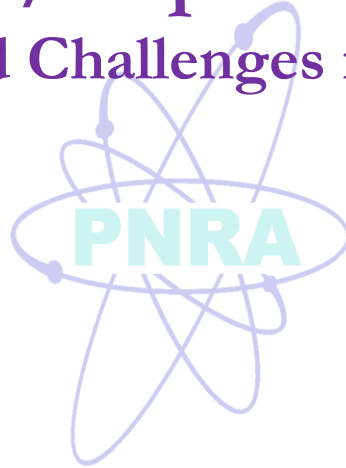


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Training of Health Professionals in managing contaminated / exposed individuals – Experiences and Challenges faced in Pakistan



Dr. Ameena Bano; Rizwan Ali KHAN
Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority



Training of Health Professionals in managing contaminated / exposed individuals – Experiences and Challenges

Introduction

- PNRA pilot program to educate and train health professionals in managing contaminated / exposed individuals
 - ▣ **Program Objectives**
 - ▣ Awareness among medical community about importance of early diagnosis and treatment of exposed / contaminated individuals in case of radiological accident
 - ▣ Awareness regarding impacts & consequences of accidents related to sources lost, stolen or involved in malicious acts
 - ▣ Awareness on key role of medical community in identifying any incidence of radiological victims related to lost, stolen sources etc.
 - ▣ Awareness of protocols to be followed during receipt and treatment of radiation casualties



Training of Health Professionals in managing contaminated / exposed individuals – Experiences and Challenges

□ Series of Seminars

- Half day seminars
- 37 general hospitals in 6 cities across the country

□ Participants

- Medical Doctors
- Medical College Students
- Paramedical Staff

□ Training Material

- Based on IAEA Training material for Radiation Emergency Preparedness & Response and National experiences
- Covered aspects of
 - Radiation Accidents
 - Acute Radiation syndrome & Local Injury
 - Decontamination and De-corporation
 - Practical demonstration



Training of Health Professionals in managing contaminated / exposed individuals – Experiences and Challenges

Challenges and Experiences

- Basic knowledge on Radiation and its effects is normally long forgotten by medical doctors during their courses of studies, specializations and field practice. Intense efforts are needed to upgrade related contents and their credence in curriculum of health universities
- Practicing doctors are really engaged and barely can spare time
- Trainings / Seminars on managing contaminated / exposed individuals are thought to be not directly linked to field of work of physicians / surgeons



Training of Health Professionals in managing contaminated / exposed individuals – Experiences and Challenges

Challenges and Experiences

- Para medical staff / support staff play important role
- Opportunities for specialization in treatment of such individuals are limited
- General hospitals are already over burdened and feel difficulty in allocating resources for preparedness

Conclusion

- Program needs to be expanded
- Model Centers to be established