



Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.

NEWSBRIEF

www.crcpd.org

A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

February 2021

Message from Chairperson Kim Steves

The strength of the CRCPD is, you, our members. This includes your knowledge, skills, and abilities, and your willingness to volunteer to serve – whether that be on a working group, on the Board of Directors, or in some other role. A volunteer is someone who gives time, effort and talent to a need or cause without profiting monetarily. Many of you have labored hard this last year to keep things running in your own program during a pandemic. You have also found time to volunteer to keep the efforts of a working group or other CRCPD endeavor moving forward.

You are appreciated. Your dedication and belief in our organization is appreciated. If there is ever something you need from us which you are not getting, please do not hesitate to reach out to one or more Board members or to the Office of Executive Director and let us know.



The last time I traveled was in January 2020. I was in the DC area for CRCPD visits with our federal partners. **This year our federal visits, like much of our lives, are virtual.** Traditionally our federal visits are conducted annually by our Executive Director, our Board Chair, Past-Chair, and Chair-Elect. For 2021 we have met with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the U.S. Department of Energy-National Nuclear Safety Administration (DOE-NNSA) with a few more still to go. These meetings are incredibly

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Message from Chairperson *(continued)*

Federal Visits

“ These meetings are incredibly valuable, to review what we have accomplished, discuss our mutual goals, and plan for ongoing and future activities. ”

Kim Steves

“Together We Can Do So Much” - *continued*

valuable, to review what we have accomplished, discuss our mutual goals, and plan for ongoing and future activities. **Like our volunteers, our federal partners are another key component to the continued success and growth of the CRCPD.**

Here are a few highlights from our discussions with our federal partners.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration

We discussed the upcoming Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA) mammography training to be offered in conjunction with the virtual annual CRCPD conference and how to coordinate any issues states may have with using their contract funds for training costs for the MEUs. We also discussed the finalization and upcoming Board vote on the American Association of Physicists in Medicine/CRCPD/Medical Imaging and Technology Alliance (AAPM/CRCPD/MITA) Joint Statement on International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Standards. We discussed the CRCPD position statement on gonadal shielding which has been approved as a Board statement (included in this edition of the *Newsbrief*) which we also hope to bring forward to the membership for a vote. **Other topics were the charges under development for a new Non-Ionizing Radiation committee, adding a link to the CRCPD website for options and resources for x-ray training, superficial radiation therapy in dermatology and the results of a recent survey on that topic CRCPD sent out, and the status of previous and upcoming National Evaluation of X-ray Trends (NEXT) surveys.** The FDA reported they are anticipating the upcoming NEXT survey on outpatient orthopedic imaging will start later this year with coordination from our H-4 Committee.

Environmental Protection Agency

Unfortunately, the grant we have previously received from the EPA to fund many of our E-25 Committee on Radon activities was not approved for the upcoming grant cycle. Because of this we spent time discussing and setting priorities for the projects on which the CRCPD works in partnership or in support of the EPA radon mission. In addition, we discussed the EPA involvement in space launches

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Message from
Chairperson *(continued)*

DHS/ICLN

“DHS/ICLN shared information on a report they created on the serious nature of declining radiochemistry laboratory facilities, aging radiochemistry equipment in state and federal laboratories, and the loss of personnel with expertise in radiochemistry.”

Kim Steves

“Together We Can Do So Much” - *continued*

involving nuclear materials and, as the commercial space sector grows, the federal and state responsibilities for nuclear materials in private launches. From that discussion the Board is now considering a new working group focused on that topic. John Griggs from the National Analytical Radiation Environmental Laboratory (NAREL) shared information from the Department of Homeland Security Integrated Consortium of Laboratory Networks (DHS/ICLN) Rad Workgroup including a report they created on the serious nature of declining radiochemistry laboratory facilities, aging radiochemistry equipment in state and federal laboratories, and the loss of personnel with expertise in radiochemistry. We also reported that CRCPD is finalizing the report from the “TENORM from the Oil and Gas Industry” workshop we hosted at the 2019 NORM IX Symposium and hope to have it published on our website in the near future.

Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration

The CRCPD works very closely with this group at DOE on source recovery issues and activities. This has been a very successful partnership to collect and commercially dispose of sealed sources no longer in use, which could individually or in aggregate be used maliciously. In December of 2020, CRCPD worked with a broker to dispose of a CDV-794, CDV-793, and a device containing eight Sr-90 sources. Our discussion included ongoing outreach on source disposal CRCPD will provide in the upcoming months. On the topic of foreign-origin radioactive material (FORM), the DOE is requesting that states and licensees share anecdotes and issues which have arisen from FORM to provide support to the DOE in their briefings to Congress on this issue. If you have any such stories, please reach out to Ruth McBurney or a Board member.

I hope to have more information from additional federal visits to share with you later this spring. As you can see, there is always much going on. **As I stated in the beginning, none of this could happen without you, our members and volunteers.** As best stated by Helen Keller:

“Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.”



Greetings from Your Executive Director



Ruth E. McBurney, CHP

Since the pandemic began...

“One good thing to come out of this is that we and other organizations are able to facilitate training to a greater number of state personnel.”

Ruth E. McBurney

Virtual!

It seems like it has been more than a year since the pandemic began and put us all in a different mindset about travel, conferences and information sharing. Last year at this time, we were planning for the National Conference on Radiation Control to be held in Williamsburg and other training opportunities, such as Mammography Training and a Train-the-Trainer Workshop on Population Monitoring.

All that changed in March and is still changing. We started having more virtual Board meetings and committee meetings. Even the CRCPD Business Meeting in May was virtual for the first time. We shared information on adjustments in regulatory practices on a special web page. Webinars have replaced in-person training.

One good thing to come out of this is that we and other organizations are able to facilitate training to a greater number of state personnel. **Kudos to the American Association of Physicists in Medicine for making their annual meeting and spring clinical conference available at no cost to state radiation control staff.** Through adjustments in grant funding for conferences and training, we are able to provide a series of radon webinars to a large number of state personnel at no cost to the states. Stay tuned to more information on these as they occur.

This year, CRCPD will be providing its first virtual National Conference on Radiation Control on May 17 -20, 2021. **The theme of this year’s conference is really appropriate for all that has happened in the past year: “Challenging Times—Innovative Responses.”** We have an exciting lineup of speakers, and for registered attendees, any sessions or presentations that you aren’t able to work in during that week will be available for viewing later. We have set up a web page with the tentative agenda and will provide more information on registration as it becomes available. More information is provided about the virtual conference elsewhere in this edition of the *Newsbrief*.

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Executive Director

Greetings *(continued)*

Save the Dates 2021

***Mammography
Training
spread out over
three days on
May 12-14***

***Radiological
Operation
Support Specialist
on May 14***

***Prevention
of Errors in
Radiation
Oncology and
Radiology on
May 21***

Virtual! - *continued*

Also, we will be holding virtual Mammography Training spread out over three days on May 12-14, 2021 and should have the topics and registration information posted on this training soon. Also, other training will be presented on Radiological Operation Support Specialist (May 14) and Prevention of Errors in Radiation Oncology and Radiology (May 21). **Save the dates!**

One of our former federal liaisons, who is now retired, recently sent me a message about the virtual annual conference:

“I hope you don't have to do that again! That group needs the social contact to remain a group that really cares about what's going on.”

So as we look forward to a real in-person conference in Tucson, Arizona, the week of May 16-19, 2022, we will do our best to provide up-to-date information on radiation control issues virtually.



53RD NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RADIATION CONTROL**“CHALLENGING TIMES,
INNOVATIVE RESPONSES”**

FIRST VIRTUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
RADIATION CONTROL

May 17 - 20, 2021

The 53rd National Conference on Radiation Control will be held virtually through a web platform. Some of the presentations will be live and some are pre-recorded, with a live Question and Answer Period. This year's theme is “Challenging Times, Innovative Responses.” For more information regarding the conference, please visit our website at <http://www.crcpd.org> for the agenda.

Registration information will be posted soon. Registration for the conference will include the link to the daily sessions, as well as to training sessions, which are scheduled for Friday, May 14, and Friday, May 21. Registrants will also be given access to recordings of the presentations for access later.

53RD NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RADIATION CONTROL**“CHALLENGING TIMES,
INNOVATIVE RESPONSES”***Topical Highlights of the Tentative Agenda***Opening Session**

John C. Villforth Lecturer Series presented by Dr. John D. Boice, Jr., NCRP

Keynote Address “Principles Based Program for Radiation Protection” presented by Troy Mueller

Monday**Topical Training**

AAPM- Impact of New Technology
Anticipated Public Questions during Emergency Response Recovery Phase

Special Interest Meetings

Emerging Technologies – Medical and Veterinary...
Demonstration and Training on the Population Monitoring Throughput Estimation Tool... Panel Discussion/Puerto Rico Source Round-up...Web Based Licensing

Training Courses

Developments in Radiological and Nuclear Emergency Preparedness and Radiological Operations Support Specialist (ROSS)...
Prevention of Errors in Radiation Oncology & Radiology... RadResponder

Tuesday**Healing Arts Topics**

Proton Therapy...Use of Patient Gonadal and Fetal Shielding...Dentistry and Oral & Maxillofacial Imaging...
Investigation of Handheld X-ray Machines...ACR Dose Index Registry Fluoroscopy

Thursday**Homeland Security and
Emergency Response**

Washington Incident-Irradiator Breach...Computer Modeling of Community Reception Center Operations...Radiation Protection Computer Code Analysis and Maintenance Program... Ten-Year Retrospective: EPA After Actions from the Fukushima Incident...
21st Century Nuclear Energy... Risk-Informed – the Future of Emergency Preparedness

Wednesday**Environmental and Radioactive
Materials Sessions**

NORM with the Perspective of IAEA... Radioactive Material and Spent Fuel Transportation Security and Notification Issues...
The National Radon Action Plan... National Radon Database...Impact of Foreign Origin Americium.. MARSSIM..SSR Update

Mammography Training

May 12-14, 2021

(separate registration required)

Due to the virtual nature of this year’s Mammography Training, it is taking place over three days instead of the usual two days, in consideration of the four time zones of the participants. The registration for this training sessions will be available on the CRCPD website soon.



CRCPD Board Endorses Position for Ending Routine Gonadal Shielding

Earlier this month, the CRCPD Board of Directors approved a Board Position Statement on ending routine gonadal shielding during abdominal and pelvic radiology, following the issuance of NCRP Statement 13 on this issue. The full Board Position Statement follows.

CRCPD Position for Ending Routine Gonadal Shielding during Abdominal and Pelvic Radiology

The Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc., Board of Directors endorses the position for Ending Routine Gonadal Shielding during Abdominal and Pelvic Radiology. The National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements has issued Statement 13: NCRP Recommendations for Ending Routine Gonadal Shielding during Abdominal and Pelvic Radiology. This position has been previously acknowledged by the CRCPD Radiation Protection Advisory Committee members, American Association of Physicists in Medicine and the American College of Radiology. In addition, this position is in line with the current version of the Suggested State Regulations, Part F: Medical Diagnostic & Interventional X-Ray & Imaging Systems.

This position is supported by the following:

- The risks of heritable genetic effects are now considered to be much less than previously estimated.
- Improvements in technology since the 1950s have resulted in up to a 95 % reduction in the absorbed dose to pelvic organs from radiography.
- Gonadal shielding (GS) can interfere with the use of automatic exposure control (AEC) and thereby cause an increase in dose to other pelvic and abdominal organs that may be more radiosensitive.
- GS obscures portions of pelvic anatomy and may obscure important findings on radiographs. This limits the practical dimensions and area of the shield.
- Despite adherence to practice guidelines by technologists, GS may not completely shield the gonads in the majority of patients due to the limited area of the shield and the normal variations in patient anatomy.
- A substantial portion of gonadal dose to the ovaries is delivered by scattered x-rays that are not attenuated by GS.

Additional material may be found through the CARES initiative (<https://w3.aapm.org/cares/>) and the NCRP position statement, trifold, and companion implementation document (<https://ncrponline.org/publications/statements/>).



Transport Security

The Transport Security Unified Stakeholders Group: Background and Information

by Mark Yeager, Government & NGO Liaison, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

The Transport Security Unified Stakeholders Group (TSUSG) aims to strengthen the transport security process in the United States to reduce potential risk associated with the movement of radioactive sources. **The group provides a forum for stakeholders to identify transport security concerns, exchange, and develop best practices. The TSUSG focuses specifically on transport security for Category 1 and 2 radioactive sources as identified in 10 Code of Federal Regulations Part 37, Appendix A.** Other categories may be given consideration.

Stakeholders include state governments and local governing bodies (as applicable); law enforcement; carriers; forwarders; source and equipment producers; and associations having a vested interest. **These stakeholders share a primary operational goal: to ensure the safe and secure transport of these materials into, through, and out of the United States.**

From the inception of the TSUSG, it was recognized that, in addition to law enforcement, state regulatory agencies play a critical role in assuring the security of domestic Category 1 and 2 radioactive sources during transport. The TSUSG membership currently includes CRCPD representatives and four very active Agreement State programs:

- Nevada;
- Florida;
- Illinois; and
- Arkansas.

Implementation of Part 37, Subpart D requirements are just one part of a challenging aspect to assure constant vigilance and provide optimum security for these sources while in the licensee's possession or while in transit.

The Transport Security Unified Stakeholders Group: Background and Information - *continued*

Transport Security

Participants are involved on a voluntary basis to represent their organizations. The TSUSG establishes open forums and working groups to prioritize issues in transport security as identified by stakeholders.

The group's operating approach is to:

- identify issues;
- facilitate a common understanding; and
- develop, implement, and monitor enhancements to mitigate or resolve these transport security issues.

Each stakeholder has responsibility to implement or encourage implementation of best practices in their respective functional area. All activities are supported by Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Other expected outcomes include improved collective understanding of issues that affect stakeholders, expanded and more effective working relationships, and long-term integration through open dialog. The TSUSG anticipates that its broad and diverse membership, and the resultant discussions of issues and jointly developed practices will provide valuable outcomes. The TSUSG welcomes additional radiation control program representation and appreciates the continued support provided by CRCPD membership.

To learn more about TSUSG or if you are interested in becoming a members please contact tsusg@ornl.gov . If you have specific questions, please also feel free to contact either: Paul Gray, Industry and Association Liaison graypa@ornl.gov or Mark Yeager, Government and NGO Liaison yeagerma@ornl.gov.



Radon Webinar Series

Radon Webinar Series: Save the Dates!

The Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors and the American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (AARST) are hosting several radon webinars in a series to be presented between March and August 2021. The webinar series is being presented in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency's Indoor Environments Division.

Radon Webinar Series

Radon in Schools: EPA Tools for Schools and Case Studies

March 16, 2:00-3:30 p.m. EST

Radon in State Cancer Action Plans: Best Practices for State and Tribal Radon Programs

April 13, 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST

Radon Test Kit Distribution: Best Practices for State and Tribal Radon Programs

May 25, 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST

Radon and Citizen Science: Public Engagement to Increase Education and Outreach

June 22, 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST

National Radon Action Month: Best Practices for State and Tribal Radon Programs

July 22, 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST

A sixth webinar on a trending topic to be announced will be scheduled for the month of August – stay tuned.

Additional details for each webinar and registration links will be available in the coming weeks. In the meantime, please mark your calendars now and plan on joining stakeholders from around the country to explore important topics related to radon.

Please also check www.radonleaders.org for updates.

We hope you can join CRCPD in these live events!



NCRP Updates

NCRP Annual Meeting and Update

by Dave Allard, (PA)

As I have noted in the past, the mission of the National Council on Radiation Protection & Measurement (NCRP) is to support radiation protection community in the U.S. by providing independent scientific analysis, information, and recommendations that represent the consensus of leading scientists. NCRP was chartered by the

U.S. Congress in 1964, but has its roots back in the late 1920s as a committee focusing on x-ray and radium radiation safety. Over the years the NCRP's scope has evolved and now covers a wide range of subject areas ranging from medical and dental practice, emergency response, industrial, and natural sources of radiation exposure. Most of us in state Radiation Control Programs rely on the NCRP for timely information to fill-in gaps and implement our regulations.

The stated mission of the NCRP is “to support radiation protection by providing independent scientific analysis, information, and recommendations that represent the consensus of leading scientists.”

As the CRCPD G-50 Liaison to the NCRP, I first want to alert everyone to their upcoming annual meeting: Radiation & Flight: A Down-to-Earth Look at Risk, April 19-20. This is the same meeting that was postponed last March 2020 due to the pandemic. The meeting in April will be completely virtual. There is no registration fee for the meeting, and as always, should also provide informative updates on other areas of radiation protection. An agenda should be posted online shortly.

I very much enjoy reviewing and commenting on the draft and final publications of the NCRP, attending their annual meetings as a representative for the CRCPD, and participating in various scientific committee work groups as a member or advisor. I would also encourage you to review the NCRP's recently published new and important Reports, Commentaries and Statements.

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NCRP Annual Meeting and Update - *continued***NCRP Updates****Reports:**

- Report No. 177 – Radiation Protection in Dentistry and Oral & Maxillofacial Imaging (2019) (Supersedes Report No. 145)
- Report No. 185 – Evaluating and Communicating Radiation Risks for Studies Involving Human Subjects: Guidance for Researchers and Institutional Review Boards (2020)
- Report No. 186 – Approaches for Integrating Information from Radiation Biology and Epidemiology to Enhance Low-Dose Health Risk Assessment (2020)

Commentaries:

- Commentary No. 29 – Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) and Technologically Enhanced NORM (TENORM) from the Oil and Gas Industry (2020)
- Commentary No. 30 – Using Personal Monitoring Data to Derive Organ Doses for Medical Radiation Workers, with a Focus on Lung (2020)

Statements:

Statement No. 13 – NCRP Recommendations for Ending Routine Gonadal Shielding (GS) During Abdominal and Pelvic Radiography (2021)

- Companion to Statement No. 13 – Implementation Guidance for Ending Routine Gonadal Shielding During Abdominal and Pelvic Radiography (2021)
- NCRP Gonadal Shielding Trifold Flyer (2021) For more information and to order a publication, go to: <https://ncrponline.org/>

NCRP Annual Meeting and Update - *continued*

NCRP Updates

It worth a short discussion of recently published Statement No. 13, in that “NCRP now recommends that GS not be used routinely during abdominal and pelvic radiography, and that federal, state, and local regulations and guidance should be revised to remove any actual or implied requirement for routine GS.” The

committee that drafted Statement No. 13 provides a number of factors to support this new recommendation, e.g., impact of shielding an automatic exposure control sensor in the field, as a result possibly increasing patient dose, blocking important patient anatomy, the inability of the radiographer to accurately locate female and [young] male gonads, and, the recent lowering of the gonadal tissue weighting factor because of observed lower genetic risk to future generations.

The new NCRP recommendations in Statement No. 13 have been reviewed by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT). They note in a January press release: “On January 12, 2021, the ASRT Board of Directors released a statement supporting the discontinuation of the use of gonadal and fetal shielding specifically during abdominal and pelvic radiography.” ASRT goes on to state: “The ASRT Board supports the continued use of lead shielding during radiographic procedures where shield placement is appropriate and aligned with minimizing patient radiation exposure.”

As Radiation Control Programs, we work very hard to keep patient and worker exposure to ionizing radiation optimized and ALARA respectively. We now need to review our respective regulations in relation to these new NCRP recommendations for potential needed updates, and more importantly, we’ll need to educate our X-ray Registrants (e.g., hospitals and clinics), Radiologic Technologists and the public regarding effective use of patient and operator shielding during diagnostic x-ray procedures.



**2021
DIRECTORY OF
PERSONNEL RESPONSIBLE
FOR RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH
PROGRAMS**

The 2021 edition of the Directory of Personnel Responsible for Radiological Health Programs will be available in March and will be mailed to the CRCPD members.

If you want any extra copies, they can be ordered from the Office of the Executive Director for \$55.00 each.



Call for News

Call for News

Would you like to share some information about your work, or some project or issue that you're involved in?

CRCPD is interested in what you are doing and would like to share your knowledge and experiences with other CRCPD members through a feature article in the ***Newsbrief***.

If you would like to submit an article, please contact Ruth McBurney (rmcburney@crcpd.org) suggesting a topic you'd like to present.

The ***Newsbrief*** is published six times a year, in even numbered months. Deadline for submission is the 15th of the month of publication.

We welcome your news and photographs, too, if you'd like to share.

CRCPD Board of Directors

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|---|---|
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The Newsbrief is written to address the needs of all radiation control program personnel. Readers are encouraged to contribute newsworthy or informative items for the Newsbrief, with neither charges nor stipends for the items that are selected. News of state radiation control programs is especially sought.

Articles should be sent to CRCPD, Attn: Mandy Cremeans, 112 East Main Street, Suite 1, Frankfort, KY 40601 (fax: 502/227-7862; email: mcremeans@crcpd.org. The deadline for contributions is the 15th of the month before an issue is to be published.

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