

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ICRP COMMITTEE 3

San Francisco 24-28 September 2006

Participants:

C Cousins (Chair)
JM Cosset (proposed as Vice Chair)
E Vano (Secretary)

Y Li
J Liniecki
S Mattsson
P Ortiz
LV Pinillos-Ashton
MM Rehani
H Ringertz
M Rosenstein
C Sharp
Y Yonekura

S Yamashita (WHO observer)

Absent: I Gusev (C3 member), Norbert Bischof (IEC observer), A Rannou (ISO observer), A Wambersie (ICRU observer), S Niu (ILO observer), M Crick (UNSCEAR observer)

1. **Chair's report:** Chair presented the main points of the Main Commission's meeting in Spain. She confirmed that Fred Mettler was appointed as an Emeritus Member of ICRP.
2. **Elsevier report - ICRP publications:** C3 felt the need to ensure references of ICRP reports are picked up by searches in Pub Med. This should ensure that the medical community will find these publications, and the associated abstracts, in routine searches. The Annals of the ICRP should be included in the ISI (Institute of Scientific Information) data base so that impact factor is measurable. C3 also considered that it would be useful to know the total number of, paid, downloads made of electronic versions of its reports from the Elsevier website. The same information on downloads of the, free, educational slide packages collections from the ICRP website would be useful to gauge their usage.
3. **Increasing impact in the medical community:** To increase the "visibility" of C3 authored ICRP reports in the medical community, it was suggested that participating members write editorials or papers and submit to high impact national and international journals in appropriate specialities.
4. **Draft Document on RP for cardiologists using fluoroscopically-guided procedures:** Chair informed that the document was currently being discussed with the members of the TG.
5. **Radiation protection issues of modern radiotherapy techniques (change in title):** C3 approved changes made to the document by the Task Group.
6. **Building Block (old "Foundation Document") "Radiological Protection in Medicine":** C3 recommended that the document should be posted on the ICRP website for public consultation.
7. **WHO programme on Computed Tomography (CT):** S Yamashita presented the project Cooperation with the WHO was discussed. It was felt that every effort should be made to avoid duplication of efforts by international organizations. Rather than start its own project in an area already covered by ICRP (and IAEA), WHO's major role should be to help dissemination information to member countries (as with ICRP 84).

- 8. Radiation Dose to Patients from Radiopharmaceuticals:** Noted that the availability of new voxel phantoms will necessitate the recalculation of doses for commonly used radiopharmaceuticals. C3 approved the document and the intended work of the TG.
- 9. Possible new documents:** There was a discussion on topics for new documents. Several topics were suggested and prioritised (1 to 3, with 1 the highest):
- a. Prevention of accidents in new radiotherapy systems (lead P Ortiz) *priority 1*.
 - b. Occupational protection in Brachytherapy (JM Cosset) *priority 2*.
 - c. Protection in PET (PET/CT) and cyclotrons (M. Rehani) *priority 2*.
 - d. Protection in therapy with protons and heavy ions (Y Yonekura) *priority 3*.
 - e. Benefits of the non-ionising radiation alternatives and justification of medical exposures (H. Ringertz) *priority 3*.
 - f. Screening with ionising radiation in asymptomatic individuals (new ICRP member – see below) *priority 1*.
 - g. Follow up of persons accidentally exposed (I. Gusev) *priority 2*.
 - h. Information on RP for patients (M Rehani) *priority 2*.
 - i. Occupational RP and staff dosimetry in interventional radiology, correlation with patient protection (C Cousins) *priority 2*.
 - j. Widening the use of reference levels for digital radiology and new technology (E Vano) *priority 2*.
- 10. Managing Patient Dose in Multi-Detector Computed Tomography:** M Rehani presented this final document. The Committee considered this an advanced document, which should be ready for submission (probably within six weeks) to the MC; posting on the website for consultation should be as soon as possible as this is a fast moving field. The Task Group will be maintained in “correspondence” status for the latter reason, as further updates could be needed within a short period.
- 11. Doses to the hands of radiopharmacists:** J Liniecki presented the document. It was considered that staff protection and dosimetry are significant challenge in medicine and consequently that the Committee would consider this topic at its next meeting, with the intention of producing a wider ranging document covering all ionising procedures. J Liniecki will prepare a WP proposal for the ICRP secretariat.
- 12. New Recommendations of the ICRP:** The latest draft of the document was discussed by C3. It was considered that the medical content was fragmented and hard to find. The Committee suggested that the medical area should be presented as a single section.
- 13. IAEA International Action Plan for protection of patients:** P Ortiz presented the advances that have been made in this project at a strategic level.
- 14. IAEA activities on radiation protection in medicine:** M. Rehani presented the progress made on the IAEA website. He also presented the recent training activities, highlighting the very positive results in the area of cardiology. C3 considered the work done by the IAEA and the training material produced very relevant and commendable.
- 15. Radiation protection training for diagnostic and interventional procedures:** E. Vano presented the updated detailed proposal for the document. A target date of October 2007 (next ICRP meeting in Berlin) was agreed for a full draft.
- 16. Justification of intended individual (non-occupational) exposures to ionising radiation without sole medical benefit:** There are differences with C4. Chair will present a refined proposal to the MC in Morocco in October;

17. Priorities for publication: C3 agreed the proposed priority order for the publication of forthcoming documents:

- 1 Radiological Protection in Medicine (building block) (M Rosenstein)
- 2 Managing Patient Dose in Multi-Detector Computed Tomography (M Rehani)
- 3 Radiological Protection for cardiologists using fluoroscopically-guided procedures (C Cousins)
- 4 Doses to the hands of radiopharmacists (J Liniecki) (editorial)
- 5 Radiation protection issues of modern radiotherapy techniques (JM Cosset)
- 6 Radiation Dose to Patients from Radiopharmaceuticals (S Mattsson)
- 7 Justification of intended individual (non-occupational) exposures to ionising radiation without sole medical benefit (C Cousins)
- 8 Protecting children: Diagnostic techniques involving ionizing radiation (H Ringertz)
- 9 Radiation protection training for diagnostic and interventional procedures (E. Vano)