

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



A WHIRLWIND OF ACTIVITIES

by Patrick Mulligan

As I was reflecting on the message for my final *Newsbrief* article as Chairperson, I was once again overwhelmed by the amazing accomplishments achieved through the volunteer efforts of CRCPD's members and partner agencies. As is typical, the spring season is a whirlwind of activities with a host of meetings and conferences to prepare for and attend. Part of my role as Chairperson is to put together presentations for various meetings that highlight the accomplishments and initiatives of our organization over the past year. **The difficulty that I have experienced repeatedly has been how to adequately cover the amazing work you all have done in the limited time I am allotted.** So many accomplishments, so little time. Be assured that I take advantage of every available opportunity to brag about the talented professionals that make up the CRCPD membership and all the work that you do. Your knowledge, expertise and dedication to radiation protection are truly admirable and I am immensely proud of all that you have achieved this past year.

SO MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

"Your knowledge, expertise and dedication to radiation protection are truly admirable and I am immensely proud of all that you have achieved this past year."

Patrick Mulligan

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FROM THE CHAIRPERSON
(continued)

A WHIRLWIND OF ACTIVITIES

NRC Rulemaking and CRCPD Review

As you all are aware, Executive Order (EO) 14300 directed the NRC to perform several tasks. One is a complete review of all NRC regulations and another to re-evaluate the basis for the linear non-threshold model and ALARA. **These directives may have significant and far-reaching effects on Radiation Protection in every state and territory across the nation.** The CRCPD continues to be engaged in the process. As a reminder, the G-80 Task Force to Address NRC Rulemaking is sending out notices to CRCPD Director Members to solicit input on published NRC rulemaking as they are issued for public comment. **They have implemented a 10/10/10 schedule, 10 days to comment, 10 days for Task Force review and 10 days for CRCPD Board review to ensure timely response to the very short comment period. Please know the CRCPD has been sending a formal request for extension of the comment period to 90 days to the Commission with each notice as they are published.** Please make sure these requests are forwarded to appropriate staff so that we can gather as many comments as possible. We do need all the help we can get with this!

CRCPD Engagement with FEMA on RadResponder Concerns

The E-43 Committee for Interagency Environmental Data Sharing and Communications continues to work closely with FEMA and the contracting entity responsible for the maintenance of the RadResponder application and AttainX the company contracted to maintain the application. **Ongoing issues with the application prompted the committee to bring their concerns to the Board, providing numerous specific examples of failures and shortfalls with the application.**

NRC RULEMAKING AND CRCPD REVIEW

“As a reminder, the G-80 Task Force to Address NRC Rulemaking is sending out notices to CRCPD Director Members to solicit input on published NRC rulemaking as they are issued for public comment.”

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FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

(continued)

The Board reviewed and discussed the issues in detail and decided that it was critical to reach out to FEMA to express our concerns and to reach a resolution. RadResponder is the backbone of our national emergency response structure, providing a means to collect, store, validate and share radiation field data with decision makers. FEMA has been responsive to the CRCPD and has met on several occasions to help FEMA staff understand the concerns and issues. The E-43 Committee led by Jill Slubowski (OH) and committee members are working hard to test and provide feedback to FEMA and AttainX on issues and feedback on fixes that are developed. The Committee is doing outstanding work and put in a lot of time and effort to this project and the Board is extremely appreciative of their efforts and expertise. The Board continues to be engaged in the process to make sure that progress continues. We look forward to a swift and satisfactory resolution that provides a robust and fully functional tool to use for radiation emergency response.

36th Annual National Radiological Emergency Preparedness Meeting

I will have the opportunity to join Rae Walker (TX), HS/ER-5 Chairperson, at the 36th Annual National Radiological Emergency Preparedness (NREP) Conference in Overland Park, Kansas from April 20 through 23. As usual, the NREP Conference provides an outstanding agenda that covers a wide array of topics related to emergency preparedness and response. **The HS/ER-4 Committee will support another outstanding training session that focuses on Radiological Operations Support Specialist (ROSS) integration in radiological emergency response activities with a focus on Ingestion Pathway considerations.** I will take opportunity to

A WHIRLWIND OF ACTIVITIES

RESOLVING CONCERNS ABOUT RADRESPONDER

“We look forward to a swift and satisfactory resolution that provides a robust and fully functional tool to use for radiation emergency response.”

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(continued)

A WHIRLWIND OF ACTIVITIES

join Rae and the committee members for a series of meetings with federal partner agencies to discuss ongoing initiatives and collaborative projects. On the final day of the conference, I will provide the conference with an overview of CRCPD activities and hopefully, receive some incredibly positive feedback from the attendees.

CRCPD Annual Meeting

The 58th Annual National Conference on Radiation Control is quickly approaching, and the program committee developed a wonderful program under the direction of Past Chair Rikki Waller (ID), Mendy Cremeans (OED), and Lisa Bruedigan (OED). We also are very grateful for the hard work and support of our federal and organizational partners that assisted in the creation of an extremely exciting program. **As usual, there is an outstanding lineup of renowned presenters that will update us on a wide variety of radiation protection topics.** I am confident that everyone will be able to find topics of interest and value during the scheduled sessions. I very much look forward to seeing everyone again in Lombard, Illinois. I am excited about this year's conference. Please register for the conference soon. The CRCPD room block closes on April 24th so get your hotels rooms booked!

CRCPD Annual Commission Briefing and Federal Visits

The CRCPD Tri-chairs are once again preparing for the annual NRC Commission briefing that has been rescheduled for June 8th at NRC Headquarters in Bethesda, Maryland. A great deal of work goes into the preparation and planning for this visit, and

**58TH ANNUAL
NATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON
RADIATION CONTROL**

MAY 18 - 21, 2026

" I very much look forward to seeing everyone again in Lombard Illinois. I am excited about this year's conference."

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FROM THE CHAIRPERSON
(continued)

A WHIRLWIND OF ACTIVITIES

I appreciate the efforts of Rikki Waller, Past Chair; Tanya Ridgle, Chair Elect; and Lisa Bruedigan, Executive Director to make sure we are well prepared for the meeting. The meeting between the CRCPD and OAS Tri-chairs will be a public meeting so we will send out the new date, time and the link for you if you would like to attend. The proposed topics will not change and as a reminder are:

- **State-to-State Assistance**, Sarah Sanderlin, Organization of Agreement States (OAS) Chair
- **Risk Assessment and Community Trust**, Patrick Mulligan, CRCPD Chair
- **Fusion: How States are Doing and What Do They Still Need?** Beth Shelton, OAS Past Chair
- **State Licensing, Registration, and Inspection of Machine Sources and How Fusion Rules Could Impact Those State Regulations**, Rikki Waller, CRCPD Past Chair
- **Agreement State’s Role in NRC Regulatory Development**, Becki Harisis, OAS Chair Elect
- **Dose Modeling for Advanced Reactor Designs**, Tanya Ridgle, CRCPD Chair Elect

Following the formal briefing, which is conducted in a public meeting format, the CRCPD and OAS Tri-chairs will have the unique opportunity to meet with each of the Commissioners individually to have further discussions on a wide variety of topics. It always proves to be a rewarding experience and benefits everyone involved. More to come!

During the week of June 7th, in conjunction with the NRC Commission meeting, the CRCPD Tri-chairs and Executive

NRC COMMISSION BRIEFING

“Following the formal briefing, which is conducted in a public meeting format, the CRCPD and OAS Tri-chairs will have the unique opportunity to meet with each of the Commissioners individually to have further discussions on a wide variety of topics.”

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FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

(continued)

A WHIRLWIND OF ACTIVITIES

Director Lisa Bruedigan will hold their annual meetings with federal agencies and organizational partners the same week to promote efficient use of time and travel funding.

Concluding Remarks

I want to take this opportunity to recognize and thank all the CRCPD Board Members, Executive Director Lisa Bruedigan and Mendy Cremeans (OED) for the tremendous support and encouragement that they have given me over the past year. It is a very intimidating and daunting proposition to be the Chairperson for CRCPD. I could never have done it without the staunch support from all of you. You are all truly amazing people and I appreciate all you have done for me and for CRCPD.

I want to thank our Past Chair and friend Rikki Waller (ID) for all she has done for CRCPD in her four years on the Board; she was amazing! And I am ready to support Tanya Ridgle (LA County) in her duties as CRCPD Chairperson. I am confident that the CRCPD is left in good hands.

Finally, it has been my distinct honor and privilege to serve the CRCPD for the past year as your Chairperson and I am forever grateful to have had this opportunity.

**CONCLUDING
REMARKS**

“ Finally, it has been my distinct honor and privilege to serve the CRCPD for the past year as your Chair and I am forever grateful to have had this opportunity.”

Patrick Mulligan

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE**



**WEARING MANY HATS:
SUPPORTING STATE
PROGRAMS ACROSS
A BROAD RADIATION
PROTECTION
LANDSCAPE**

by Lisa Bruedigan, Executive Director

One of the most rewarding—and challenging—aspects of serving as CRCPD’s Executive Director is the opportunity to work across an incredibly broad range of topics, partners, and priorities. On any given day, the role requires shifting between technical policy discussions, operational problem-solving, national coordination, and international collaboration—all with a single goal in mind: supporting state radiation control programs and protecting public health. In recent weeks, that “many hats” reality has been on full display.

NRC Rulemaking Efforts

At the national level, CRCPD continues to stay closely engaged in NRC rulemaking efforts, working alongside the G-80 Working Group to ensure state perspectives are clearly represented. This includes helping establish structured approaches for comment submission and drafting correspondence on key components. These efforts may seem procedural on the surface, but they are critical to ensuring that future regulatory frameworks are both practical and informed by those implementing them every day.

**WORKING ACROSS
A BROAD RANGE
OF TOPICS,
PARTNERS, AND
PRIORITIES**

*“all with a single goal
in mind: supporting
state radiation control
programs and protecting
public health.”*

Lisa Bruedigan

Operational Challenges of RadResponder

At the same time, we are deep in the operational challenges of RadResponder (CBRNResponder). Working with the E-43 Committee, FEMA, and AttainX requires a different hat—one focused on system functionality, user experience, and real-world application during emergencies. Reviewing discrepancies, coordinating meetings, and advocating for improvements underscores CRCPD's role as a bridge between federal systems and state users. I'd like to thank the E-43 "super users," as I call them, for the countless hours they have invested in this project. The work they are doing is truly making a difference for the radiation community.

Radon Program Development

Switching gears again, our work in radon (E-25) highlights the program development side of CRCPD. From identifying new leadership and subject matter expertise to enhancing the Radon Resources Library and planning for the Indoor Environments Association (IEA) Symposium, this effort reflects long-term capacity building. It's about ensuring states have the tools, training, and partnerships needed to address one of the most significant sources of public radiation exposure.

Fluoroscopy Shielding

Meanwhile, the evolution of a recent fluoroscopy shielding topic into the H-59 Committee on Enhanced Radiation Protection Devices (ERPD) demonstrates how CRCPD adapts to emerging priorities in medical radiation protection. Engagement with stakeholders and professional organizations requires both technical understanding and strategic collaboration, particularly

STAYING INFORMED ABOUT EMERGING TRENDS

"One of my primary responsibilities as your Executive Director is to stay informed about emerging trends and issues and bring them forward for Board discussion."

Lisa Bruedigan

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE** (continued)

**WEARING MANY HATS:
SUPPORTING STATE PROGRAMS**

as we continue to support efforts related to enhanced radiation protection devices (ERPD).

IAEA and HERCA International Collaboration

Our reach also extends beyond U.S. borders. Along with our continued work with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) (see Joann Harthcock's article in this issue), I recently met with the Heads of European Radiological Protection Competent Authorities (HERCA), to give them an overview of CRCPD initiatives. Meetings like this highlight the importance of international collaboration, particularly in medical radiation protection. Sharing materials and exploring future joint efforts ensures that CRCPD remains aligned with global best practices while bringing valuable insights back to our state programs.

Radiological Triage Tools

In another space, CRCPD is helping connect researchers with states interested in applying radiological triage tools during large-scale preparedness exercises, including those associated with the upcoming World Cup. This is a clear example of how innovation, research, and practical application intersect—and how CRCPD helps bring those pieces together. We will share more information as this project develops.

Public Health Decision Makers Training

Even within a single week, the role included the opportunity to combine a visit to our Office of the Executive Director (OED) with observing part of the Public Health Decision Makers Training, which provided insight into how radiation concepts are communicated to non-technical leaders during

**WORKING
COLLECTIVELY
TO ADDRESS
EMERGING TRENDS**

"This is one of CRCPD's greatest strengths — working collectively to address radiation protection issues that impact state radiation control programs and the public they serve."

Lisa Bruedigan

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE** (continued)

**WEARING MANY HATS:
SUPPORTING STATE PROGRAMS**

emergencies. These moments are invaluable in shaping how we support training and preparedness efforts moving forward.

Industrial Radiography

And in yet another area, CRCPD continues its work in industrial radiography, drafting communications to certifying agencies to ensure awareness and coordination across this important sector.

The Larger Story

Individually, each of these efforts represents a distinct program area. Collectively, they tell a larger story—one of the breadth and complexity of radiation protection and the unique role CRCPD plays in connecting it all. From regulatory policy to emergency response systems, from environmental health to medical applications, and from domestic priorities to international partnerships, CRCPD is engaged wherever state programs need a strong, coordinated voice.

It is truly a privilege to wear these many hats on behalf of our members. **None of this work happens in isolation, and I am continually grateful for the expertise, collaboration, and dedication of our committees, partners, state programs, and public health.** Please share your thoughts or questions—your input is invaluable as we continue to support state radiation control programs and protect public health. Together, we are advancing radiation protection in ways that are both practical and impactful—meeting today's challenges while preparing for what comes next.

I hope to see most of you next month at the CRCPD Annual Meeting.

My proverbial door is always open.

**WORKING
COLLECTIVELY
TO ADDRESS
EMERGING TRENDS**

“Collectively, they tell a larger story—one of the breadth and complexity of radiation protection and the unique role CRCPD plays in connecting it all.”

Lisa Bruedigan

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ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND RADIATION PROTECTION IN MEDICINE

by Joann Harthcock, BSRS, RT(R) (TX)



I had the pleasure of attending the IAEA's technical meeting on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Radiation Protection in Medicine on behalf of the CRCPD in early

April. The first time AI in medical imaging came on my radar was while attending the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) conference in November 2017. During that conference, every lecture I attended had the same message: **AI is coming; how are we going to use it?** Fast forward nine years, and it is a reality that surrounds us. Sometimes in the background, where we know it's there, but there is nothing we can do about it, like when my Netflix account knew I was in Vienna and gave me the Top 10 TV shows in Austria, even though I don't understand the language and would have preferred to see the Top 10 TV shows in the US. And there are the things we intentionally use it for, like using CoPilot to help me produce my PowerPoint slides for the IAEA meeting.

AI: The Challenge Is How To Implement It Safely, Ethically, and Effectively in a Rapidly Evolving Healthcare Environment

AI is no longer a future concept in medical imaging - it is a present-day reality, and therefore, in the name of radiation protection, we now have skin in the game. Across modalities, AI tools are already influencing how exams are ordered, images are acquired, reconstructed, analyzed, and interpreted. The challenge now is no longer whether AI will be used, but how to implement it safely, ethically, and effectively in a rapidly evolving healthcare environment. All the while ensuring that medical professionals continue to pursue and apply a high level of education so that we do not become so reliant on AI that we can't return to the human intelligence that makes it possible.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND RADIATION PROTECTION IN MEDICINE

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The Promise of IA Technology in Medicine

The meeting discussed extensively how AI technology in medicine has great promise, including improved image quality, artifact reduction, predictive models for disease detection, and tools that can support more personalized, evidence-based care.

- In nuclear medicine, AI can enable reduced radiopharmaceutical doses while maintaining clinical outcomes through personalized dosimetry.
- In mammography, AI tools are being used to assist with image interpretation and identify cancers earlier through AI analysis of breast images of known cancer cases prior to diagnosis.

At the same time, we need to be cognizant and address the risks. A good example that was given was an AI system that missed a hand fracture in the presence of deformity because the dataset did not recognize the deformity – the dataset only had normal hand x-ray images to analyze.

Several converging trends are accelerating AI adoption in healthcare. Cancer diagnoses continue to rise, populations are aging, and imaging-based screening programs are expanding. At the same time, radiation-based technologies are advancing rapidly.

Another example was biased results due to limitations in training datasets that lack sufficient diversity in gender, race, age, and other population characteristics. When interpreting an exam, a radiologist considers factors that machine learning may not capture. The AI can only interpret based on what is provided.

The adage “garbage in, garbage out” still applies, and maybe even more so as reliance on AI grows.

A Central Theme: Trust

A central theme during the meeting was trust. In consumer AI tools such as ChatGPT or CoPilot, users actively provide input and evaluate the output. In medical imaging, AI is embedded directly into systems—operating in the background with little visibility to the user. **How does a patient know that the dataset is accurate, reliable, and without bias? How does the physician know?** Again, the medical team needs to know why and how, not solely rely on

AI. AI’s purpose should not be to replace human intelligence, but to support it by removing repetitive tasks and allowing medical professionals to focus on judgment, experience, and patient-centered care.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND RADIATION PROTECTION IN MEDICINE

-continued

When Innovation Outpaces Regulation

Historically, technological innovation in radiation sciences has consistently outpaced regulation. Our radiation forefathers paid the heavy price before the importance of shielding, dosimetry, and regulatory oversight was fully understood. AI is following the same trajectory, requiring proactive, science-based guidance. **As regulators, our challenge is how.** How do we ensure patients and operators are protected?

Does it fall on the facility, the medical professional or the AI software manufacturer?

A question was asked in the meeting about who has the liability if a failure in the AI system causes a misdiagnosis. The answer was “the end user.” If that is the case, the medical professional team needs to use AI wisely.

Joann Harthcock, BSRS, RT(R)

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A Regulator's Questions

As a regulator, here are some questions that came to mind during the meeting.

Will insurance companies and hospital administrations look to AI to replace radiologists, assuming that AI learning can interpret imaging studies without the human eye?

Will they think a technologist is no longer needed to perform a study? Will healthcare professionals become so reliant on AI that 20 years from now, they no longer have the ability to think critically, and a skill set will be lost? What does that do to long-term innovation?

As regulators, could we require a physician to provide an interpretation?

Do we require a technologist to operate equipment in person?

What software quality assurance do we require to be in place?

Do we have the ability to regulate our way into not losing critical thinking skills?

These are just a few of the considerations we need to start building into our regulations.

Whatever we do, as the CRPCD or in our individual states, the time is now. The technology has been unleashed, and our role is to ensure that it is used responsibly and safely with radiation.

NCRP UPDATE AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

by David J. Allard, CHP (G-50 Liaison)*

Business Meeting

The NCRP's 2026 Annual Business Meeting was held virtually on March 24th. Sadly, there was no Annual Scientific Meeting this year.

Prior to the Business Meeting, Council Members received ballots for voting on Council Members, Distinguished Emeritus Members, Officers and Board of Directors, as well as the Treasurer's Report, and minutes of the 2025 annual meeting. The Treasurer's financial report is pending for Council distribution and review.

A business meeting is required to be conducted each year for a review of NCRP organizational business, provide administrative reports, and to perform elections.

The nominating committee presented its recommendations, and **the Council elected four Distinguished Emeritus Members, approved a slate of 17 new Council Members, and elected the NCRP's Officers.**

Council also ratified the Board of Directors list.

NCRP Elected Officers

President Catherine A. Higley

Senior Vice President Jerrold T. Bushberg

Secretary Laura J. Atwell

Treasurer Myrna A. Young

A significant amount of meeting time was used for a detailed walkthrough of the newly launched NCRP website and members-only services. Staff demonstrated the public site and members-only features, showing:

- report pages;
- publications search;
- PAC-specific pages;
- an educational-resources area; and
- two scientific web projects (the Million Person Study and a CDC-funded non-ionizing-radiation site).

The administrative capabilities of the new members-only area includes: Office 365 integration, committee SharePoint folders, and

NCRP UPDATE AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING -continued

an administrative dashboard for document versioning and task tracking. The group discussed rollout logistics, firewall and login concerns, ongoing website development, near-term tasks for PAC folder setup and member logins, and broader priorities, including recent publications. **Discussions also included interagency funding for the Million Person Study, and the need for longer-term funding to support various PAC work and an in-person 2027 scientific meeting.**

nature and mission of the Advisory Committee changed. And, a mission and more formal approach was needed to address not only acute radiation effects, but potential risk of cancer and other radiation protection issues. This prompted Lauriston Taylor and others to work on formally establishing the NCRP. In 1964 Congress passed a law and Chartered the current Council as a nonprofit corporation. **Unfortunately, in that law, Congress did not provide a funding source for the NCRP’s work.**

NCRP Value

As I mentioned in my G-50 report last year, given the CRCPD’s major national role in ensuring radiation protection of the public, workers, and environment at the state level, **recommendations of NCRP are essential guidance for those implementing government and private sector radiation safety programs.**

NCRP History

NCRP has its roots in the ***U.S. Advisory Committee on X-Ray and Radium Protection*** that functioned from circa 1930 through the 1950s. However, after WWII with above ground nuclear weapons testing, fallout, expanding use of radioactive material and machine sources of radiation, nuclear reactor development, etc., the ad hoc and expanding

NCRP Established Role

- Collect, analyze, develop and disseminate in the public interest information and recommendations about (a) protection against radiation and (b) radiation measurements, quantities and units, particularly those concerned with radiation protection;
- Provide a means by which organizations concerned with the scientific and related aspects of radiation protection and of radiation quantities, units and measurements may cooperate for effective utilization of their combined resources, and to stimulate the work of such organizations;
- Develop basic concepts about radiation quantities, units and measurements, and the application of these concepts, as they relate to radiation protection; and,

NCRP UPDATE AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING -continued

- Cooperate with the International Commission on Radiological Protection, the International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements, and other national and international organizations, governmental and private, concerned with radiation quantities, units and measurements - for radiation protection purposes.

(LNT) and as-low-as-reasonably-achievable (ALARA) radiation protection constructs in their regulations.

In fact, the NCRP and Health Physics Society held two webinars in June 2025 to provide a forum to discuss new EOs that target the LNT and ALARA radiation protection constructs. The sessions focused on challenging regulators to modernize the U.S. radiation protection framework, with strong stakeholder support for regulatory harmonization.

NCRP: An Information Resource

Through the years, vast amounts of information has been collected and analyzed by NCRP, and then disseminated as recommendations to the radiation protection community and the interested public as NCRP

Reports, Commentaries, Statements and other publications. This information is often the basis for key federal and state regulations and guides.

This aspect of NCRP's mission is even more important considering the May 2025 presidential Executive Order 14300, Section 5(b), directed to the US NRC, and instructing them to reconsider the linear no-threshold

NCRP Mission

For more than five decades, NCRP's Mission has been to support radiation protection practitioners by providing independent scientific analysis, information and recommendations that represent the consensus of leading scientists.

Currently the NRC's proposed revisions to Title 10 CFR Part 20 and other Parts are expected to be published in the Federal Register in early June. Be ready to review these regulations and comment!

NCRP Program Area and Scientific Committees

Currently the following NCRP Program Area Committees (PAC) and respective Scientific Committees (SC) are actively engaged in formulating new recommendations:

PAC 1: Basic Criteria, Epidemiology, Radiobiology, and Risk

NCRP UPDATE AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING -continued

PAC 2: Operational Radiation Safety
SC 2-9 Radiation Safety Program Concerns
Transitioning from Operating Facility to
Decommissioning Phase

PAC 3: Nuclear and Radiological Security and
Safety

PAC 4: Radiation Protection in Medicine
SC 4-13 Patient Shielding in Medical Imaging
TG 4-9: Medical Exposure Assessment in the
U.S. Patient Population

PAC 5: Environmental Radiation and
Radioactive Waste Issues

PAC 6: Radiation Measurements and Dosimetry
SC 6-13 Methods and Models for Estimating
Organ Doses from Intakes of Radium

PAC 7: Radiation Education, Risk
Communication, and Outreach

PAC 8: Nonionizing Radiation
SC 8-1 Development of NCRP Informational
Webpages to Provide Authoritative Information
about the Use of Wireless Technology and
Current Evidence on Health Effects

NCRP Commentary Under Review

It is worth noting that SC 4-13 currently has a
Commentary on *Patient Shielding in Medical
Imaging* under review by Council. Once

published, this document with updated findings
and recommendations should be useful to all
CRCPD members involved with X-ray facility
inspections. I would encourage all CRCPD
members to spend some time looking over the
NRCR new website <https://ncrponline.org/>

There you will find:

- all NCRP publications available;
- other educational resources;
- postings of news and upcoming events; and
- links to other scientific websites.

Stay tuned in 2026 for publication of new
Reports and Commentaries, posting of the
Treasurers Report, as well as information on the
status of the 2027 Annual Meeting.

*Note: opinions and statements in the article are mine,
and may not reflect those of the CRCPD Board or its
members. – DJA

HARHS/ER-02

NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR RADIATION READINESS (NARR) ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

by Christopher Williams (WA)

NARR Meeting

The 2026 National Alliance for Radiation Readiness (NARR) Annual Meeting was held on March 25 at the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) offices, the sponsoring organization, Arlington, Virginia. The NARR Executive Committee (EC) met the following day, March 26.

Annie Evans, Director of Preparedness at ASTHO, and Jennifer Buzzell, Centers for Disease Control and Protection (CDC) Program Officer for NARR, opened the meeting with welcome remarks and an overview of the agenda. Jennifer emphasized the importance of NARR to CDC and noted that it is expected to continue receiving support for the foreseeable future.

CRCPD Representation at NARR

Chris Williams (WA) and Lisa Brudeigan (OED) presented an update on activities from CRCPD, including:

- ◆ Progress of the Radiological Operations Support Specialist (ROSS) program
- ◆ Leadership changes within the Committee on Response Planning
- ◆ The Training Coordination Committee's support of the "Training for Public Health Decision Making in a Radiation Emergency" course
- ◆ Updates on the "Days After" workshop
- ◆ CRCPD correspondence to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding RadResponder
- ◆ CRCPD correspondence to NRC regarding proposed changes to 10 CFR Part 20
- ◆ Upcoming dates for the CRCPD Annual Conference

**HARHS/ER-02 NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR RADIATION READINESS (NARR)
ANNUAL MEETING REPORT** - continued

ASTHO Representation at NARR

Jeffery Ekoma, Senior Director for Government Affairs at ASTHO, provided an update on federal programs and legislation relevant to radiation readiness. Key highlights included:

- ◆ Federal Administration changes are creating new challenges within FEMA, a key partner in radiation readiness.
- ◆ ASTHO is focused on the reauthorization of the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA), noting that some components may be separated into standalone legislation.
- ◆ The FY26 Appropriations Bill includes modest funding increases for certain public health programs.
- ◆ Looking ahead to FY27, several programs previously funded through COVID-related appropriations are being eliminated.

ASTHO Role in Communication with Federal Partners During Emergencies

Annie Evans facilitated a discussion on NARR’s role in communicating with federal partners during emergencies. Members explored messaging needs and discussed potential templates that could be used across organizations and adapted within their respective agencies. The discussion was guided by the NARR Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), which may be revised based on insights from this session. Annie also provided an overview of NARR’s accomplishments over the past year.

HARHS/ER-02 NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR RADIATION READINESS (NARR) ANNUAL MEETING REPORT - continued

NARR Member and Partner Organization Update

NARR members listed below shared updates from their respective organizations. For a Table of Updates with detailed information, please contact Chris.Williams@DOH.WA.GOV

- Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE)
- Society for Disaster Medicine and Public Health
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- America's Poison Centers
- National Alliance of State Animal and Agricultural Emergency Programs
- National Disaster Life Support Foundation (NDLSF)
- US Environmental Protection Agency

NRC Considerations Related to Emergency Technologies

Todd Smith, NRC Senior Advisor for Emergency Preparedness and Incident Response, discussed regulatory and guidance considerations related to emerging technologies, including Small Modular Reactors and micro-reactors. He highlighted their potential to support communities during power outages caused by emergencies. On the morning of March 26, members who were available participated in a tour of the radiation monitoring program at Andrews Air Force Base. The program operates as part of the Nevada National Security Site's Remote Sensing Laboratory.

Annual Business Meeting and Key Takeaways

The NARR Executive Committee concluded the day with its Annual Business Meeting. During this session, members prioritized key takeaways from the full meeting and identified focus areas for the coming year. These include potential updates to the NARR SOP based on the March 25 discussion and lessons learned from the 2025 Cobalt Magnet exercise. The EC also discussed emerging issues to monitor in the year ahead.

PUBLIC HEALTH DECISION MAKING IN A RADIATION EMERGENCY CLASS IN KENTUCKY

by Matthew McKinley (KY)



Kentucky recently hosted the CRCPD sponsored CDC “Public Health Decision Making in a Radiation Emergency” class. Over the three days of instruction and activities, the value of this class became apparent. **It exposed gaps in our readiness to respond to a radiological or nuclear emergency and provided us the opportunity to address those gaps now rather than during an actual response.**

Class Participants

Our class consisted of representatives from state and local public health including:

radiation health;

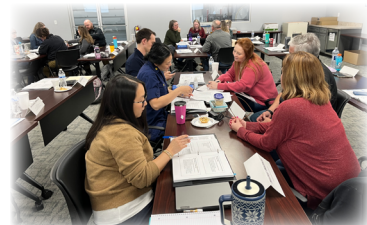
public health emergency preparedness (ESF-8);

epidemiology;

budget and finance;

laboratory, and;

several public health officials from other states.



We discussed the technical aspects of various incident types, the bases for public protective actions, and the transition into sustained operations and eventual recovery, similar to other available courses.

Addressing Topice from the Public Health Perspective

This course uniquely addresses those and other related topics specifically from the public health perspective. Instead of just discussing the recommended threshold for considering an evacuation, this course considers where all of the evacuees would actually go, and what healthcare and other services are available at that location.

Instead of just discussing the number and nature of expected fatalities and injuries, **this course discusses how this would impact the local and regional healthcare systems and how such a surge of patients might be handled.**

As a direct result of this class, we are currently working on closing several of our capability gaps:

- We are working directly with our Emergency Management Agency to enhance our process for agency notifications in the event of an emergency.
- We are collaborating with our Public Information Office to ensure they have the appropriate public message templates to reduce the time it takes to get vital information out to the public in the early stages of an emergency.
- We are re-engaging with stakeholders to renew their awareness of how they fit into a radiological or nuclear emergency response.
- We are even working on procedures for rapid drinking water analysis, statements of risk for responders who volunteer for higher radiation exposures and updates to public contamination screening procedures.

Model for a Public Health Emergency Response

One of the stated purposes for this course is to serve as a model for a public health emergency response and greatly enhance states and the nation's public health preparedness posture. I can say without any hesitation or doubt that that promise was fulfilled here in Kentucky.

PUBLIC HEALTH DECISION MAKING IN A RADIATION EMERGENCY

by Adela Salame Alfie (Lifetime Member)

Some of you may have already heard about this course or may have had the opportunity to attend one of its offerings. This article provides background information on the course and highlights upcoming opportunities to participate.

Background

A large scale radiation emergency requires significant involvement from public health professionals to support federal, as well as state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT), response efforts. Such a response is inherently complex, demanding extensive collaboration and coordination among multiple regional and state agencies. It also requires critical thinking and the ability to make difficult, time sensitive decisions.

To address this need, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in collaboration with its contractor SciMetrika, developed a course specifically focused on the public health response to nuclear and radiological emergencies. The course provides practical resources to help decision makers—and those who advise them—synthesize information, facilitate informed discussions, and make sound decisions during an emergency. It also offers advanced training on applying these resources to effectively manage a response.

PUBLIC HEALTH DECISION MAKING IN A RADIATION EMERGENCY - continued

This beyond the basics course serves as a model for public health emergency response training. It focuses on public health roles and responsibilities in support of Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) 8 and 6 under the U.S. National Response Framework and clarifies the functional areas involved in providing that support. Overall, the course significantly enhances both state and national public health preparedness.

About the Course

The three day, in person course combines didactic instruction with hands on exercises developed by experienced public health leaders. Using a realistic, large scale radiation emergency scenario, the course addresses key topics and activities across the three phases of response: early, intermediate, and late.

The course is intended for an audience of individuals who:

- Take on, or support, public health decision making during a radiation emergency
- Already have a basic understanding of radiation emergency preparedness and response

The course brings together professionals from public health, emergency preparedness, hospital care, and radiation control disciplines who would work collaboratively during a nuclear or radiological emergency.

Course Delivery

SciMetrika delivered the course in 2024 in Michigan (twice, in preparation for Cobalt Magnet 25) and in California.

Anticipating the loss of CDC funding to continue course delivery, CDC, SciMetrika, and Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) collaborated in 2025 to develop a Train the Trainer version of the course. This model prepares Radiological Operations Support Specialists (ROSS) to deliver the training.

In July 2025, thirteen ROSS were trained to establish a cadre of qualified instructors. Through a

PUBLIC HEALTH DECISION MAKING IN A RADIATION EMERGENCY - continued

CDC grant, the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) is able to support instructors' travel costs. *"I believe this is one of the bigger milestones in the success of the ROSS as well as radiological and nuclear emergency preparedness in general!" William Irwin, Sc.D, CHP*

HS ER 4 Subcommittee

The HS ER 4 Committee formed a subcommittee to manage this training effort. Amy Hass (MN) and Adela Salame Alfie (GA, Lifetime Member) lead this initiative. Their responsibilities include coordinating with host states on registration, logistics, and printing needs, as well as working with instructors to organize course delivery and assignments.

Course Opportunities

The first course delivered by ROSS instructors took place in Frankfort, Kentucky, in February 2026. Four additional courses are scheduled for this fiscal year:

May 5–7 — Edison, NJ

June 9–11 — Austin, TX

August 4–6 — Minneapolis, MN

September 15–17 — Connecticut

We are committed to continuing delivery of this important course beyond FY26 through ROSS volunteers. We are hopeful that additional travel funding will become available in the next fiscal year, and CRCPD is actively exploring alternative options to support instructor travel. Updates on course availability will be forthcoming.

Contact for More Information

For more information, or if you are interested in hosting a course in your jurisdiction, please contact [Adela Salame Alfie \(ASalameAlfie@crcpd.org\)](mailto:ASalameAlfie@crcpd.org) or [Amy Hass \(amy.hass@state.mn.us\)](mailto:amy.hass@state.mn.us)

DRAFT PART F: SUGGESTED STATE REGULATIONS FOR MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC AND INTERVENTIONAL X-RAY AND IMAGING SYSTEMS



On behalf of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD), we are pleased to announce the release of [DRAFT Part F: Suggested State Regulations for Medical Diagnostic and Interventional X-ray and Imaging Systems](#) for public review and comment.

All members are encouraged to review the draft Part F regulations and provide comments, suggestions, and any identified concerns. [Please submit all comments](#) within 60 days of this notice; the deadline for submission is June 16, 2026. Thank you for your continued engagement and support.

Michael Gries | *Radiological Health Physicist*

PUBLIC HEALTH

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

OFFICE: 402-471-0528

View the draft at https://crcpd.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/F-Draft-Final_2026.pdf

Submit comments at <https://crcpd.org/ssrcr-part-f-public-comment-period/>

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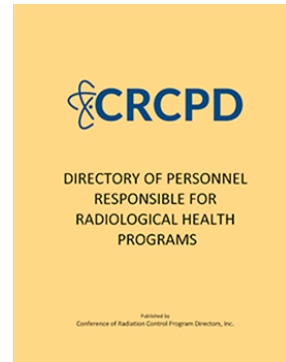
Hawkins DeFrance (WA)

**TO APPLY FOR
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DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The Directory of Personnel Responsible for Radiological Health Programs is available online for members and our federal partners and is updated regularly. Visit [CRCPD](#).



CALL FOR NEWS

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 Lisa Bruedigan (lbruedigan@crccd.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.

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