Contribution ID: **103** Type: **Poster**

DOSE ASSESSMENT OF OCCUPATIONALLY EXPOSED WORKERS IN MONTENEGRO: AN OVERVIEW

The aim of this study is to estimate the effective doses to workers occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation in Montenegro. Montenegro is a small, developing country with 660 000 population, the use of radiation sources being limited to common medical applications and a few industrial ones, with estimated 620 occupationally exposed individuals. 98 persons belong to Category A (controlled persons). Centre for Eco-toxicological Research in Podgorica, acting as a technical support organization to regulatory authorities, is the first and only institution in the country performing personal dosimetry service (since2007). To assess doses two methods were applied: (1) the measurement of the ambient equivalent dose, H*(10)using ionization chambers routinely utilized during workplace monitoring; and (2) the measurement of the personal equivalent dose, Hp(10), using thermoluminescent dosemeters routinely utilized during individual monitoring. Annual doses are given for a period of five consecutive years (2014-2020). The highest annual value of the personal equivalent dose, Hp (10), was found with a practitioned in anghiography department, amounting to 8.3 mSv. The results show that estimated doses are well below annual dose limits of 20 mSv for the occupational exposure.

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Session Classification: Session 2. Monitoring and dose assessment of occupational radiation exposures

Track Classification: 3. Monitoring and dose assessment of occupational radiation exposures