



IAEA

Atoms for Peace
and Development

**International Symposium on Trends in
Radiopharmaceuticals
(ISTR2027)**

**IAEA Headquarters
Vienna, Austria**

21–25 June 2027

**Organized by the
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

Announcement and Call for Papers

A. Background

Radiopharmaceuticals are vital life-saving tools in nuclear medicine, enabling improved diagnosis and more effective therapies. Recent years have seen rapid growth in theranostics and personalized medicine, alongside increasing demand for reliable radioisotope supply, robust quality assurance and regulatory frameworks and a skilled workforce to support radiopharmaceuticals production and clinical translation. These developments underscore the need for strengthened international collaboration and knowledge exchange. Building on the success of its previous editions, the IAEA will convene the International Symposium on Trends in Radiopharmaceuticals (#ISTR2027).

Advances in nuclear medicine have created significant opportunities to address clinical challenges by enhancing diagnostic accuracy and therapeutic efficacy. These developments are closely linked to the emergence of novel radiopharmaceuticals and to efficient, reliable production of relevant medical radioisotopes.

In this context, the IAEA plays a key role as a neutral international platform, supporting Member States through capacity building, development of quality and safety standards and by fostering collaboration among regulators, producers, researchers and clinicians.

In addition to the established production pathways, advanced technologies containing high-energy and high-current accelerators, are increasingly available for radioisotope production. This expansion has allowed broader access to several promising radionuclides for diagnosis and therapy, including beta, Auger and alpha emitters. Alternative large scale production routes using electron and proton accelerators, as well as research and power reactors, are being actively developed.

Several radionuclides are already well established for therapy, including, *inter alia*, iodine-131, lutetium-177 and samarium-153. The clinical success of radiolabelled peptides and enzyme inhibitors, particularly for cancer treatment, has driven a substantial global increase in demand for lutetium-177 over the past decade. Targeted alpha therapy has also become a major focus for radioisotope producers, researchers and nuclear medicine physicians. Radiopharmaceuticals based on radium-223 and actinium-225 are currently in clinical use for cancer treatment, while other alpha emitting radionuclides, including, *inter alia*, astatine-211, bismuth-213 and lead-212, are under investigation for radiopharmaceutical developments. Currently, the demand for α emitters significantly exceeds its available supply, prompting intensified efforts across academia and industry to develop efficient and scalable production methods. Similarly, auger emitters are attracting increasing interest for novel therapeutic applications, including, *inter alia*, iodine-123 and terbium-161.

The field of radiopharmaceuticals has evolved continuously, from early applications of radioiodide to sophisticated coordination compounds, such as technetium-99m radiopharmaceuticals. Today, a broad spectrum of PET radioligands, as well as diagnostic and therapeutic agents, are being evaluated for their potential clinical applications. Key milestones in this evolution include the development of novel radiochemistry methods for radiolabelling a variety of ligands with different radionuclides, advances in automated process development and the availability of robust nonclinical evaluation techniques, reflecting the collective contributions of scientists across diverse disciplines.

The concept of theranostics, combining diagnostic and therapeutic capabilities within a single radioisotope or a chemically matched radionuclide pair, represents a powerful paradigm for future developments in medical applications. When suitable biomolecules targeting specific cellular pathways are labelled with theranostic radionuclides, they enable integrated approaches to diagnosis, dosimetry, therapy planning and follow-up, thereby advancing the realisation of personalized nuclear medicine.

B. Purpose and Objectives

Radiopharmaceuticals are a core component of nuclear medicine, playing a pivotal role in enabling improved diagnostic precision and more effective, personalised therapies that save lives. The IAEA's International Symposium on Trends in Radiopharmaceuticals (#ISTR2027) will provide a global forum for a broad and diverse community, including scientists, clinicians, regulators, educators, industry representatives, policy makers and early-career professionals, to exchange knowledge on scientific innovations and emerging techniques in radioisotope production and radiopharmaceutical development. The symposium will also promote the sharing of best practices in radiopharmacy and capacity building and facilitate the discussion on challenges related to ensuring equitable access to radiopharmaceuticals worldwide.

The Symposium aims to:

- Showcase newest technologies in medical radioisotope production and radiopharmaceutical development,
- Highlight emerging trends in the development and clinical translation of novel molecular imaging agents, theranostic and therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals,
- Share best practices in quality management systems and operational excellence across diverse radiopharmacy settings,
- Foster multidisciplinary collaboration among academia, industry, healthcare institutions, regulatory authorities and international organizations to address challenges in global access to radiopharmaceutical products,
- Discuss education and training strategies to build a skilled workforce to meet future demands in the field,
- Exchange experiences on global initiatives that strengthen capacity, harmonize standards and support the long term development of radiopharmaceutical infrastructure worldwide.

#ISTR2027 offers a significant opportunity for chemists, biologists, pharmacists, physicists, medical researchers and professionals across related disciplines to engage with emerging innovations and scientific advances in this rapidly evolving field.

C. Themes and Topics

The scope of the symposium is meant to cover, but is not limited to, the following topical areas (authors are requested to indicate the appropriate track code when submitting abstracts):

1. Production of medical radioisotopes - PRI
2. Production and development of radiopharmaceuticals - PRP
3. Quality Control/Quality Assurance - QCQA
4. Preclinical evaluation of radiopharmaceuticals - PCE
5. Delivery systems - DS
6. GxP and Health Regulations - GPH
7. Radiobiology and Preclinical Dosimetry of Therapeutics - RBT
8. Education and training – ET
9. Success stories from Member States - SSMS

D. Structure

The Symposium programme will comprise an opening session, plenary lectures and technical sessions (both oral and poster/e-poster), complemented by interactive content sessions, exhibitions, satellite sessions, side events and a closing session.

The opening session will feature welcoming addresses from representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and other relevant organizations. This will set the context for the Symposium by outlining its objectives and highlighting key challenges and opportunities in the field of radiopharmaceutical sciences.

Plenary sessions will include invited keynote speeches delivered by internationally recognized experts. These sessions will provide overviews of major scientific developments, emerging trends and strategic directions in the field. Technical sessions will be organized according to specific thematic areas and will include oral presentations selected on the basis of submitted abstracts. Where appropriate, parallel sessions may be convened to accommodate multiple thematic tracks and ensure comprehensive coverage of relevant topics.

Poster sessions will also be organized, subject to the number of abstracts received, with dedicated time allocated to facilitate discussion and interaction between participants and presenting authors. Interactive content sessions, satellite meetings and side events will further enhance the scientific programme by providing additional opportunities for in-depth discussion, networking and collaboration. An exhibition area will be made available for institutions and industry partners to showcase relevant technologies and developments.

The closing session will be dedicated to summarizing the main conclusions and key outcomes of the Symposium. It will include a synthesis of discussions and recommendations for future directions in the field, followed by the presentation of the Young Investigator Award recognising outstanding contributions from early-career researchers. The session will conclude with closing remarks from the Symposium President and representatives of the IAEA.

E. Expected Outcomes

The symposium will be an effective platform for interactions among the participants, IAEA, academia, industries and decision making bodies in the field. In particular, the Symposium will aim to achieve the following outcomes:

- Enhanced knowledge sharing and dissemination of experience and best practices among all participating Member States;
- Strengthened networking and initiation of collaborative partnerships to support future activities in the research, production, and application of radioisotopes and radiopharmaceuticals;
- Improved awareness of available technologies, facilities, and innovations through industry exhibitions and institutional showcases.

F. Target Audience

The target audience for the Symposium includes (radio)chemists, (radio)pharmacists, biologists, physicists, technologists, medical researchers, decision makers, health regulators, educators and other professionals working in the fields of production and uses of medical radioisotopes and radiopharmaceuticals. The IAEA welcomes and encourages the participation of individuals from developing countries, women and early career professionals including students.

G.Call for Papers

Contributions on the topics listed in Section C are welcome as oral or poster presentations. All submissions, apart from invited papers, must present original work, which has not been published elsewhere.

G.1. Submission of Abstracts

Abstracts can range from 500 to 600 words on maximum 1 page of A4 format (charts, graphs and figures are discouraged). Abstracts should provide sufficient information on the content of the proposed paper to enable the Programme Committee to evaluate it. Anyone wishing to present at the symposium must submit an abstract in electronic format only using the symposium's file submission system ([IAEA-INDICO](#)), which is accessible from the symposium web page (see Section Q). The abstract can be submitted through this system until **30 November 2026**. Specifications for the layout will be available on IAEA-INDICO. The system for electronic submission of synopsis, IAEA-INDICO, is the sole mechanism for submission of contributed synopsis. Authors are encouraged to submit abstracts as early as possible. The IAEA will not accept submissions via email. Specifications for the layout will be available on IAEA-INDICO. The electronic submission system IAEA-INDICO is the sole mechanism for submitting contributed synopses. Authors are encouraged to submit abstracts as early as possible. The IAEA will not accept submissions via email.

In addition, authors must register online using the InTouch+ platform (see Section H). The online registration together with the auto-generated Participation Form (Form A) and Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B) must reach the IAEA no later than **30 November 2026**.

IMPORTANT: The Programme Committee will consider uploaded abstracts only if these two forms have been received by the IAEA through the established official channels (see Section H).

G.2. Acceptance of Abstracts

The Symposium Secretariat reserves the right to exclude abstracts that do not comply with its technical or scientific quality standards and that do not apply to one of the topics listed in Section C.

Authors will be informed by **18 January 2027** as to whether their submission has been accepted, either orally or as a poster, for presentation at the symposium.

Accepted contributions will also be reproduced in an unedited electronic compilation of abstracts which will be made available to all registered participants of the symposium.

Proceedings

Following the conference, the IAEA will publish a summary report. The proceedings will be made available to read online.

H. Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event must be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be a member of an organization that has been invited to attend.

Registration through the InTouch+ platform:

1. Access the InTouch+ platform (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>):
 - Persons with an existing NUCLEUS account can [sign in here](#) with their username and password;
 - Persons without an existing NUCLEUS account can [register here](#).
2. Once signed in, prospective participants can use the InTouch+ platform to:
 - Complete or update their personal details under ‘Basic Profile’ (if no financial support is requested) or under ‘Complete Profile’ (if financial support is requested) and upload the relevant supporting documents;
 - Search for the relevant event (**EVT2502516**) under the ‘My Eligible Events’ tab;
 - Select the Member State or invited organization they want to represent from the drop-down menu entitled ‘Designating authority’ (if an invited organization is not listed, please contact Conference.Contact-Point@iaea.org);
 - If applicable, indicate whether a paper is being submitted and complete the relevant information;
 - If applicable, indicate whether financial support is requested and complete the relevant information (this is not applicable to participants from invited organizations);
 - Based on the data input, the InTouch+ platform will automatically generate Participation Form (Form A), Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B) and/or Grant Application Form (Form C);
 - Submit their application.

Once submitted through the InTouch+ platform, the application together with the auto-generated form(s) will be transmitted automatically to the required authority for approval. If approved, the application together with the form(s) will automatically be sent to the IAEA through the online platform.

NOTE: Should prospective participants wish to submit a paper or request financial support, the application needs to be submitted by the specified deadlines (see section O).

For additional information on how to apply for an event, please refer to the [InTouch+ Help](#) page. Any other issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be sent to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

If it is not possible to submit the application through the InTouch+ platform, prospective participants are requested to contact the IAEA’s Conference Services Section via email: Conference.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the [Agency’s Personal Data and Privacy Policy](#) and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and

assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. Further information can be found in the [Data Processing Notice](#) concerning IAEA InTouch+ platform.

I. Expenditures and Grants

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the conference. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help cover the cost of attendance of certain participants. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA's view, the participant will make an important contribution to the conference.

If participants wish to apply for a grant, they should submit applications to the IAEA using the InTouch+ platform through their competent national authority (see Section H). Participants should ensure that applications for grants are submitted by **29 January 2027**.

Applications must be accompanied by Participation Form (Form A) and Grant Application Form (Form C) which are autogenerated in the InTouch+ platform.

Applications that do not comply with the above conditions cannot be considered.

Approved grants will be issued in the form of a lump sum payment that usually covers **only part of the cost of attendance**.

J. Distribution of Documents

A preliminary and final programme will be made available on the symposium web page (see Section Q) prior to the start of the conference. The electronic compilation of abstracts will be accessible free of charge to participants registered for the symposium.

K. Exhibitions

A limited amount of space will be available for commercial vendors' displays/exhibits during the symposium. Interested parties should contact the Scientific Secretariat by email [ISTR2027@iaea.org] by **30 October 2026**.

L. Working Language

The working language of the symposium will be English. All communications must be sent to the IAEA in English.

M. Venue and Accommodation

The symposium will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), where the IAEA's Headquarters are located. Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC one hour before the start of the event on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. Hotels offering a reduced rate for participants are listed on <https://www.iaea.org/events>. Please note that the IAEA is not in a position to assist participants with hotel bookings, nor can the IAEA assume responsibility for paying fees for cancellations, re-bookings and no-shows.

N. Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria as early as three months but not later than four weeks before they travel to Austria. Since Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.

For more information, please see the Austria Visa Information document available on <https://www.iaea.org/events>.

O. Key Deadlines and Dates

Submission of abstracts through IAEA-INDICO	30 November 2026
Submission of Form B (together with Form A) through the InTouch+ platform	30 November 2026
Notification of acceptance of abstracts for oral or poster presentation	18 January 2027
Submission of Form C (together with Form A) through the InTouch+ platform	29 January 2027
Submission of Form A only (no paper submission, no grant request) through the InTouch+ platform	15 June 2027

P. Symposium Secretariat

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretaries and correspondence on administrative matters to the IAEA's Conference Services Section.

Q. Symposium Web Page

Please visit the IAEA symposium [web page](#) regularly for new information regarding this symposium.