Round Table on the Role of Standards for Strengthening the Security of Radioactive Sources used in Medical Applications

Vienna, Austria. 22-23 January 2019

Final Agenda

DAY 1:

08:30 – 09:00 Registration / Coffee & Tea

OPENING SESSION

09:00 – 09:15 Welcome & opening remarks

09:15 – 09:45 Review of expected outcomes

Discussion to develop a common understanding

- What do we mean by 'standards'?
- What is the role of standards in a highly regulated environment?
- How do we decide if a standard is needed?
- Do we have examples of standards which have impacted our work?

SESSION 1: SECURITY OF RADIOACTIVE SOURCES USED IN MEDICAL APPLICATIONS – A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

Key issues:

- What is the status of radioactive source security in the medical sector? Are radioactive sources used in medical applications adequately protected?
- What significant changes have occurred in the last few years? What further achievements can be expected?
- Where have we been successful? What remains to be done? What should be our priority?

09:45 – 10:15 **Presentation** on challenges and opportunities for the security of radioactive sources used in medical applications (Bryan Warren, Atrium Health, USA)

10:15 – 10:45 **Group Discussion**

- List the key factors and initiatives which have contributed to the strengthening of the security of radioactive sources
- Identify areas where improvement is needed
- Review participants' suggestions for innovative approaches that would help to enhance radioactive source security, especially in medical applications

10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break

SESSION 2: STRENGTHENING THE GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SECURITY OF RADIOACTIVE SOURCES USED IN MEDICAL APPLICATIONS

Key issues:

- What are the key elements of a security programme for radioactive sources used in medical application? Who are the main internal and external stakeholders?
- How do we demonstrate that governance arrangements are adequate? Are regulatory inspections sufficient? What could some other mechanisms be?
- How can we increase the interest and commitment of senior management to radiological security? What can we learn from other practices using radioactive sources (industry, research)?

11:00 – 11:15 **Discussion** on governance of radioactive source security and on continuous improvement mechanisms currently existing at medical facilities

11:15 – 11:45 **Presentation** on the role of peer reviews for assessing the security of radioactive sources used in medical applications (Jim Thurston, Royal Marsden Hospital, UK)

11:45 – 12:00 **Discussion** to share experiences in implementing peer reviews or similar mechanisms

12:00 – 12:30 **Introduction** to quality standards and accreditation mechanisms (Jodi Ploquin, Alberta Medical Services, Canada)

12:30 – 13:00 **Discussion** to share experiences in accreditation practices and explore their relevance to radiological security

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

SESSION 3: STRENGTHENING THE SECURITY-BY-DESIGN OF DEVICES AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES

Key issues:

- What are the existing initiatives for strengthening the intrinsic robustness of the devices containing radioactive sources against unauthorised removal? How efficient are these design modifications? What are their operational and financial impacts?
- What are the perspectives of the regulatory authorities and customers (end-users) on these modifications?
- What might the role of international standards (e.g. ISO standards) be for the development of security certifications for devices containing radioactive sources?
- What do we mean by security-by-design for a medical facility?

14:00 – 14:30 **Presentation** on strengthening the robustness of the devices containing radioactive sources (Michal Kuca, Sandia National Laboratories, USA)

14:30 – 15:15 **Discussion**

— Review the possible options for improving the design of medical devices and discuss the financial and operational impact of such options

- Explore the role of different stakeholders (manufacturers, end-users, regulators, etc.) in facilitating the production and use of more robust devices
- Review how security by design can be applied to rooms and building hosting devices containing radioactive sources

15:15 – 15:30 Coffee Break

15:30 – 16:00 **Presentation** on establishing an international industry standard for the security of medical equipment using high-activity radioactive sources (Anita Nilsson, AN Associates, Sweden)

16:00 – 16:15 **Lessons learned** from developing ISO/DIS 35001 on biorisk management for laboratories and other related organisations (Ben Brodsky, Sandia National Laboratories, USA)

16:15 – 16:45 **Discussion** on challenges and opportunities for establishing industry standards

16:45 – 17:30 **Break-out groups** to review key discussions and findings of the day and start consolidating main take-aways and a possible way forward

17:30 Event Reception

DAY 2:

09:00 – 09:30 Review of Day 1 and preliminary feedback of participants on innovative approaches that could help enhance radioactive source security in the medical sector

SESSION 4: STRENGTHENING THE COMPETENCES OF INDIVIDUALS WITH ACCOUNTABILITIES FOR THE SECURITY OF RADIOACTIVE SOURCES

Key issues:

- How do we identify necessary competences for the people involved in the security of radioactive sources used in medical applications?
- What education and professional development opportunities exist in the topic of radiological security? Are they generic or tailored to the medical sector?
- How do we measure the competence of the people involved in the security of radioactive sources? What might the role of certification be in developing their competence?

09:30 – 10:00 **Presentation** on the role of certification in developing competence (Rhonda Evans, WINS)

10:00 – 10:30 **Presentation** on identifying and providing necessary skills and competences for individuals with radiological security accountabilities (LeeZa Duval, CNSC, Canada)

10:30 – 11:00 **Discussion on**

- Assessing the competence of the people involved in radiological security
- Professional development opportunities in radiological security

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:15 **Discussion** to identify improvements in the main areas of the round table (governance, security by design and competences) plus additional suggestions from the participants

12:15 – 13:15 Lunch

13:15 – 14:00 **Discussion Continued**

CONCLUSION SESSION

14:00 – 14:30 **Way Forward**

- What are the key lessons that have arisen from this round table?
- What questions and challenges remain unaddressed?
- How can we ensure a follow-up to the key findings?

14:30 – 15:00 **Round table evaluation and closing remarks**

End of the round table