



4610 Littlejohn Street, Baldwin Park, CA 91706  
(800) 321-5981, (626) 960-9822 Phone  
(626) 960-8700 Fax  
info@medinuclear.com  
www.medinuclear.com

## Medi/Nuclear® Corporate Timeline

What makes Medi/Nuclear® the lung company? We, our personnel, have a history of being in on the invention, if you will, of the Perfusion Lung Scan as well as the Aerosol Inhalation Lung Scan. Two of our principals, Russ King and Ross Potter have been involved in Nuclear Medicine since before the term Nuclear Medicine was coined.

Russ came into Nuclear Medicine through Mallinkrodt in the 1950's and then was a vice-president with Picker Nuclear through the 1960's and early 1970's. When he left Picker, he got an El Scint Franchise for the 7 Western States. When GE bought the El Scint operation, they had to buy his franchise. This provided the seed money for the beginning of Medi/Nuclear® in 1973.

Ross was a student x-ray technician at Harbor General Hospital in Torrance, California in 1958 when he rotated through the Isotope Lab, as it was then known. When 2 of the 3 isotope technicians got pregnant, he was the only one around with any experience and so completed his training in isotope technology on the job. He was fortunate that an affiliation with UCLA existed at that time. It was this affiliation that had him working with Dr. George Taplin at this time. He was also allowed to sit in on Physics lectures by Dr. Raymond Libby. Through this association he was there to see the development of the Rose Bengal Hepatogram, the Renogram and the Cerebral Blood Flow studies. All before imaging was possible.

Through Russ, Dr. Taplin obtained all the latest Picker imaging equipment. First, the Magnascanner I, then the Magnascanner III & V, the Dynapix 10 probe scanner, the Dynacamera, and finally the Ter-Pogossian Image Intensifier Camera. Ross was by now the Chief Technologist and was intimately involved in the use of all these instruments.

In 1963, Dr. Taplin developed MAA for Lung Scanning almost simultaneously with Dr. Henry Wagner at Johns Hopkins. As it developed, Wagner had the first lung scan done on himself. The second lung scan was done on Dr. Taplin, by Ross.

In 1964, Clayton Douglas at St. Mary's Hospital in Long Beach, California developed a tagging procedure for making MAA on site. Ross took this procedure and began making I<sup>131</sup> tagged MAA at Harbor General.

In 1966, Dr. Taplin developed the Radioaerosol Inhalation Lung Scan at Harbor General, using an ultrasonic generator to make radioactive particles. In 1968, Ross took the Inhalation technique with him when he became Chief Technologist at the Hospital of the Good Samaritan, in Los Angeles.

In 1971, Ross had lunch with Benedict Cassen and Hal Anger, the inventors of the Rectilinear Scanner and the Scintillation Camera. This was one of the high points of his career.

Ross presented a paper on Radioaerosol Lung Scanning at the SNM meeting in Miami, in June, 1972.

In 1973, Russ incorporated Medi/Nuclear® Corporation and asked Ross to join him as the technical end of the company. By 1974, Ross was writing manuals and invited to come aboard as the full time Technical Director. Russ began searching for clients.



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In 1977, Ross developed a procedure to package multi-dose vials of  $Xe^{133}$  gas and Russ developed the Xenon/Cal Dose Calibrator to enable single doses of  $Xe^{133}$  to be withdrawn from the vial. In 1978, the Xenon/Master<sup>®</sup> Patient Delivery System was developed and in 1979, the first unit was installed at Loma Linda Community Hospital, in Loma Linda, California.

In 1985 Ross' past came back to haunt the company. Mallinkrodt came out with the UltraVent Aerosol Delivery System and Eif Leiberman, at Cadema, did likewise with a unit based on the Taplin model. This left only one thing to do. Make a better mousetrap. This resulted in the original Aero/Vent<sup>™</sup> Radioaerosol Delivery System.

Over the next few years, the nebulizer used in the Aero/Vent<sup>™</sup> continued to be improved to generate the smallest particles possible. In 1987, the Aero/Vent<sup>™</sup> Plus was introduced for the delivery of fine particles, with over 97% being under 1 micron. In 1998, the Insta/Vent<sup>™</sup> was introduced with a conserver bag to increase the delivery efficiency.

In 2006, the two tube version of the Insta/Vent<sup>™</sup> was introduced. It still produced the same fine particles but with the addition of a return tube, it was able to deliver the particles to the patient's mouth without being exposed to high humidity. The two tube versions of the Aero/Vent<sup>™</sup> Plus and the Aero/Vent<sup>™</sup> Jr. were also introduced, and Ross retired.

As it happened, Russ and Ross were the ideal partners. Russ could invent, Ross could test, and because they had confidence in each other neither felt constrained to agree just to please the other. In 1976 something else happened that shaped the company into what it became. Lyman Newton was brought in as Sales Manager and proved to be the world's greatest salesman. Every customer was, to him, the most important customer and he loved every one of them. In return, he was loved by all. Lyman retired in 2005.

Though Ross had retired, he still came in to pursue lab development and to act as Radiation Safety Officer. In May 2012, Ross returned on a part time basis to act as Manager of New Product Development.

In January 2015, Suzanne Hammersmith, Russ' daughter, became the CEO.

*Ross Potter, Technical Director, Medi/Nuclear<sup>®</sup> Corp. Inc.*

*September 25, 2017*