Health (NDoH) ICSP meeting for community service placements. There were a number of radiotherapy graduates who were not placed due to financial constraints on the part of NDoH. SORSA provided inputs on the impact on patients and service delivery that such none placement of graduates may have with respect to service delivery as well as the registration of these graduates.
- SORSA's report on the 2023 Congress, in association with ISMRT, and the upcoming 2025 Congress, in association with IAFR, was published in the January 2024 newsletter of the ISRRT Newsletter
- SORSA participated in the African Regional Cooperative Agreement for Research, Development and Training related to Nuclear Science and Technology (AFRA) regional meeting on radiation protection in paediatric and pregnant patients under the regional project RAF 9064 was hosted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) from 4 - 8 December 2023 in Vienna, Austria. Each member country at the meeting presented on the status with respect to radiation protection in pregnant and paediatric patients in their individual institutions/countries as per the template that was circulated prior to attending the meeting. The objective of the meeting was to improve the capacity of AFRA states in radiation protection of patients in line with the new international safety standards. Based on the template provided by the IAEA, SORSA presented a PPT presentation on the following: radiation protection education and training modules, the number of dedicated paediatric hospitals in South Africa, the number of paediatric radiologists/radiographers in South Africa, clinical indications for imaging pregnant patients, clinical indications for imaging paediatric patients, the person/s responsible at each institution (healthcare facility) who is primarily responsible for justification of radiological examinations in paediatric patients, the person/s primarily responsible for justification of radiological examinations in pregnant patients at the relevant institutions(healthcare facilities), use or non-use of contact shielding tools in pregnant/paediatric patients, details of different CT protocols for paediatric and adult patients, clinical audits of performing imaging examinations on pregnant and paediatric patients, comparative use of radiation exposure to your paediatric patients with specific paediatric diagnostic reference levels, and proposed ways in which to improve local practices in radiation protection of pregnant and paediatric patients.
- SORSA, at the invitation of the editor, contributed to a textbook to be published by Springer on artificial intelligence (AI) in radiography. SORSA's contribution covered the panel discussion on AI at the 2019 congress, as well as several virtual symposia and webinars from 2020 to 2023: the focus of the contribution was what SORSA has done to raise awareness about AI artificial intelligence and its role in clinical practice, ethics, and dose reduction.
- SORSA met with Discovery medical scheme representatives to discuss and unpack private practice and coding matters and challenges. A way forward on ethical coding guidelines is being explored by SORSA.
- SORSA met with Life Healthcare representatives to discuss matters of mutual interest and possible collaboration. The representatives of Life Healthcare indicated a possible collaboration in terms of continuing professional development. Feedback is awaited.

- SORSA is finalising the joint position statement on the use of C-arms in theatre with the South African Association of Physicists in Medicine and Biology (SAAPMB). Additional endorsements by other stakeholders are being sought and when finalised the position statement will be published SORSA's web and Facebook page.
- Based on concerns of members, a letter was sent to SAPHRA re: their dental imaging guidelines and awareness creation among dentists and oral health professionals. SORSA recommended that SAPHRA should send their dental imaging guidelines to the HPCSA Professional Boards regulating dentists and oral health professionals to create awareness among them about these important guidelines to ensure patient and personal safety.
- A letter was sent to the RCT Board at the HPCSA re: the forensic radiography guidelines. SORSA listed concerns pertaining to the guidelines on forensic radiography guidelines developed by the RCT Board and recommended some revisions.
- SORSA participated in meetings to discuss who would host PACORI 2025 as well as venue. The proposed venue was Kenya on 3 March 2025.
- Based on requests from members SORSA submitted a letter to the Minister of Health's office in terms of being kept abreast on NHI matters and willingness to provide inputs. As a result of the letter the Department of Health participated in a NHI webinar.
- SORSA signed an MoU with the ISMRT to promote MRI best practice and education among members of both societies.
- SORSA met with SAAPMB to discuss areas of mutual interest, in particular DRLs in South Africa, and the way forward. There was consensus on working together to give effect to AfroSafe. This collaboration is a work in progress.