REAC/TS Mission 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, public health, and other emergency response personnel. REAC/TS provides direct support for the DOE's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Office of Counterterrorism and Counterproliferation and the Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center (FRMAC).

REAC/TS maintains a 24/7 national and international radiation emergency response capability that includes deployable equipment and personnel experienced in decontamination and treatment of radiation injuries and illnesses. 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 supports the international community as a Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)/World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center for radiation emergency management and participates in the WHO Radiation Emergency Medical Preparedness and Assistance Network (REM-PAN). REAC/TS is the only such designated collaborating center for radiation emergency management in the United States. REAC/TS is also an active member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Radiation Assistance Network (RANET). 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 radiation medicine advice and consultation 24/7, and REAC/TS’ Cytogenetic Biodosimetry Laboratory performs Dicentric Chromosome Assay (DCA), the “gold standard” for ionizing radiation biodosimetry.

Course Feedback:

"The course is fabulous. You guys are great and sharing so many years of your experience with us is definitely a gift! It seems like you have found out the right formula to teach such difficult subjects in the easiest possible way." - Physician-Brazilian Navy

"Complicated subject made very understandable. I wish I had taken this class years ago." - Fire Department Captain-United States

"It was by far one of the most informative and pertinent courses I have done of recent. From pre-course to completion, the hospitality and help from the staff was fantastic." - Registered Nurse-Australian Navy

"What I notice is that the staff at REAC/TS are always seemingly tweaking and improving the course materials such as the lectures themselves to be current with recent advances and the lessons learned. Then there is the invaluable references such as the spiral handbook, The Medical Aspects of Radiation Incidents. This reference is a real gem!" - Emergency Medicine Physician Assistant

Management of Radiation Accidents

Radiation Emergency Medicine (REM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November 12-15, 2019</th>
<th>April 21-24, 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 4-7, 2020</td>
<td>June 9-12, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10-13, 2020</td>
<td>August 11-14, 2020</td>
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This 3½-day course is intended for physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and pre-hospital providers. First responders/receivers, emergency management/planning and public health professionals may also find the course beneficial. 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, prevention of the spread of contamination, minimization of radiation dose to patients and providers, and the role of medical/health physicists in caring for contaminated patients. Other topics include early evaluation and treatment of acute radiation syndrome (ARS), acute local injuries, and combined injuries. Introductions to common sources of ionizing radiation and hospital preparedness are also provided.

Cost: $350 24.5 hours CME credit

Advanced Radiation Medicine (ARM)

| April 27-May 1, 2020 | August 17-21, 2020 |

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, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and nurses 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 cells, antimicrobials, wound care and other advanced topics. Group problem-solving is used to thoroughly orient attendees to the management of complex cases. 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.

Cost: $425 30 hours CME credit

The Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) designates this live activity for a maximum of 24.5 ACCME/AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Health Physics in Radiation Emergencies (HP)

| March 16-20, 2020 | June 15-19, 2020 |

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, biosafety 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.

Cost: $425 36 hours AAHP credit

The American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) designates this live activity for a maximum of 36 credits.
What You Should Know

Go to the REAC/TS website for course registration information: https://orise.orau.gov/reacts/.

Courses fill rapidly. Early registration is recommended. Placement on a “waiting list” does not imply acceptance in any course. A new application must be submitted annually.

Non U.S. citizens should apply early. Special forms are required.

Registration and attendance at our meetings and other activities constitutes an agreement by the registrant to REAC/TS for use and distribution (both now and in the future) of the registrant’s or attendee’s image or voice in photographs, electronic reproductions and audiotapes of such activities.

Travel, food, and lodging arrangements/expenses are the responsibility of course participants. Local lodging and transportation information will be sent to registered applicants.

ORAU/ORISE and its facilities meet the intent of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Please let us know in advance of any special needs, including special dietary needs or food allergies. (See registration page on website).

Contact Information:

865.576.3131 (0800 - 1630 Hours)
865.576.1005 (Emergency After Hours)

For more information about REAC/TS or other ORISE Programs, visit our website: https://orise.orau.gov/reacts

or contact us at:

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