

HOSPITAL DE CLÍNICAS
Dr. Manuel Quintela



¹³¹Iodine routine monitoring programme in nuclear medicine staff in Uruguay

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Mariella Terán¹, Maia Mombrú¹, Juan Carlos Hermida²

¹ Universidad de la República, Facultad de Química, Área Radioquímica, Av. Gral. Flores 2124 Montevideo Uruguay.
² Centro de Medicina Nuclear e Imagenología Molecular. Hospital de Clínicas. Av. Italia s/n.

mterangretter@gmail.com

1 Background and Goal of the present work

The Centre of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging of the University Hospital (CMNIM) jointly with the Radiochemistry Department of the Faculty of Chemistry settled the Internal Dosimetry Laboratory (IDL) in 2004. Since then, this group has been working uninterruptedly in monitoring potential internal contaminations with Iodine-131 in occupationally exposed personnel (OEP) due to the manipulation of open sources.

2 General experimental

- The IDL performs thyroid measurements fortnightly and free of charge to the Nuclear Medicine Centres of the country both private and public.
- The Effective Committed Dose E (50) is reported quarterly to the Regulatory Authority.
- Taking into account that the CMNIM provides more than 260 GBq of Iodine-131 per year, the evolution of the E(50) of technicians, physicians, radiopharmacists and nursing staff since 2008 to date is presented in this work.
- The protocol was developed in the framework of the ARCAL RLA/09/049. The methodology consisted in the following steps:

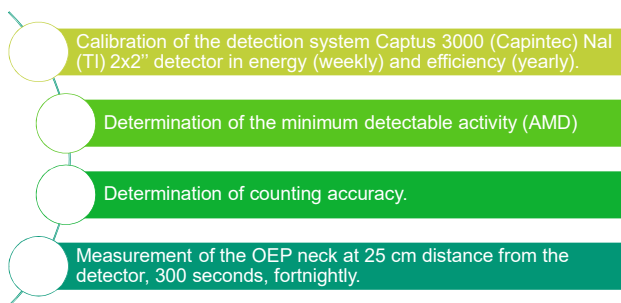
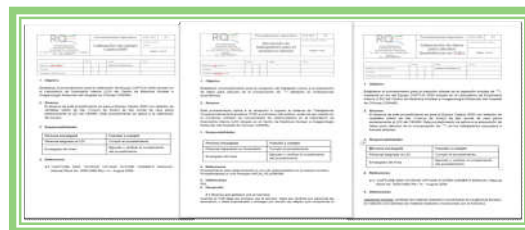


Figure 1: Calibration phantom IRD (Brazil)

The effective committed dose estimation E (50) was calculated using the software AIDE 2e considering fast inhalation route, a Retention Fraction m (t): 7.41×10^{-2} and a Dose Coefficient e (g): 1.1×10^{-8} Sv/Bq.

Standardised operation protocols were developed for; calibration process, reception of the OEP and data acquisition.



The derivate registration and investigation limits were settled in 1 (yellow) and 5 (red) mSv/year respectively. Figure 2, shows the measurements results of E(50) in the period 2008-2021 in full blue line.

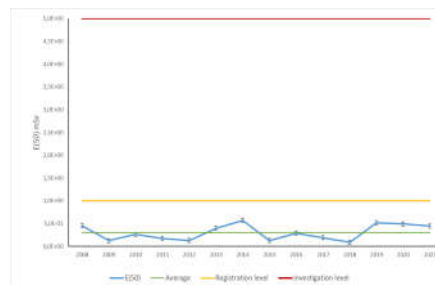


Figure 2: E (50) values 2008-2021

The implementation of the programme reached the 46% of the OEP involved in the manipulation of ¹³¹I open sources in the Nuclear Medicine area.

The method was robust and easy to implement in routine.

The IDL participated in three regional intercomparisons promoted by the IAEA achieving excellent results, which confirm the accuracy of the measuring protocols. The E (50) values were always below the registration levels, nevertheless they are submitted to the Regulatory Authority who keeps a national dose registry.

3. Conclusions

Despite the high amounts of ¹³¹I delivered doses, E (50) presents low values indicating good manipulation protocols. This programme is seen as an opportunity of continuous improvement in optimization of the practice and education of the OEP in Nuclear Medicine area.