

January 6, 2003

Carol S. Marcus, Ph.D., M.D.  
Research and Education Institute of  
Harbor-UCLA Medical Center  
1877 Comstock Avenue  
Los Angeles, California 90025

Dear Dr. Marcus:

Thank you for your letter of October 24, 2002, which proposes the development of a comprehensive list of specific gamma ray dose constants for adults and children of different builds for a variety of radionuclides. You suggest that medical emergency response teams could use the list as a triage tool to identify victims with significant internal contamination and segregate them from other victims with little or no internal contamination.

Your suggestion addresses an emergency response issue that falls within the responsibility of the Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee. Within this group, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is chairing a multi-agency Workgroup that was recently formed to identify tasks that need to be addressed in the area of radiological response. The issue of screening potentially contaminated individuals is being addressed by this Workgroup. We have therefore forwarded your letter to the CDC for its consideration. A copy of the letter to the CDC is enclosed.

Sincerely,

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Richard A. Meserve

Enclosure: As stated