

Open Letter to ASTRO Committee

1. I named my Company Best, because I wanted us to be the Best in everything we do!
2. Many of the global Conferences / Trade Shows for 2020 have gone Virtual and all have refunded our Exhibit Booth Deposit in full, except ASTRO.
3. TeamBest Companies (some of them) have been in existence for more than 100 years.
4. Most of the Radiotherapy Procedures used to treat Patients have been invented and pioneered by TeamBest Companies and their collaborators, over the last 70 years, including Teletherapy, Brachytherapy, LDR / HDR, Sources / Devices, Particle Therapy (400 MeV ion Rapid Cycling Medical Synchrotron, (IRCMS) Vascular Brachytherapy, IMRT Treatment Planning Software, and a range of Cyclotrons from 1 MeV to 230 MeV and much more.
4. Best is the only company that has exhibited at ASTRO Technical Exhibits since 1976. (When ASTRO started Technical Exhibits in 1976 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia), with my personal attendance at every one of these since 1976.
5. Best is the Founding Member of American Brachytherapy Society, and since 1977 (at the San Francisco Hyatt Regency) has exhibited every year and advertised, sponsored the International Brachytherapy Journal since its beginning of the Publication in 1985.
6. Best sponsors annually at the ABS, (American Brachytherapy Society) Dr. Ulrich K. Henschke's Memorial lecture.
7. Best in collaboration with my Non Profit Foundations, Best Cure and Brachytherapy Research & Educational Foundations, published, "Brachytherapy, First 100 Years of Conquering Cancer," written by Dr. Basil S. Hilaris and have provided copies free of cost to Radiation Therapy/Oncology Professionals. Many thousands of copies of the Hard Cover Books have continued to be distributed globally at various Conferences over the last several years.
8. Best advertises in all ASTRO Journals in every issue, and is the largest advertiser for the Journals of ASTRO.
9. Best exhibits and attends at all ASTRO Conferences including the Refresher Courses, when permitted.
10. Best supported a Course on Vascular Brachytherapy, at ASTRO with 25,000 USD contributions soon after the Approval from US FDA and on multiple years Best was a Silver Corporate Member of ASTRO.
11. Nearly 20 years ago, Best approached ASTRO Corporate Committee, with the intention to sponsor 100 ASTRO BEST Scholarships – 500 USD each with an Award Certificate / Plaque

(worth more than 100 USD each) for ASTRO to select 100 of 3rd and 4th year Residents, with 50 from Radiation Therapy/Oncology, 25 from Surgical Oncology, and 25 from Medical Oncology – With the stipulation that the selection will be done solely by ASTRO with no influence from Best and that ASTRO waive the Annual Meeting Registration fees to these 100 Residents. However ASTRO refused to waive the Registration fees for these Residents to attend the Annual Meeting, and Best decided not to fund these 100 Scholarships to Residents, through ASTRO, but with other Societies and independently.

12. So, Best decided to work with other Societies that were willing to waive the Registration Fees for the Annual Meetings or Workshops / Refresher Courses for such Residents receiving the Best Scholarships, such as ACRO, RSS, ABS, AAPM and others or provide such Scholarships independent of the Societies.

13. American College of Radiation Oncology (ACRO) started to provide accreditation and promote the Profession, through engaging Law Makers in Washington, DC. Several years later, ASTRO started to engage in such activities following ACRO.

14. When the President of ASTRO Dr. Prabhakar Tripuraneni was inducted into ACRO as Fellow of ACRO, FACRO, the following year ASTRO started FASTRO, again copying ACRO.

15. After the 50th Anniversary Celebrations of Society of Nuclear Medicine in 2004 in Philadelphia, SNM (now called the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging – SNMMI) I provided a copy of the 50th Anniversary Celebrations Issue of SNM to Dr. Prabhakar Tripuraneni. After that, he used that as a model to create and print the ASTRO's version of their 50th Anniversary Celebrations Issue.

16. The recent threats and intimidation to penalize Best, does not surprise me, as Best as a Minority owned Small Business has suffered lots of discriminations by ASTRO for many years.

17. ASTRO stands for the American Society of Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology as named by the Founders of ASTRO.

ASTRO has contributed none to their Members or Patients they benefit from. It is the Small Businesses like ours who are the Pioneers and Inventors of all the new Technologies / Products and TeamBest has spent as much as 10 million USD to support the Educational Activities of ASTRO since 1976.

I am requesting you to note that Best Medical International will pay \$5000 USD for ASTRO 2020 Virtual Conference. Please refund the balance of it in full or apply to our Exhibits for 2021, without deducting any additional funds, as this has been done by all other Global Associations. As COVID-19 has immensely impacted the world, many of the global Conferences/Trade Shows for 2020 have gone Virtual and all have refunded our Exhibit Booth Deposits in full, except ASTRO.

Thanks, very very much for your attention to our request, have a great week.

Krish

President and Founder of TeamBest Companies & Best Cure Foundation