Updates from the WHO Radiation Programme

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The 6th EPRSci meeting - 14 June 2018
The World Health Organization

• Established on 7 April 1948

• Function: act as the UN directing and coordinating authority on international health work

• Objective: attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health

• Governed by the World Health Assembly (WHA)
WHO Programmatic Priorities

• Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals addressing human health (11 out of 17 SDG)
• Advancing universal health coverage
• Increasing access to essential, high-quality and affordable medical products
• Reducing health inequities by addressing the social, economic and environmental determinants of health
• Implementing the International Health Regulations in preparedness and response to public health emergencies
Universal Health Coverage (UHC) cuts across all of the health-related sustainable development goals (SDGs) as the core of development in health and reflects the SDGs strong focus on equity and reaching the poorest, most disadvantaged people everywhere.

An estimated 12.6 million deaths each year are attributable to unhealthy environments - nearly one in four of total global deaths. Environmental risk factors, such as air, water and soil pollution, chemical and physical risk factor exposures, and climate change contribute to more than 100 diseases and injuries. Incorporating health in all policies and addressing environmental health risks and driving the UHC agenda will result in a great impact towards implementation of SDGs.
HEALTH IN THE SDG ERA

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES
WHO Ionizing Radiation Programme

http://www.who.int/ionizing_radiation

- Existing (radon, food, water)
- Planned (medical and occupational)
- Emergency preparedness and response

World Health Organization
International Partnerships in EPR

- UN agencies and members of the Inter-Agency Committee for Radiological and Nuclear Emergencies (IACRNA) with 11 participation international organizations

- NEA/OECD – CRPPH / Working Party on Nuclear Emergency Matters - WPNEM


- Regional partnerships (HERCA WE, NERIS, RENEB etc.)

- NGOs and professional societies (ICRP, IRPA, etc.)

- WHO Collaborating Centres and expert networks

World Health Organization
WHO's role in RN emergency response

International Health Regulations: IHR (2005)

- International law for 196 MS of WHO
- Represent a complementary notification to the Emergency Conventions in case of RN emergencies
- Provides mechanisms and tools for assessment, monitoring, and assistance to strengthen preparedness and response capacity of Member States: annual reporting, Joint External Evaluations (JEE), national action plans, exercises.
Update on JEE process: 77 countries have completed JEE - as of 14.06.2018

2018 (10 countries): Burundi (Mar 11-16), Canada (12-20 Jun), Democratic Republic of the Congo (Mar 11-16), Japan (Feb 26-Mar 02), Rwanda (May 14-18), Seychelles (Mar 05-09), Singapore (Apr 16-20), Swaziland (Apr 08-13), Togo (Apr 16-20), Zimbabwe (Feb 19-23).

2017 (39 countries): Australia (Nov 24 – Dec 01), Belgium (Jun 19-23), Benin (May 22-26), Bhutan (Dec 11-15), Botswana (Dec 03-08), Burkina Faso (Dec 03-08), Cameroon (Sep 24-29), Chad (Aug 7-11), Comoros (Aug 20-25), Finland (March 27-31), Gambia (Sep 24-29), Ghana (Feb 6-10), Guinea (Apr 23-28), Indonesia (Nov 19-24), Kenya (Feb 27-Mar 3), Kuwait (14-18 May), Lao PDR (Feb 17-24), Latvia (May 8-12), Lesotho (Jul 10-14), Liechtenstein (Oct 30 – Nov 03), Madagascar (Jul 10-14), Maldives (Mar 6-10), Mali (June 26-30), Mauritania (Mar 27-31), Mongolia (May 12-19), Myanmar (May 3-9), Nigeria (June 11-20), Oman (April 02-06), Republic of Korea (Aug 28- Sep 02), Saudi Arabia (Mar 12-16), Slovenia (Jun 5-9), South Africa (Nov 26 – Dec 01), South Sudan (Oct 15-20), Sri Lanka (June 19-23), Switzerland (Oct 30 – Nov 03), Thailand (Jun 26-30), Uganda (Jun 26-30), United Arab Emirates (Mar 19-23), United Republic of Tanzania (Zanzibar) (Apr 23-28), Zambia (Aug 7-11).

2016 (28 countries): Afghanistan (Dec 5-9), Albania (Sep 5-9), Armenia (Aug 15-19), Bahrain (Sep 4-8), Bangladesh (May 8-12), Belize (Jul 4-8), Cambodia (Sep 26 – October 3), Côte d'Ivoire (Dec 5-9), Eritrea (Oct 3-7), Ethiopia (Feb 29 – Mar 4), Jordan (Aug 28 – Sep 1), Kyrgyzstan (Nov 28 - Dec 2), Lebanon (Jul 11-15), Liberia (Sep 5-9), Morocco (Jun 20-24), Mozambique (Apr 18-22), Namibia (Nov 28 - Dec 2), Pakistan (Apr 26 - May 6), Qatar (May 29 - Jun 2), Senegal (Nov 28 – Dec 2), Sierra Leone (Oct 31 – Nov 4), Somalia (Sep 25-30), Sudan (Oct 9-13), Tunisia (Nov 28 - Dec 2), Turkmenistan (Jun 6-10), United Republic of Tanzania (Feb 22-26), United States of America (May 23-27), Viet Nam (Nov 1-6).

JEE Pilots in 2015: Georgia (Jan 11-16), Peru (Jan 26-30), Portugal (Apr 12-17), Uganda (February 16-20), Ukraine (Nov 2-6), United Kingdom (June 15-19).
## Update on JEE process: 21 mission in the pipeline

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https://extranet.who.int/sph/jee-dashboard
Update on technical tools and guidelines in EPR

- Contribution to the relevant IAEA’s international safety standards and guides
  - GSR Part 3 and Part 7; GSG-11 on termination (just published!), DS 475
  - EPR series on medical response, biodosimetry, first responders, etc.

- WHO guidelines on iodine thyroid blocking (2017)
  - Free download link: https://goo.gl/yvcjY7
  - Infographics, FAQs – in preparation (with US CDC)

- Report on the results of the 2016-17 WHO survey of national ITB policies
  - draft report is circulated for comments to all contributors to the survey
  - Publication is in preparation

- IARC recommendations on thyroid cancer screening after nuclear emergencies – final stage, to be published in 2018

Update on technical tools and guidelines in EPR

WHO
Drinking-water guidelines

FAO/WHO
CODEX Alimentarius

Soon available!!!
https://goo.gl/qygZUo
WHO's Relevant Emergency Networks

- **Radiation Emergency Medical Preparedness and Assistance Network**
  - WHO's technical expertise arm since 1987 with 40+ members

- **WHO BioDoseNet** (since 2008):
  - global network of 60+ biodosimetry and bioassay laboratories
Education and Training programs

- US CDC (national and international programs, on-line training)
- REAC/TS, Oak Ridge TN (regular programs, national, international)
- Latin American training programs with IAEA (Argentina, Brazil)
- UK PHE (national training programs, visiting scientist programs)
- IRSN training programs (national and international), France
- Karolinska University Hospital in Sweden (biennial advanced training for MDs)
- FMBC - Moscow, Russia (on-the-job national and regional programs)
- NIRS, Chiba Japan (annual international training programs)
- Fukushima Medical Univ (academic programs)
- Hiroshima University – Phoenix Program for radiation disaster management
- RERF (biodosimetry training)
- CDC China (regular national training programs)
- KIRAMS – Seoul, S. Korea (annual regional REMPAN training courses)
3rd Asian REMPAN WS on Internal Contamination monitoring and management

- Hosted by the WHO Collaborating Center - KIRAMS in Seoul, Korea on 13-16 May 2018
- With participation of 30 specialists from Korea, Japan, Indonesia, Lao, Maldives, Mongolia, Singapore, Thailand, United States, Russian Federation, and Vietnam.
The 6th European Training on Advanced Medical Management of Radiation Emergencies

- Hosted by the WHO REMPAN member – Karolinska University Hospital
- Place – Stockholm, Sweden
- Dates – 10 to 12 October 2018
- Target audience – medical professionals, relevant specialists
- Free registration, contact - Mr. Ola Nerf before August 13, 2018 at: ola.nerf@sll.se
URL: www.prehospitala.se
WHO REMPAN Webinars Series

- Launched in March 2018 as a new cost-efficient tool for global outreach and information dissemination
- First 90’ webinar was held on 16 March 2018
- Topic: Public health impact of a nuclear detonation
- With participation of the experts from RERF (Japan), US CDC and WHO
- Attended by some 80 participants, positive feedback
- Recording is available at https://goo.gl/gvQ5Rt
WHO-NEA cooperation on non-radiological health effects of radiation emergencies

- Proposal of Germany to the WPNeM (NEA/OECD) and to WHO at the 42nd meeting of the WPNeM in Paris
  - BfS is WHO’s Collaborating Center and currently undergoing re-designation process for next 4 years, ToR are being reviewed and updated

- A two-phase project being currently discussed
  - Year 1: Development of a policy framework document on application of WHO guidelines on mental health to radiation emergencies (WHO-led task)
  - Year 2: Development of practical arrangements to support emergency response planners and managers to provide tools for efficient mitigation of psychosocial impact (WPNeM-led task)

- Year 3: a joint workshop may be envisioned
Mental Health impact of radiological and nuclear emergencies

- Mental health of populations exposed to biological and chemical weapons (2005) – document under revision, in final stage
  - [https://goo.gl/Mo7LZE](https://goo.gl/Mo7LZE)
  - Revision + derivative information products being developed

- For nuclear emergencies, a similar approach is followed in order to adopt the mhGAP guidelines to a nuclear emergency settings
  - [https://goo.gl/sWziWh](https://goo.gl/sWziWh)
  - Resources are mobilized, expert identified
  - First draft developed, will be circulated for review in Aug-Sept.
WHO Cosponsors Regional and global IRPA Congresses

- IRPACUBA - La Habana, Cuba, 16-20 April, 2018
- AOCRP-5 – Melbourne, Australia, 20-23 May 2018
- European IRPA-2018 – The Hague, Netherlands, 4-8 June, 2018
- AFRIRPA – Tunis, Tunisia, 6-8 Sept 2018
  - [http://afrirpa05.org/](http://afrirpa05.org/)