Courses in Medical Management of Radiation Emergencies

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Name: Last                             First                     Middle Initial                             Degree

ORISE is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

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ORISE takes responsibility for the content, quality, and scientific integrity of this ACCME activity. Respective courses are also accredited by the American Board of Medical Specialties for maintenance of certification.

The New York State Education Department has approved this activity for continuing education for registered nurses for 1 contact hour.

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missions and history

The Radiation Emergency Assistance Center/Training Site (REAC/TS) has provided the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) with expertise related to the medical management of radiation accidents since 1976. REAC/TS has responded to thousands of calls for medical advice and consultation, internal and external radiation dose assessment, and other specialized assistance to physicians, nurses, health physicists, and other emergency response personnel. REAC/TS provides direct support for the DOE’s National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Office of Emergency Response and the Federal Radiological Medical Assessment Center (FRMAC). REAC/TS maintains a 24/7 national and international radiation emergency response capability that includes deployable equipment, personnel experienced in decontamination and treatment of radiation injuries and illnesses, and management of the use of DTPA and Prussian Blue. Additionally, REAC/TS provides continuing medical education in its field of expertise through regularly scheduled in–house courses and specially designed off–site courses.

REAC/TS participates with the international community via its designation as a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center of the Radiation Emergency Medical Planning and Assistance Network (REMPAN) and with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for radiation accident response. In addition, REAC/TS has provided continuing medical education and accident response in over 40 countries.

REAC/TS is part of the DOE response network. REAC/TS provides treatment capabilities and consultation assistance on a 24–hour basis, and can be reached by calling (865) 576–3131 (days), or after normal business hours contact DOE Oak Ridge Operations Center at (865) 576–1005. REAC/TS also has a cytogenetic biodosimetry capability, the “gold” standard of ionizing radiation biodosimetry, in which chromosome aberration analysis is used for ionizing radiation dose assessment.

For more information about REAC/TS or other ORISE programs, visit orise.orau.gov/reacts/ or contact REAC/TS at the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, P.O. Box 117, MS–39, Oak Ridge, TN 37831–0117.

COURSES IN MEDICAL MANAGEMENT OF RADATION EMERGENCIES

Pre-Hospital Radiation Emergency Preparedness (PREP)
April 5-6, 2011 September 13-14, 2011
This 1½-day course is specifically designed for pre-hospital First Responders to include Public Safety (Fire, Police), Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel including Paramedics and Paramedic Instructors, and Emergency Planners who would be involved in planning, preparedness and/or response to a radiological or nuclear incident. Directors and Safety Officers from Fire, Police and EMS units are encouraged to attend. The course covers pre-hospital management and handling of victims who may be irradiated and/or contaminated with radioactive materials. The course provides an introduction to ionizing radiation physics and instrumentation for detection and measurement of ionizing radiation. Demonstrations and hands-on break-out sessions are provided to ensure that students are prepared to handle patients with radiation injuries and illnesses. An introduction to population monitoring and mass casualty management is also provided. This course can also be provided to larger groups at other venues by special arrangement.

Maximum enrollment: 28 10.5 hours CME credit

Radiation Emergency Medicine (REM)
This 3½-day course is intended for Physicians, Nurses, Practitioners and Physician Assistants who may be called upon to provide emergency medical care following a radiological or nuclear incident. Priority registration will be given to these groups of professionals. This course may also be relevant for Paramedic Instructors but is generally not intended for pre-hospital responders. The course emphasizes the practical aspects of initial hospital management of irradiated and/or contaminated patients through lectures and hands-on practical exercises. The course begins with a discussion of the fundamentals of radiation physics, radiation detection/measurement/identification, protection, prevention of the spread of contamination, how to minimize radiation dose to victims and providers, and the role of Medical/Health Physicists in caring for contaminated victims. Other topics include early evaluation and treatment of the acute radiation syndrome (ARS), acute local injuries, cutaneous injuries and combined injuries. Introductions to common sources of ionizing radiation, radiological/nuclear terrorism and hospital preparedness are also provided.

Maximum enrollment: 28 24.5 hours CME credit

Advanced Radiation Medicine (ARM)
August 15–19, 2011
This 4½-day course includes more advanced information for medical practitioners. This program is academically more rigorous than the REM course and is primarily for Physicians, Clinical Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants desiring an advanced level of information on the diagnosis and management of ionizing radiation Injuries and illnesses. Advanced topics in the diagnosis and management of radiation-induced injuries and illnesses include the use of cytokines, stem cell transplants, antimicrobials, wound care and other advanced techniques. Group problem-solving is used to thoroughly attend to the management of complex cases. This course is not recommended for pre-hospital, emergency planning or non-medical personnel. Only brief reviews of health physics fundamentals and emergency department interventions are discussed. Recent completion of the Radiation Emergency Medicine (REM) course is strongly recommended.

Maximum enrollment: 28 CME credit: 30 hours

Health Physics in Radiation Emergencies (HP)
This 4½-day course is designed primarily for Health Physicists (HP), Medical Physicists (MP), Radiation Safety Officers (RSO) and others who have radiation dose assessment and/or radiological control responsibilities. The course presents an advanced level of information on radiological/nuclear event reconstruction, dose assessments/estimations and integration of the physics discipline with medicine. The course provides the basis for HPs, MPs and RSOs to interact with and provide advice and recommendations to medical practitioners for the diagnosis and treatment of radiation injuries and illnesses. Topics related specifically to medicine include acute local and total body radiation exposure, internal and external contamination and combined injuries. Other topics covered include internal and external dosimetry, biosassay techniques and public information management. Demonstrations, laboratory exercises and group problem-solving sessions complement the didactic presentations. It is recommended that participants have a basic understanding of radiation sciences before attending this course.

Maximum enrollment: 28 32 hours AAPHP credit