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FDA IND Approval for Zn-DTPA, New Clinical Agent for Decorporation Therapy of Actinides

The U. S. Food and Drug Administration has recently approved an Investigative New Drug (IND) application for the clinical use of zinc trisodium diethylenetriaminepentaacetate (Zn-DTPA), an experimental drug for decorporation of plutonium and other actinides. The Medical and Health Sciences Division of Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) will manage the IND for the Division of Human Health Studies, Office of Environmental Research, U.S. Department of Energy.

Physicians having a potential need for such a drug in their practice may apply for coinvestigator status to C. C. Lushbaugh, M.D., principal investigator for the study of the clinical effectiveness of Zn-DTPA. A similar trial has been conducted by

AEC/ERDA/DOE contractors over the past 10 years to determine the decorporation efficiency of the analogous calcium compound, Ca-DTPA.

Both Zn-DTPA and Ca-DTPA have characteristics that make their use appropriate for decorporation therapy of actinides. Calcium-DTPA is more effective than Zn-DTPA for early treatment (particularly within 2 hr after incorporation); after approximately 24 hr, however, Zn-DTPA is for all practical purposes as effective as Ca-DTPA. This comparable efficiency, coupled with its lesser toxicity, makes Zn-DTPA the preferred agent for protracted therapy. Calcium-DTPA is contraindicated for minors, pregnant women, nephrotics, and persons with bone marrow depression, whereas Zn-DTPA is not. Apparently Ca-DTPA can interfere with necessary mitotic cellular processes by depleting essential trace metals.

Qualified physicians needing further information about these studies or how to obtain these drugs should contact one of us.

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MIDEASTERN CHAPTER SOCIETY OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE 9th ANNUAL MEETING

April 5-7, 1979

Convention Center

Ocean City, Maryland

ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Scientific Program Committee of the Mideastern Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine solicits the submission of abstracts from members and nonmembers of the Society of Nuclear Medicine for the 9th Annual Meeting to be held April 5-7, 1979 in Ocean City, Maryland. The program will include submitted papers, invited speakers, and teaching sessions in nuclear cardiology and gastroenterology, radionuclide venography and bone scanning in benign diseases.

Abstracts should not exceed 300 words and should contain a statement of purpose, the methods used, results, and conclusions. The name of the author presenting the paper must be underlined.

Original abstracts and four copies should be sent to:

Pablo E. Dibos, M.D.
Department of Nuclear Medicine
Franklin Square Hospital
9000 Franklin Square Drive
Baltimore, MD 21237

The program will be approved for credit toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award under Continuing Medical Education, Category 1, through the Society of Nuclear Medicine.

For further information concerning the program, write or telephone (301-391-3900) the Program Chairman listed above.

ABSTRACTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 15, 1979