C. GAURO N - C. LEFAU R E - Philippe MENECHAL - G.H. Necker-Enfant Malade, APHP, Paris
INRS(1), Paris and CEPN(3)

RELIR
A feedback network available to all

- Set up by the “Qualified Expert Group” of the French Society for Radiological Protection
- In conjunction with INRS(1), IRSN(2), Institut Curie and CEPN(3)

GOAL To select relevant incidents for use in training and accident prevention programs

OBJECTIVES - Learning in order to avoid new incidents
- Fostering exchange of information between radiological protection specialists and non-specialists
- Producing documents as teaching materials

FLOW CHART

Workers, Occupational physicians, Qualified experts, etc.

Moderator

Analysis validation

Validation Committee

Posting on the Internet

Dialogue questionnaire

Incident

Workers, Occupational physicians, Qualified experts, etc.

Information and fact sheets for use as teaching materials

Dissemination

Data sheet example

Circumstances:
- One lost Iridium 192 line (254 MBq)
During ablation of 5 Iridium lines at the end of the treatment, somebody realized that one was lost; this line was found in a dirty linen bag in a pillowcase.

Radiological consequences:
- One person was considered as exposed when she changed the pillowcase (the received dose was evaluated at 35 µSv); but the received dose could have been much higher (dose rates at 3 cm = 6 µSv/s).

Lessons to be learned from this incident:
- Active and passive dose monitoring of the workers taking care of these patients should be implemented;
- The radioactive lines’ fixation technique should be improved;
- The lines must be checked everyday;
- Any exit of the zone must be checked;
- Health care workers must be trained before any intervention;
- An internal guideline about good practice measures in case of an incident must be drawn up and disseminated.

This approach is consistent with a process underway in Europe (IRID system in the UK, EURAIDE project at European level, etc.)

Web site : www.relir.cepn.asso.fr

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(1) INRS: Institut National de Recherche et de Sécurité (National Research and Safety Institute)
(2) IRSN: Institut de radioprotection et de sûreté nucléaire (Institute for radioprotection and nuclear safety)
(3) CEPN: Centre d’Étude sur l’évaluation de la Protection dans le domaine Nucléaire (French Nuclear Radiation Protection Evaluation Center)