

From: DOECAST
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Subject: DOE's US Transuranium & Uranium Registries (USTUR)

DOE's USTUR: Transuranium Registrants Living Long Lives with Plutonium Exposures

Dr. Tony James, new Director of USTUR and Research Professor, College of Pharmacy, Washington State University, will give a 45-minute presentation at 13:30 on Wednesday, December 14th, at EH HQ, Germantown (270 CC).

Beginning in the 1960's with the mission of acquiring and providing precise information about the effects of transuranic elements in man, the USTUR has followed up to 'old age' almost 500 volunteers who worked at weapons sites and received measurable internal doses. Most of our 120 living Registrants were exposed in the 1950s or 60s, and their average age is now 83 ± 4 y.

Dr. James will touch on these areas in which new or additional information is being gained at the USTUR:

- Validation of new 'field' methods for assessing 'realistic' tissue doses in individual cases.
- Quantification of individual variability in actinide biokinetic behavior and resulting tissue doses – based on our existing 24 whole-body donations and 17 active whole-body Registrants.
- Human, experienced-based predictive model of the effectiveness of chelation therapy.
- Reality check on how well our plutonium workers were protected in the early years of the nuclear industry.
- Reality check on the 'claimant favorable' assumptions made in adjudicating EEOICPA compensation claims – and other implications for 'litigation.'

The site can be accessed from the Department's Homepage www.energy.gov or at http://www.energy.gov/engine/content.do?BT_CODE=EDG1140

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