



# IAEA

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国际原子能机构

International Atomic Energy Agency

Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique

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In reply please refer to: **SV-RER9147-EVT1906707**

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2020-03-02

**Subject: TC Group Scientific Visit on Patient Radiation Protection in Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology, Boston, USA, from 26 to 30 October 2020**

Dear National Liaison Officer,

I am pleased to invite you to send nominations of suitable candidates to participate in the TC Group Scientific Visit on Patient Radiation Protection in Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology within the framework of the IAEA technical cooperation project RER9147, "Enhancing Member States' Capabilities for Ensuring Radiation Protection of Individuals Undergoing Medical Exposure".

The purpose of the Group Scientific Visit is to orient and train senior radiological professionals through sharing of experience with experts from a highly developed medical centre in the USA with advanced experience in patient radiation protection in all imaging modalities.

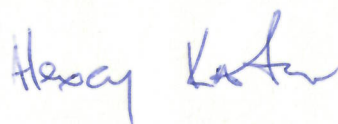
The attached Information Sheet provides further details, including technical and administrative aspects of the event. Selection of participants will be in accordance with IAEA procedures. Member States are strongly encouraged to identify suitable women participants.

The IAEA will provide selected participants with a round-trip air ticket based on the most direct and economical route between the airport nearest the participant's residence and Dublin. Travel details will be agreed with the participants upon receipt of their official nomination. Participants will also receive an allowance from the IAEA sufficient to cover their costs of lodging, daily subsistence and miscellaneous expenses for the duration of the event in line with IAEA rules and procedures.

We would appreciate receiving your country's nominations by **22 April 2020** through the IAEA's InTouch+ platform (<https://Intouchplus.iaea.org>). Should this not be possible, applicants may download the Nomination Form for the course from the [IAEA's webpage](#). Completed forms must be endorsed by the relevant government authority and may be sent to the IAEA, preferably by email to IAEA Official Mail - ([Official.Mail@iaea.org](mailto:Official.Mail@iaea.org)), with copy to Mr Alexey Katukhov, ([A.Katukhov@iaea.org](mailto:A.Katukhov@iaea.org)). Please be advised that late nominations or replacements of participants after the closing date for nominations will not be accepted.

We look forward to receiving your early response.

Yours sincerely,



**Alexey Katukhov**  
Programme Management Officer  
Division for Europe  
Department of Technical Cooperation

Enclosures: **Information Sheet**



# **Group Scientific Visit on Patient Radiation Protection in Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology**

**through the**

**Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH)**

**Boston, MA - USA**

**26-30 October 2020**

**Ref. No.: SV-RER9147-1906707**

## **Information Sheet**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Group Scientific Visit is to orient and train senior radiological professionals through sharing of experience with experts from a highly developed medical centre in the USA with advanced experience in patient radiation protection in all imaging modalities. Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) in Boston is among the best hospitals in USA and is affiliated with Harvard University. The radiology department is the place where clinical decision support in imaging was first introduced over a decade ago and thus has highest experience in application of justification in imaging. How the referral process takes place, how justification is practiced and how optimizations are done, will form the core basis of the visit. The visit will include sharing of practical experience of imaging experts, quality and safety experts and safety culture professionals in various areas of imaging in classroom settings, visits to clinical areas and interactive sessions.

### **Working Language(s)**

The working language(s) of the event will be **English**.

### **Deadline for Nominations**

Nominations received after **22 April 2020** will not be considered.

## Project Background

The project RER/9/147 is designed for Member States (MSs) in the European region to improve the implementation of the framework of radiation protection in medical uses of ionizing radiation, and enhance the national capabilities for medical exposure control in compliance with requirements of the GSR Part 3 (International Basic Safety Standards (BSS)). The main goals of the project are to strengthen in the Member States and throughout the region the cooperation of regulatory bodies, health authorities and relevant professional bodies, and to enhance their capacity in ensuring the implementation of the basic requirements for radiation protection and safety related to medical exposure.

## Expected Outputs

Participants will increase their knowledge and skills on justification and optimization practices to be better professionals with attitude to practice and monitor imaging using best practices and to meet requirements for patient and workers' radiation safety. The group approach will provide orientation on how professionals can cooperate and collaborate with the common purpose of achieving high standards of patient safety.

## Scope and Nature

The Group Scientific Visit will consist of classroom lectures, visits and demonstrations.

Topics that will be included are:

1. Steps to be taken to strengthen the process of justification in one's country. Participants will be familiarized with a clinical decision support system and informed about signing of a bill by US President on the adoption of decision support that shall become mandatory in 2018;
2. Optimization: How the host institution has been able to reduce doses in different modalities (radiography, CT, mammography, in particular in pediatric CT), taking into account diagnostic image quality;
3. Compliance with State regulations and accreditation agencies. The USA overall has strength in accreditation and there are significant actions on compliance on State radiation safety requirements;
4. Safety culture: There are unique actions in place on this issue at the host institution and thus there will be opportunities to demonstrate how it is done;
5. Practical observation of different imaging methods and modalities;
6. Other topics in the IAEA standard curriculum will also be addressed.

## Participation

The meeting is open to maximum **20 participants** from Member States participating in the TC regional project RER/9/147 "RER/9/147: Enhancing Member States' Capabilities for Ensuring Radiation Protection of Individuals Undergoing Medical Exposure". The group scientific visit is meant for 2-person team from each country consisting of two professionals from radiologist, medical physicist, radiographer or relevant authority. The team should either be from a single medical institution or should have good cooperation to contribute jointly.

Candidates must complete and submit the attached Occupational Exposure History form along with their nominations. Please note that nominees should not to submit their occupational exposure data in any other format.

In addition, in accordance with the US requirements, candidates should also provide a copy of their passports and their mother's maiden name and father's full name along with their nominations.



## Participants' Qualifications and Experience

It is planned that two participants per Member State will be selected. The first team member should be a diagnostic radiology specialist, with extensive experience in X-ray imaging, preferably with a leading position in the professional society, or coming from a teaching hospital. The second team member should be a qualified diagnostic medical physicist, or a senior radiation technologist or representative of an authority actively involved in radiology. Only nominations from countries, proposing a team of two specialists coming from institutions actively involved in the project RER/9/147 will be considered. Preference will be given to candidates from countries and institutions who already participated in the surveys of patient doses and radiology practice under the project. In cases when a representative of an authority, either health authority or radiation protection regulatory body is proposed, there should be strong justification how this person is involved in radiology and how he or she is involved in the project RER/9/147.

Fluency in written and spoken English is required.

## Application Procedure

Candidates wishing to apply for this event should follow the steps below:

1. Access the InTouch+ home page (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>) using the candidate's existing Nucleus username and password. If the candidate is not a registered Nucleus user, she/he must create a Nucleus account (<https://websso.iaea.org/IM/UserRegistrationPage.aspx>) before proceeding with the event application process below.
2. On the InTouch + platform, the candidate must:
  - a. Finalize or update her/his personal details, provide sufficient information to establish the required qualifications regarding education, language skills and work experience ('Profile' tab) and upload relevant supporting documents;
  - b. Search for the relevant technical cooperation event (EVT1906707) under the 'My Eligible Events' tab, answer the mandatory questions and lastly submit the application to the required authority.

**NOTE:** Completed applications need to be approved by the relevant national authority, i.e. the National Liaison Office, and submitted to the IAEA through the established official channels by the provided designation deadline.

For additional support on how to apply for an event, please refer to the [InTouch+ Help page](#). Any issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be addressed to [InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org](mailto:InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org).

Should online application submission not be possible, candidates may download the nomination form for the meeting from the [IAEA website](#).

**NOTE:** A medical certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner dated not more than four months prior to starting date of the event must be submitted by candidates when applying for a) events with a duration exceeding one month, and/or b) all candidates over the age of 65 regardless of the event duration.

## **Administrative and Financial Arrangements**

Nominating authorities will be informed in due course of the names of the candidates who have been selected, and will at that time be informed of the procedure to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Selected participants will receive an allowance from the IAEA sufficient to cover their costs of lodging, daily subsistence and miscellaneous expenses. They will also receive either a round-trip air ticket based on the most direct and economical route between the airport nearest their residence and the airport nearest the duty station through the IAEA's travel agency American Express, or a travel grant, or they will be reimbursed travel by car/bus/train in accordance with IAEA rules for non-staff travel.

## **Disclaimer of Liability**

The organizers of the event do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the course, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in approving his/her participation, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.

## **Note for female participants**

Any woman engaged by the IAEA for work or training should notify the IAEA on becoming aware that she is pregnant.

The Board of Governors of the IAEA approved new International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources. The Standards deal specifically with the occupational exposure conditions of female workers by requiring, inter alia, that a female worker should, on becoming aware that she is pregnant, notify her employer in order that her working conditions may be modified, if necessary. This notification shall not be considered a reason to exclude her from work; however, her working conditions, with respect to occupational exposure shall be adapted with a view to ensuring that her embryo or foetus be afforded the same broad level of protection as required for members of the public.

## **IAEA Contacts**

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