

## ANNUAL TREND IN AO EVENTS FROM FY 1999 - 2006

Table 1 shows the number of events reported annually that were determined to meet the Abnormal Occurrence (AO) criteria. A total of 81 events was found to meet the AO criteria for the 8-year period 1999 - 2006. Seventy-eight percent of the AO events were medical events. However, the relative higher number of medical events determined to be AOs is not necessarily an indication of relative performance between the medical industry and other industries. One reason why medical events make up a large fraction of AOs is that medical therapy procedures use large sources of radiation in very close proximity to or within the body. Due to the close proximity of the sources, small errors in source location can cause high radiation doses to unintended locations, resulting in unintended doses that exceed the AO criteria.

It is noteworthy that although events involving the loss or theft of material account for about 45 to 50 percent of the number of events reported to NRC each year, only one loss/theft event in 8 years has been found to meet the AO criteria. The average number of AOs per year over the last 8 years is 10.1.

**Table 1 - Comparison of the Annual Number of Abnormal Occurrence Events**

Year	Lost/Stolen	Medical	Personnel Overexposure	Fuel Cycle Facility	Totals
1999	0	10	2	1	13
2000	0	7	1	0	8
2001	0	0	2	0	2
2002	1	4	4	0	9
2003	0	12*	2	0	14
2004	0	14*	1	2	17
2005	0	9*	0	0	9
2006	0	7*	1	1	9
Totals	1	63	13	4	81

\*Include events involving a dose to embryo/fetus.