**For coordination of the management of incidents caused by the use of radiopharmaceuticals**

In the detection of chronic diseases as well as their treatment, doctors prescribe examinations by radiology or scanner acts which require the use of products containing radioelements belonging to the category of pharmaceutical drugs.

These products must be subject to specific treatment with regard to their use for the purposes of protecting the environment and people. This constitutes a real challenge (I) that could be met by systematic coordination solutions.

**I- The challenges of incident management of radiopharmaceuticals (MRP)**

The existence of incidents in the use of scintigraphs by injection of radiopharmaceuticals raises concerns about the systematic protection of patients against the risks of contamination by radioactive elements.

This protection requires good knowledge of the risks, qualified personnel, good organization of the MRP use cycle.

In some developing countries like Senegal, the radiation protection system is under construction and has many areas for improvement. For example :

- the storage of MRMs in public health establishments is not subject to specific conditioning;

- specific training in radiation protection for healthcare personnel, in particular medical technicians working in imaging departments, is almost non-existent;

- the absence of an incident directory, an inclusive monitoring system for the use cycle and the non-existence of a dedicated intervention body are notorious. For better protection, the recommendations below should be taken into account.

**II- Recommendations for systematic coordination**

The radiation protection requirements established by international instruments and IAEA guides are consistent but their application is less obvious for various reasons.

To ensure compliance with radiation protection standards, a permanent body should be set up to monitor the use of MRMs at the national level, working in synergy with the RPNSA, the public health establishments concerned and the firefighter service.

This body should be responsible in particular for ensuring the training of actors involved in the use of MRMs.

The establishment of a radiation protection intervention unit with ramifications in establishments using sealed and unsealed sources.

**RPNSA**: Radiation protection and safety security