
NEWS BRIEFS

NEMA Standards for Scintillation Cameras

The National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) has published new standards, "Performance Measurements of Scintillation Cameras," (No. NU 1) and a brochure, "A Guide to Revised Standards for Performance Measurements of Scintillation Cameras," that answers questions about the standards and how they may be used.

The NEMA report is technically a revision of the previous gamma camera standards. Sections have been expanded and clarified, however, and new sections address single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) performance measurement standards and traceability data.

[For more information, contact: National Electrical Manufacturers Association, 2101 L Street, NW, Washington DC 20037 (202) 457-8400.] ■

Conference on Radiation Emergencies

The American Medical Association (AMA) is sponsoring a conference, to be held in Washington, DC, on November 19-21, 1986, on Non-Military Radiation Emergencies.

The conference, which is cosponsored by The Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM), is to inform the physicians and health professionals about the scientific, medical, and societal aspects of radiation emergencies such as the ones that occurred at Three Mile Island and Chernobyl. The intent of this meeting is to improve and prepare professionals in the treatment of injured persons and to assume effective roles in matters involving radiation emergencies, ionizing radiation and public policy.

Topics that will be considered at the meeting include: experiences at Chernobyl and Three Mile Island; environmental hazards; risk estimates;

emergency planning for the hospitals; emergency planning for public; public health measures; medical care and treatment; protecting workers; dealing with public anxiety and fear; networks for emergency information; and education of the public.

[For more information, contact: American Medical Association, 535 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610 (800) 621-8335; in Illinois (312) 645-4987.] ■

Winter and Annual Meeting Abstract Forms

The abstract forms for both the Winter and Annual Meetings of The Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) are published in this issue of *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*. Abstracts for the Winter Meeting must be received by November 26, 1986; the deadline for the 1987 SNM Annual Meeting is January 8, 1987. ■

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Syncor is now planning a full survey during the first part of October 1986. Frank M. Comer, a corporate health physicist at Syncor's San Diego facilities, (619)299-8655, is the coordinator. A second CSL was developed for thallium-201 by DuPont and the survey took place in late July 1986. Phyllis McIntosh at DuPont's Billerica, MA, facilities, (617)671-8472, is the coordinator.

It is intended that these secondary standards be made available annually. The frequency, however, will be decided by each CSL separately. The standards are prepared as one or more

patient doses (which can be used after the measurement) and will not cost more than the regular price. The additional survey costs are absorbed by the CSLs, and the standards are offered as a free service to the users.

The Imaging Resource Committee and, by extension, the SNM, ACNP, and CAP urge every nuclear medicine laboratory or clinic to take advantage of this opportunity to use the standards as they become available. The results are made available as a statistical analysis report and confidentiality is assured by the CSL by means of a code system. Each participant will receive a copy of this report and a

copy of the questionnaire that he or she completed.

[To participate in this calibration program, contact the survey coordinator of the CSLs. To express your interest in continuing this program or establishing more CSLs for specific radionuclides, or for additional information, contact Peter Paras, PhD, Office of Health Affairs (HFZ-70), Center for Devices and Radiological Health, 8757 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910, (301)427-7576.]

*Peter Paras, PhD
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Radiopharmaceutical Standards*