In Memoriam



Dr Arsalan Vakili-Taleghani, MD 1936 – 2020

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The Nuclear Medicine Family at the Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS) and all over Iran were shocked and deeply saddened to learn that Dr. Arsalan Vakili-Taleghani our dear friend and colleague one of the pioneers and principle founders of Nuclear Medicine in Iran passed away on August 31 of this year.

Dr. Vakili-Taleghani was a graduate of TUMS in 1964. As a young physician, he developed an interest in nuclear medicine, which at that time was quite a new area of medical science not only in Iran but also all over the world. Dr. Vakili-Taleghani had a vast training experience, in very well-known centers around the world including the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, University of Connecticut, Kanazawa University and a fellowship in South Africa.

Following his post-graduate training and return to Iran, he joined the newly established center for nuclear medicine and endocrinology at Shariati Hospital, TUMS, as an assistant professor, where he continued to work for more than 3 decades.

During this time, he dedicated his life to promotion and advancement of nuclear medicine services and education not only at the university level, but also throughout the country. His contributions were undoubtedly an important part of the collective efforts leading to the recognition of nuclear medicine as an independent specialty, paving the way for establishment of postgraduate residency training program and recognition of Board of Nuclear Medicine in our country. Throughout years, he continued to be an active member of the executive committee of the Iranian Society of Nuclear Medicine as well as a member of the editorial board of the Iranian Journal of Nuclear Medicine. He directly contributed to training of more than 100 nuclear medicine physicians until 1998, the year when he was retired from his university duties.

After his retirement, he continued to remain professionally active, practicing in his private nuclear medicine center. As a matter of fact, he continued to work until about 2 weeks before his unfortunate demise, when he had to be hospitalized and did not recover from his illness.

We knew Dr. Vakili-Taleghani through direct interactions for a long time. He was always a gentleman, modest, thoughtful and knowledgeable. Extremely caring physician with high standards of moral values.

We lost a beloved colleague, a mentor, a wonderful human being and above all a real friend. He will be remembered dearly by all of us.

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