Radiation Protection and Safety in Veterinary Medicine
Draft Safety Report

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Veterinary Medicine

• The use of radiation for the diagnosis and treatment of animals is not defined as a medical exposure

• However, many applications of radiation in medicine are being used in veterinary centres around the world

• There is no specific IAEA guidance on radiation used in veterinary medicine
BSS

• Recognized in the BSS as a potential exposure pathway
• Classified as a planned exposure (para 3.1(a))
• Meets the requirement for a planned exposure situation (para 3.2(a))
• Response to a request from RASSC in 2014 to prepare a guidance document for veterinarians and the regulatory authority
Why developed guidance?

Prevent the unnecessary exposure of workers to radiation
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Radiation Protection and Safety in Veterinary Medicine Considerations

Safety Report

• Organization similar to medical
  – Specific guidance
    • Diagnostic Imaging
    • Nuclear Medicine
    • Radiotherapy
  – Four (4) appendices
    • Protective clothing for diagnostic and interventional radiology
    • Instructions on the release of animals following the administration of Iodine 131 or compounds labelled with iodine 131
    • Spill procedures
    • Radiation safety features of rooms used for storage, preparation and implantation of sealed sources of radiation
  – One Annex
    • HERCA guidelines on radiation protection training of Veterinarian professionals
Radiation Protection and Safety in Veterinary Medicine Considerations

Safety Report

- Each specific speciality addresses
  - Occupational exposure guidance
  - Public exposure guidance
  - Pet owners exposure guidance
  - Security (when applicable)
  - Emergency response (when applicable)
Team Effort

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Berlamont, J.  FANC, Belgium
Boal, T.  Australia
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Delves, D.  Austria
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Thank you!

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