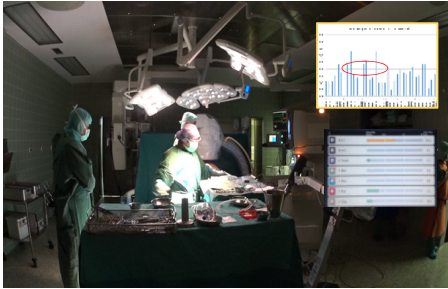


MPE12: Personnel dosimetry and techniques to communicate practical results to the users

A practical challenge to be solved: what are the appropriate methods and what degree of dosimetry is reasonable for different groups of personnel exposed to ionising radiation? How do you convince staff of the very real benefits that arise from personnel dosimetry?

Consider this scenario: after 30 years in a cath lab, a cardiologist develops head and neck cancer. He sues for a compensation, saying that he was always asked to work next to the patients and, under advice from the department head, was told not to wear any dosimeters. How should we tackle this?



Answering these questions is a common task for a medical physics expert. Occupationally exposed persons in radiological departments all over the world are routinely monitored using personnel dosimetry. There are a number of different approaches and techniques used. The method and degree of monitoring depends on the purpose: this could be dosimetry performed for legal reasons or as non-governmental dosimetry. Are we monitoring whole body dose or just the extremities or the lens of the eye? Even within a specific application, there can be a number of options. Knowing the ins and outs of dosimetry, along with the expertise required for interpretation – these are fundamental skills required of the clinically working medical physics expert – plus the ability to communicate these facts to the users.

This course was created to tackle these challenges, to give you the knowledge and skills to deal with situations involving personnel dosimetry, as well as to help you in future tasks of training radiation protection experts.

The course starts off with an e-learning phase which, in combination with in-depth lectures during the on-site phase, gives you comprehensive insight into the different techniques of personnel dosimetry and presents you with all the information you need to make sound decisions regarding personnel dosimetry in a clinical setting.

What really sets this course apart, though, is the opportunity to get real hands-on experience, working in small, closely supervised groups, covering a range of scenarios.

One day we explore the pros and cons of different dosimeter systems, the next day we study workflow and staff exposure in interventional suites and operating theatres. This is a platform where you can share your opinions, experience and knowledge with participants from all over Europe and solve practical tasks that everyone engaged in personnel dosimetry faces, together.



In addition to the practicals, we found that the discussion rounds proved very valuable and were much appreciated by all participants in the previous run of our module: everyone benefited from the exchange of knowledge!

Finally, further highlights include visits to a national dosimetry service in Berlin and to the world-renowned National Metrology Institute of Germany (PTB). We can look behind the scenes and learn from experts of international standing.



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