

NUMBER 9, SEPTEMBER 2021





# VIRTUAL EVENT REPROLAM PARTICIPATION IN THE XXVIII ALASBIMN CONGRESS

from September 5 from 9 to 9:15

The traditional annual events of the Brazilian Society of Nuclear Medicine (SBMN) and the Latin American Association of Societies of Biology and Nuclear Medicine (ALASBIMN) will promote information exchange between countries in the area with a main focus on Teranostics

From September 3 to 6, 2021, the most renowned specialists and researchers in Nuclear Medicine will integrate the program of the XVIII Congress of the Latin American Association of Societies of Biology and Nuclear Medicine (ALASBIMN), in conjunction with the XXXV Brazilian Congress of Nuclear Medicine (CBMN). The traditional events of the two societies, which will be carried out in an integrated manner, will promote an exchange of information between the countries of the area and will propose a debate on the updates, with a main focus on the theme of Theranostics.

In light of the uncertainties regarding the advance of the COVID-19 pandemic, the events will be held in virtual format. Which will not hurt the debate. "It is an opportunity to gather a greater number of participants from different countries without logistical impediments", comments Juliano Cerci, president of ALASBIMN and of the SBMN Advisory Council, referring to the successful experience with the realization of CBMN 2020 Online.

To get an idea, the Brazilian event in 2020 brought together more than 95 speakers, 43 of them foreigners, a record number for a national congress of the specialty. In addition, the digital format will allow simultaneous instant interaction through chat and live discussion tables that will later be available to participants, so that they have the opportunity to review classes or see those they missed, access in a asynchronous to them.

The Scientific Directorships for the two events are also already defined. For Brazil, the Scientific Director of the SBMN, Dr. Cristina Matushita, assumes the position of the national event, and the vice president of the SBMN, Dr. Rafael W. Lopes, the event at the Latin American level. "It will certainly be a great opportunity to exchange experiences on what is most advanced in each country, and to advance our specialty throughout Latin America," says Dr. Rafael Lopes.

In addition to nuclear physicians, participation in specialty events is also indicated for residents, biomedicals, technologists, biologists, physicists, chemists, pharmacists and all those who are interested in the use of radioisotopes in Medicine in Latin America.

For more information: https://sbmn.org.br/alasbimn2021/?lang=es



NUMBER 9, SEPTEMBER 2021

#### **REPROLAM PARTICIPATION**

TECHNICAL MEETING ON THE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION OF THE OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION PROTECTION APPRAISAL SERVICE (ORPAS)

**Virtual Event** 

13 – 17 September 2021



The event aims to serve as a forum for interested Member States to discuss lessons learned from completed ORPAS missions and commonly encountered difficulties based on the experience gained, and to share best practices and strategies used in the review. In the scope of the meeting, a training course will be organized for ORPAS reviewers and candidates.

The topics to be covered during the meeting:

- ORPAS Guidelines and Collaboration Platform
- Observations from the completed reviews
- Approach for nuclear embarking and expanding countries
- Questionnaires and SARIS
- ORPAS Database information exchange platform
- Training for reviewers
- Hybrid and virtual and missions
- Recommendations, Suggestions, Good practices and links to Action Plans
- Concept of advisory missions
- Side events for regional networks
- · Outlook, Perspectives, and Demands

A special event will be organized during the Technical Meeting for the celebration of 20th anniversary of ORPAS. Some sessions will be live streamed, and a webinar will be organized.

For more information visit: https://gnssn.iaea.org/main/ORPAS/SitePages/Home.aspx



NUMBER 9, SEPTEMBER 2021



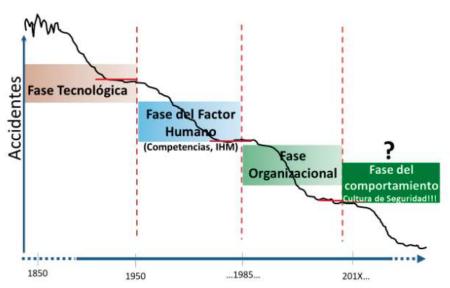
#### **SAFETY FIRST**

Space dedicated to common understanding and the promotion of Safety Culture through of information, analysis, dissemination of experiences and related news.

# "IS THE CULTURE OF SAFETY AN OPTIONAL ISSUE FOR ORGANIZATIONS THAT WORK WITH IONIZING RADIATION SOURCES?"

OPINION ARTICLE BY: Rubén Ferro (Cuba) and Renán Ramírez (Peru)

Although 25 years have passed since the appearance of the Safety Culture concept, there are still many organizations and managers who do little or no work in this field. Some consider it a nebulous or abstract subject and therefore avoid it. Others consider it to be "something else" that can be postponed to "another time, later", or worse still, that it is an optional matter for the organization. It is not fully understood that Safety Culture arises as a result of the evolution of traditional safety approaches and, therefore, any strategy, program or conception of safety that does not include it will not only be incomplete and backward, but also very late, vulnerable to the occurrence of an accident.



The graph in the figure shows the different phases that security approaches have gone through, from the technological phase, through the human factors phase from approximately the 1950s to the organizational phase; The latter began in the 1980s, after a series of accidents that occurred almost simultaneously in different sectors of industry and services, such as the Bhopal Chemical Plant (India, 1984), the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger (USA). 1986), the accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant (Ex-Soviet Union, 1986), the Goiania radiological accident (Brazil, 1987), and the fire and explosion at the Piper Alpha Oil Platform (United Kingdom, 1988), among others. Although the concept of Safety Culture appears in this last phase, it was really the Safety Management Systems (SGS) that had the greatest boom since then.



NUMBER 9, SEPTEMBER 2021

This was shown in a new series of accidents, in several of these same sectors, which took place in the early years of this century, such as the Columbia explosion (USA, 2003), the explosion in the Texas refinery (USA 2007), the accident in the Washington metro (USA, 2010), the accident at the BP platform in the Gulf of Mexico (USA, 2010) and the accident in the Fukushima Power Plant (Japan, 2011), whose research reports coincided in pointing out the lack of an adequate safety culture, as one of the biggest contributors. Although almost all of these organizations had developed management systems, they were not effectively implemented or regularly reviewed to ensure their sufficiency and effectiveness. It was confirmed again that to guarantee safety it is not enough to have the most modern and sophisticated technologies, management systems and procedures for all processes and qualified and trained personnel. Inappropriate behavior by individuals or organizations with regard to safety can erode or disable, in a less visible way, safety barriers and control measures aimed at preventing accidents, even long before they occur.

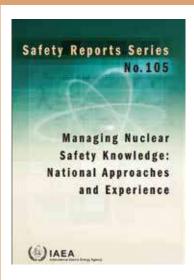
It was then demonstrated that the Safety Culture is precisely the link that completes and ensures the effectiveness and solidity of any safety system that seeks to minimize the probability of an accident occurring. It could even be said that we are in a new and higher phase of security approaches, in which issues of the behavior of individuals and organizations are essential.

If you are a manager and have not yet started working on the Safety Culture of your organization, get started today, don't put it off. Safety Culture is not an optional matter, it is essential for your organization to achieve the highest levels of safety.

#### REFERENCES:

• FORUM Guide on Safety Culture of Organizations, Facilities and Activities with sources of ionizing radiation, 2015. www.foroiberam.com

#### **RESOURCES AND DOWNLOADS**



#### **AVAILABLE**

# MANAGING NUCLEAR SAFETY KNOWLEDGE: NATIONAL APPROACHES AND EXPERIENCE

To access the download, go to: https://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/Publications/PDF/P1938\_web.pdf



NUMBER 9, SEPTEMBER 2021



IAEA SURVEY ON RADIATION PROTECTION AND THE MANAGE-MENT OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE IN THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY Deadline: September 10

The IAEA has been decided to revise the Safety Report on Radiation Protection and the Management of Radioactive Waste in the Oil and Gas Industry (SR-34). The purpose of this revision is to provide updated practical guidance on radiation protection and the management of radioactive waste in the oil and gas industry, consistent with current IAEA safety standards, including the implications of the new technologies with a focus on unconventional oil and gas exploration and production, and implementing a graded approach to the protection of worker against exposures from NORM and for the management of NORM residues.

To collect feedback from Member States on the utilization of SR-34, a survey has been prepared and, by completing this survey, the Member States will contribute to the knowledge base to ensure a comprehensive and useful safety report for Oil and Gas Industry. The survey is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, and Russian, and can be assessed online by using the links provided.

More information in: https://nucleus.iaea.org/sites/orpnet/home/SitePages/Home.aspx



#### BRACHYTHERAPY SURVEY

**CALIBRATION SERVICE** 

The IAEA is collecting information on calibration services in brachytherapy. Your participation in this survey is highly appreciated.

Visit: https://iris.iaea.org/public/survey?cdoc=SSDLBC02



The Network for the Optimization of Occupational Radiological Protection in Latin America and the Caribbean (REPROLAM) is a scientific and cultural society, non-profit, political, religious or racial, of unlimited duration, which has the objective of promoting the optimization of occupational radiation protection. REPROLAM seeks to expand academic and scientific cooperation among its members, with the aim of promoting adequate radiation protection for workers.

Visit our website for more information: http://www.reprolam.com/

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