

NEUROIMAGING OF PAIN

Leontino Battistin

Department of Neurosciences, University Hospital, Padova, Italy, IRCCS San Camillo Hospital, Venice, Italy

Introductory Remarks

This Session deals with the therapeutical approach to the neurological diseases, which is a very important and absolutely “actual” and “timed” subject. As a matter of fact, everyone knows that in clinical neurology for many decades the best exercise was the search of the diagnosis with semeiological signs and also with laboratory and technological devices. At the present time, things have changed and all neurologists are also very much engaged in the research of drugs effective for therapy. This new modality started in the last century with the beginning of the chemical and metabolic research on the nervous system first in the experimental animals and later on in humans through the use of SPECT, PET and NMR with the studies of functional imaging. Nowadays, the research on therapeutic approaches is really very impressive, from the field of extrapyramidal disor-

ders, not only Parkinson’s diseases, to the ones of cognitive impairment, cerebrovascular diseases, neuromuscular disorders, and many others that everybody knows.

We are quite confident that the next years will be witness of new discoveries in this field and that there will really be new hopes and new realities for our patients.