Train the Trainers Workshop on Medical Physics Support for Nuclear or Radiological Emergencies

Fukushima, Japan

22–26 June 2015

Ref. No: EX-TR-50270

Prospectus

Project Number and Title: NA/21, “Development of a specific training package for medical radiation physicists in support to nuclear or radiological emergency situations”

Place (City, Country): Fukushima, Japan

Dates: 22–26 June 2015

Deadline for Nominations: 20 February 2015

Organizers: The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in cooperation with the Government of Japan

Host Country Organizer: Prof. Hideyuki Matsui
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Language of Instruction: English
Purpose: The purpose of the workshop is to provide the participants with a good understanding of their potential complementary roles in nuclear or radiological emergency (NRE) situations, and to prepare them to contribute effectively to support the response to an NRE situation as identified in emergency preparedness plans. The participants are also expected to contribute to the training of other health care professionals in the response to NRE situations.

This workshop will also introduce the participants to a multidisciplinary team approach in dealing with NRE situations.

Expected Output(s): Participants will gain the skills and knowledge necessary to contribute effectively to the response to an NRE situation as identified in emergency preparedness plans. They will have a better understanding of their potential roles in NRE situations and be in a position to contribute to the training of others in the response to NRE situations.

Scope and Nature: This five day workshop will consist of lectures, demonstrations, simulation, role play, and practical sessions followed by discussions with the workshop participants.

The topics to be covered include the following:

- Dose Assessment and Reconstruction
- Response to Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies based on IAEA Safety Standards
- Radiation Measurements and Instrumentation
- Monitoring and Decontamination of People
- Local Area Monitoring, Decontamination and Radioactive Waste Management
- Large Area Monitoring (Surveys), Food, Water
- Biological Effects — Cell and Tissue Effects
- Biological Effects — Stochastic Effects
- Protection Strategies for the Public
- Protection Strategies for the Workers
- General Principles of Medical Management
- Psycho-Social Effects and Impacts on Mental Health
- Effective Communication

Background Information: In the wake of the nuclear disaster in Fukushima there has been a revival of widespread public concern about the threat of radiation to human health. Amongst the health professionals, clinical radiation medical physicists have an important supporting role to play in NRE situations. There are about 18 000 medical physicists working in regional medical and academic centres globally. Although they have a solid knowledge in radiation dosimetry, and a
fairly good understanding of radiation biology, only a few of them will have actually been involved in the response to an NRE situation. By virtue of their professional radiological practice in a clinical environment, they are familiar with many of the concerns and practical issues for people exposed to radiation, and so they have the potential to contribute significantly to support NRE response.

This workshop has been designed to provide specific comprehensive training on NRE response for clinical radiation medical physicists. It also aims to:

- Encourage/facilitate the embedding of medical physicists in NRE preparedness teams, in cooperation with other professions and organizations, at strategic and operational levels, both within hospitals and in the wider emergency planning structure;
- Recognize the essential contributions of medical physics staff (technicians, dosimetrists etc.) in NRE preparedness programmes and to ensure appropriate training;
- Promote the interaction of medical physicists with other professional groups involved in NRE preparedness, including through participation in regular training and exercises; and
- Encourage consideration of the potential of appropriately trained medical physicists to contribute to multidisciplinary NRE training of other professional groups, both within and outside health care settings.

**Participation:** The workshop is open to up to 30 participants from Member States of the IAEA.

The participants will be requested to submit a short summary of their experience with NRE situations or other emergencies (one or two paragraphs), if applicable.

**Participants’ Qualifications:** Clinical medical radiation physicists:

- Postgraduate or equivalent,
- Completed a residency or specialized clinical training programme,
- Minimum of three years’ experience as a clinical medical radiation physicist,
- With a radiation protection function in their employment,
- Involvement in radiation protection education and training,
- Preference will be given to candidates involved in local, regional or national emergency response activities.

**Nomination Procedure:** The workshop is intended for medical physicists working in hospitals, who may be requested by their institution or national authorities to join or support nuclear or radiological preparedness efforts. Member States are invited to
nominate one or more participants for this workshop. Member States are strongly encouraged to identify suitable women participants.

Nominations should be submitted through the established official channels using the attached Nomination Form not later than **20 February 2015** for the attention of the responsible officer of the workshop, Mr Ahmed Meghzifene, Division of Human Health, Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications, IAEA, Vienna International Centre, PO Box 100, 1400 Vienna, Austria (Tel.: +43 1 2600 26153; Fax: +43 1 26007; Email: A_Meghzifene@iaea.org). Nominations should also be copied to the Administrative Secretary for the workshop, Ms Natalie Ann Schremser (Email: MedPhyWS@iaea.org). The full names and complete contact details (including postal address, telephone/fax numbers, and email address) of nominated participants should be provided.

**Administrative and Financial Arrangements:**

Nominating Governments will be informed in due course of the names of the candidates who have been selected and will, at that time, be given full details of the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the workshop. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help meet the cost of attendance of certain participants. Such assistance may be offered upon specific request to normally one participant per country provided that, in the IAEA’s view, the participant on whose behalf assistance is requested will make an important contribution to his or her State’s emergency preparedness and response arrangements for NRE situations. The application for financial support should be made at the time of nominating the participant.

It should be noted that compensation is not payable by the IAEA for any damage to or loss of personal property. The IAEA also does not provide health insurance coverage for participants in meetings, workshops or training courses or for consultants. Arrangements for private insurance coverage on an individual basis should therefore be made. The IAEA will, however, provide insurance coverage for accidents and illnesses that clearly result from any work performed for the IAEA.