

Contents

Preface	iii
1. Executive Summary	1
2. Introduction	7
2.1 Overview	7
2.2 Purpose of this Report	13
2.3 Target Audiences of this Report	14
2.4 Scope of this Report	14
3. Background Information	17
3.1 Internal Deposition of Radionuclides	17
3.1.1 Inhalation	18
3.1.2 Ingestion	20
3.1.3 Absorption from Skin Contamination	21
3.1.4 Absorption Through Wounds	21
3.2 External Contamination	22
3.3 Effects of Weather	22
3.4 Complications Due to the Presence of Multiple Agents or Serious Injuries	23
3.5 Radiological Triage	26
3.6 Proximity to the Incident	26
3.7 Previous Experience with Internal Contamination	27
3.8 Conclusions	28
4. Settings in Which Persons May Become Contaminated with Radioactive Material	29
4.1 Radiological Dispersal Device	29
4.1.1 Incident Characteristics	30
4.1.2 Nature of Contamination	30
4.2 Aerosol Dispersal into a Public Area	31
4.2.1 Incident Characteristics	31
4.2.2 Nature of Contamination	31
4.3 Contamination of Food or Water Supplies	32
4.3.1 Incident Characteristics	32
4.3.2 Nature of Contamination	33
4.4 Improvised Nuclear Device	33
4.4.1 Incident Characteristics	33
4.4.2 Nature of Contamination	35

4.5	Nuclear Reactor Incident	35
4.5.1	Incident Characteristics	36
4.5.2	Nature of Contamination	37
4.6	Large-Scale Fires and Incidents	37
4.6.1	Incident Characteristics	37
4.6.2	Nature of Contamination	38
4.7	Sealed Radioactive Source Incidents	38
4.7.1	Incident Characteristics	39
4.7.2	Nature of Contamination	39
4.8	Summary	40
5.	Coordination with the Incident Command System	41
5.1	Introduction	41
5.2	Incident Command System	43
5.3	Hospital Incident Command System	46
5.4	Coordination Between Incident Command System and Hospital Incident Command System	48
5.5	Communicating Information from the Scene to the Hospitals and from the Hospitals to the Scene	48
6.	Radiological Triage and Screening Guidance	53
6.1	General Guidance for Emergency Responders	53
6.1.1	Selecting an Appropriate Radiation Survey Instrument	54
6.1.2	Presurvey Radiation Survey Instrument Checks	55
6.1.3	Surveying for Radioactive Contamination	56
6.2	Radiological Triage and Screening Procedures	56
6.3	Initial Screening at Scene	57
6.4	Initial Screening at Hospital	60
6.5	Mass Screening Following the Emergency Phase	61
6.6	Biodosimetry	61
7.	Clinical Decision Guide: Concept and Use	65
7.1	Clinical Decision Guide Concept	65
7.2	Clinical Use of the Clinical Decision Guide	68
7.2.1	Decision-Making Process	68
7.2.2	Use of the CDG Tables	69
7.2.3	Use of a Single-Void Urine Sample Collected During the First 24 h	70
7.2.4	Using the CDG with an Intake of Multiple Radionuclides	70
7.2.5	Determining an Intake for Times More than 24 h in the Past	71
7.2.6	Special Considerations for Uranium CDGs	73
7.3	Americium-241: Clinical Decision Guide Fact Sheet	78

7.4	Cesium-137: Clinical Decision Guide Fact Sheet	79
7.5	Cobalt-60: Clinical Decision Guide Fact Sheet	80
7.6	Iodine-131: Clinical Decision Guide Fact Sheet	82
7.7	Iridium-192: Clinical Decision Guide Fact Sheet	84
7.8	Plutonium-238: Clinical Decision Guide Fact Sheet	85
7.9	Plutonium-239: Clinical Decision Guide Fact Sheet	86
7.10	Radium-226: Clinical Decision Guide Fact Sheet	88
7.11	Strontium-90: Clinical Decision Guide Fact Sheet	89
7.12	Uranium: Clinical Decision Guide and Nephrotoxicity Fact Sheet	90
7.12.1	Treatment Based on Radiological Properties of Uranium (CDG)	90
7.12.2	Treatment Based on Nephrotoxic Properties of Uranium	91
7.13	Clinical Decision Guide Technical Details	93
7.13.1	Noniodine Radionuclides	93
7.13.2	Iodine Radionuclides	94
7.13.3	Uranium Mass and Activity Calculations	94
8.	Rapid Determination of Internal Contamination	96
8.1	Rapid Identification of Radionuclide(s) Involved	97
8.2	Screening for External Contamination	98
8.3	Direct (<i>in vivo</i>) Screening for Internal Contamination	99
8.3.1	Detection of Internal Contamination by Direct Measurement	99
8.3.1.1	GM Survey Meter	101
8.3.1.2	Whole-Body and Lung Counters	101
8.3.2	Hospital Equipment for the Detection and Quantitation of Radionuclides	103
8.3.2.1	GM Survey Meter	103
8.3.2.2	Nuclear Medicine Thyroid-Uptake Probe	104
8.3.2.3	Portal Monitors	105
8.3.2.4	Nuclear Medicine Gamma Camera	106
8.3.2.5	Pulse-Height Analyzer and Radionuclide Windows	107
8.3.3	Measuring Internal Contamination with Hospital Equipment	110
8.3.3.1	Using GM Survey Meters to Assess Internal Contamination with Certain Gamma-Emitting Radionuclides	110
8.3.3.2	Using a Gamma Camera or Thyroid- Uptake Probe to Assess Internal Contamination with Certain Gamma- Emitting Radionuclides	110

	8.3.4	Wound Monitoring	112
8.4		Indirect (<i>in vitro</i>) Determination of Internal Contamination	113
	8.4.1	Nasal Swabs	113
	8.4.2	Urine Samples	114
	8.4.3	Blood Samples	115
	8.4.4	Fecal Samples	116
	8.4.5	Analysis of Indirect Bioassay Samples	116
8.5		Rapid Screening of Persons to Identify Radionuclide Intakes that Exceed the Clinical Decision Guide	117
9. Medical Management of Internally-Contaminated Persons			
		Persons	121
9.1		Introduction	121
9.2		General Clinical Guidance for the Treatment of Internal Contamination	122
9.3		Making Requests for Radiological Countermeasures	124
9.4		Medical Management Decisions for Potentially-Contaminated Persons	125
	9.4.1	Triage	125
	9.4.2	Prioritizing Children and Pregnant Women	126
	9.4.3	Medical Decisions During the Early Phases of a Radiation Incident	127
	9.4.4	Choice of Decorporation Therapy for Internally-Deposited Radionuclides	128
	9.4.5	Self-Treatment	129
	9.4.6	Contaminated Wound Management	129
	9.4.7	Using DTPA on Radionuclide-Contaminated Wounds	130
9.5		Medical Management of an Americium-241 Intake	131
	9.5.1	Overview	131
	9.5.2	Treatment	131
	9.5.3	Medical Follow-Up After Treatment	134
9.6		Medical Management of a Cesium-137 Intake	134
	9.6.1	Overview	134
	9.6.2	Treatment	135
	9.6.3	Medical Follow-Up After Treatment	135
9.7		Medical Management of a Cobalt-60 Intake	135
	9.7.1	Overview	135
	9.7.2	Treatment	138
	9.7.3	Medical Follow-Up After Treatment	138
9.8		Medical Management of an Iodine-131 Intake	138
	9.8.1	Overview	138
	9.8.2	Treatment	140
	9.8.3	Medical Follow-Up After Treatment	140

9.9	Medical Management of an Iridium-192 Intake	140
9.9.1	Overview	140
9.9.2	Treatment	145
9.9.3	Medical Follow-Up After Treatment	145
9.10	Medical Management of a Plutonium-238 or -239 Intake	145
9.10.1	Overview	145
9.10.2	Treatment	146
9.10.3	Medical Follow-Up After Treatment	146
9.11	Medical Management of a Radium-226 Intake	146
9.11.1	Overview	146
9.11.2	Treatment	147
9.11.3	Medical Follow-Up After Treatment	147
9.12	Medical Management of a Strontium-90 Intake	147
9.12.1	Overview	147
9.12.2	Treatment	147
9.12.3	Medical Follow-Up After Treatment	150
9.13	Medical Management of a Uranium-235 or -238 Intake	150
9.13.1	Overview	150
9.13.2	Treatment	153
9.13.3	Medical Follow-Up After Treatment	153
10.	Social, Psychological and Communication Issues Associated with Screening and Monitoring a Population	155
10.1	Introduction	155
10.2	General Approach	156
10.3	Program and Center Names	156
10.4	Enlisting the Public as a Partner	156
10.5	Communicating with Members of the Public	157
10.6	Proactive Approach	157
10.7	Information Hotlines	158
10.8	Special Services, Approaches and Materials for Children	159
10.9	Persons with Reproductive and Fertility Concerns	160
10.10	Other Special Populations	161
10.11	Addressing Staff Concerns and Information Needs	161
10.12	Staff Support	162
10.13	Training Exercises	162
10.14	Understanding and Addressing Responder Concerns and Information Needs	163
11.	Long-Term Follow-Up of Individuals	165
11.1	Identification of the Population to be Followed	165
11.2	Classification of Persons to be Monitored or Followed	168
11.3	Follow-Up Procedures	171

12. Scalability	172
13. Assessment of Current Capacity in the United States to Perform Population Screening, Decontamination and Monitoring for Internal Contamination	180
13.1 Availability of Equipment and Resources	181
13.2 Laboratory Capabilities	182
13.3 Training Needs on Use of Equipment	183
13.4 Radiation Volunteers to Support Population Screening	185
13.5 Biodosimetry	186
13.6 Conclusions	187
14. Conclusions and Recommendations	188
14.1 Recommendations for Planning	188
14.2 Recommendations Related to Screening and Treatment of a Population for Internal Contamination	189
14.3 Recommendations for Additional Work	190
Appendix A. Radiological Properties of Radionuclides Considered in this Report	192
Appendix B. How to Perform a Radiation Survey for Contamination: Instructions for Workers	202
B.1 Screening Survey	202
B.2 Complete Whole-Body Survey	203
B.3 Most Common Mistakes Made During the Survey	204
Appendix C. How to Distinguish Between Alpha, Beta and Gamma Radiation Using a Geiger-Muller Survey Meter	205
C.1 Determining the Presence of an Alpha-Emitting Radionuclide Using Only a Geiger-Muller Survey Meter	206
C.2 Determining the Presence of Strontium-90 (or other pure beta emitters) Using a Pancake Geiger-Muller Survey Meter	206
Appendix D. Survey and Registry Forms	208
D.1 Contamination Survey Sheet	208
D.2 Registry Form	211
D.3 ATSDR Rapid Response Registry Survey Form ATSDR Rapid Response Registry Survey Form	214
Appendix E. How to Perform Decontamination at Home ..	216

Appendix F. Using Geiger-Muller Survey Meters to Assess Internal Contamination for Selected Gamma-Emitting Radionuclides	218
Appendix G. Collection and Preparation of Biological Samples for Radioanalysis	228
G.1 Urine Samples	228
G.2 Main Collection Issues	228
Appendix H. Shipping of Biological Samples	231
H.1 Introduction	231
H.2 Regulatory Information: Brief Summary	231
H.3 Definitions	232
H.4 General Shipping Guidelines for Clinical, Diagnostic and Exempt Biological Samples	232
H.5 Specific Shipping Guidelines for Clinical, Diagnostic and Exempt Biological Samples	234
H.6 Website Links for Some Commercial Shippers	234
Appendix I. Population Screening and Monitoring Implications of Two Urban Contamination Incidents ..	235
I.1 Background	235
I.2 Overview of Two Cases	236
I.2.1 Goiânia, Brazil	236
I.2.2 London, United Kingdom	236
Appendix J. Pregnancy Categories for Drug Use	238
Appendix K. Emergency Phone Numbers for Government Officials to Request Assistance Following a Radiological or Nuclear Incident	239
Glossary	240
Abbreviations and Acronyms	247
References	248
The NCRP	264
NCRP Publications	273