

2017 Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting  
Red Lion Hanford House, Richland, WA  
August 25-26, 2017

## Research Plan and Operation in FY2018

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*“Learning from Plutonium  
and Uranium Workers”*





# Funding

- Agency: U.S. Department of Energy, Domestic and International Health Studies (AU-13)
- Project: Management and Operation of the United States Transuranium and Uranium Registries
- Total budget: \$5,500,000
- Period: 4/1/2017 – 3/31/2022
- FY2017 budget: \$1,063,400



# Personnel

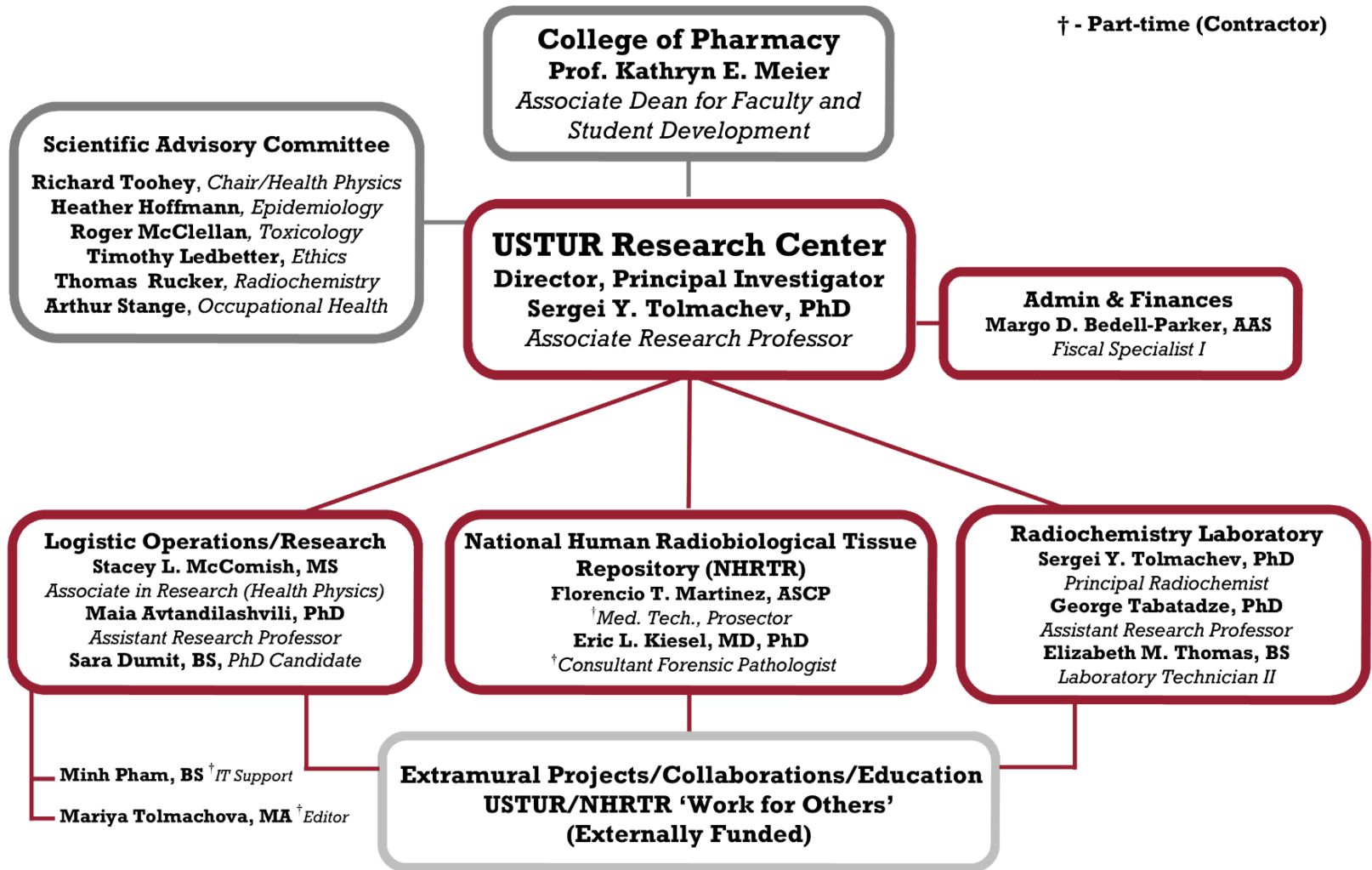
|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| FY2017 total FTE:           | 5.8 |
| • PI, Director:             | 1.0 |
| • Research faculty:         | 2.8 |
| • Technical personnel:      | 1.0 |
| • Administrative personnel: | 1.0 |

Adjunct faculty: Daniel J Strom (WSU)  
(4/1/2017 – 3/31/2020)



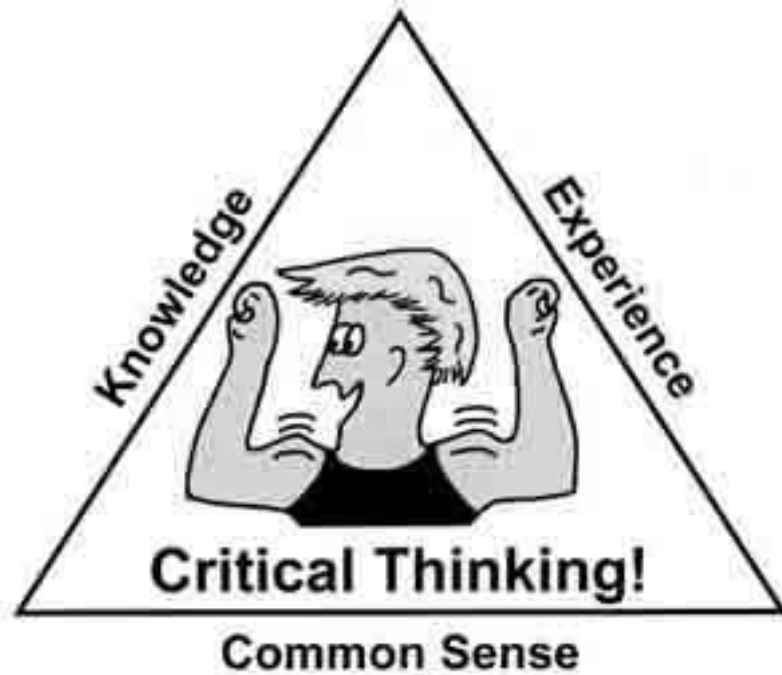
# Organization Structure

† - Part-time (Contractor)

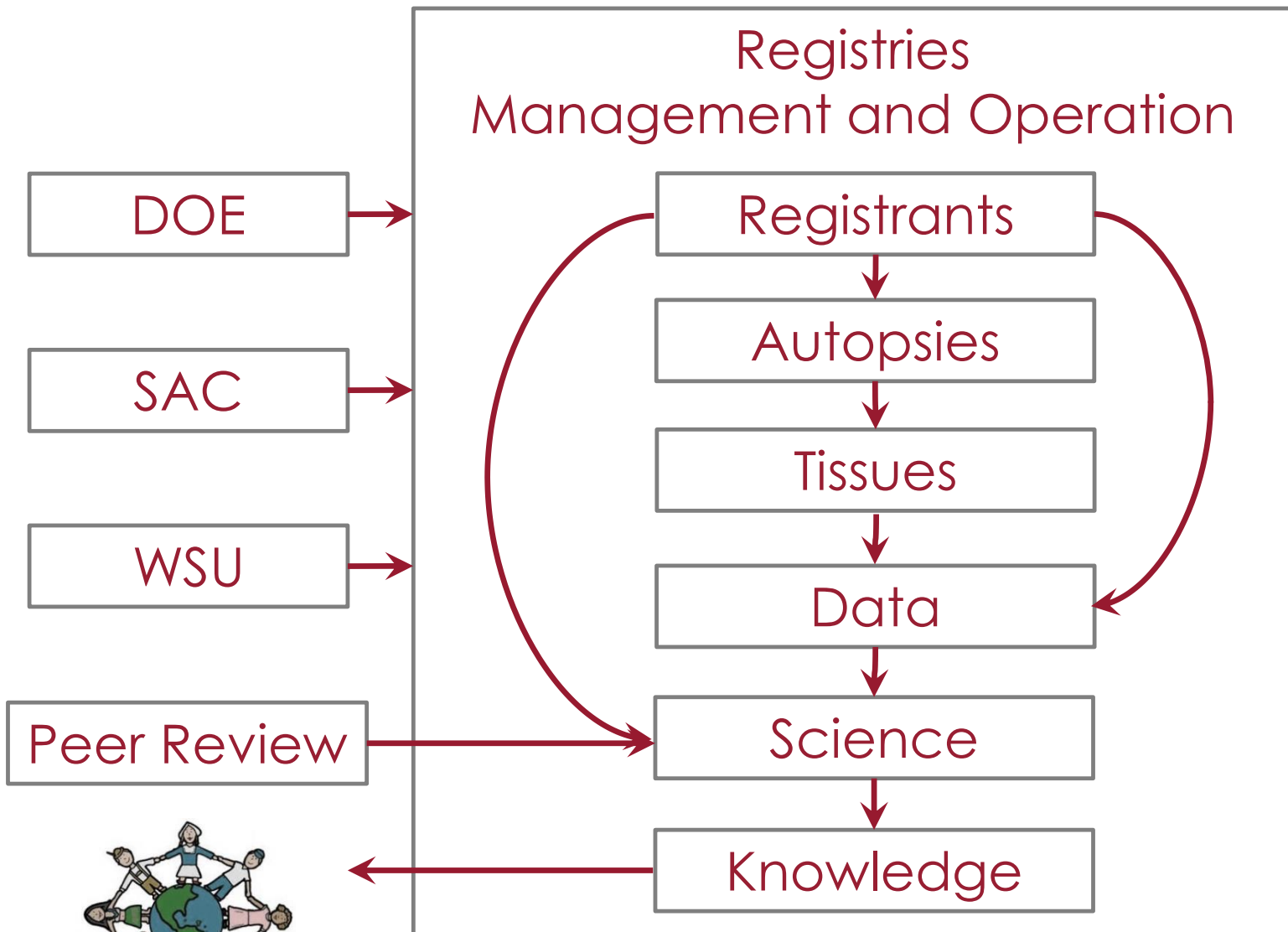




# 'New' SAC Member: Worker Representative?



# High Level View of USTUR as a System





# Specific Aims

- Manage and operate the Registries
- Conduct scientific research
- Demonstrate and promote broader use and application of USTUR research, data, and materials



# Management and Operation

- Communicate with Registrants and next-of-kin
- Accept Registrant donations
- Operate the National Human Radiobiological Tissue Repository (NHRTR)
- Complete radiochemical analysis of tissues
- Develop and populate USTUR information systems



# Primary Research Focus

- Actinide biokinetic modeling and dosimetry
- Development of plutonium chelation model
- Analysis of uncertainties in organ dose estimates
- Explore opportunities to study occupational exposure to non-radioactive materials

# Research and Collaboration Network

## USTUR Research Center: Intramural Project

Sergei Y. Tolmachev, PhD, PI & Director, Research Professor

### Radiochemistry & Mass Spectrometry

Sergei Tolmachev, PhD & George Tabatadze, PhD

- Expeditious Analysis of Donated Tissues
- Application of New Actinide Separation Techniques
- Application of Advanced Measurement Techniques

### Research & Academics

- Actinide biokinetic modeling
- Development of plutonium chelation model
- Uncertainties analysis in organ dose estimates
- Distribution of actinides in a human body
- Exposure to non-radioactive materials

### Tissue Repository & Databases

Stacey L. McComish, MS & Maia Avtandilashvili, PhD

- National Human Radiobiological Tissue Repository (NHRTR)
- Health Physics
- Radiochemistry

## Extramural Projects/Collaborations

NWU, Chicago, IL  
Gayle Woloschak, Professor

Washington State University, Tri Cities

KEEA (Japan)  
Noriyuki Momoshima, President

U. Laval, QC, Canada  
Dominic Larivière, PhD

GCP in Radiation Protection  
Paul Stansbury, Chair

College of Nursing  
Kay Olson, Interim Director

PHE: Dosimetry Services  
Anthony Riddell, Head

Health Canada, ON, Canada  
Chunsheng Li, PhD

Kyushu University, Japan  
Shinji Sugihara, Professor

EURADOS: WG7/WG10  
Maria Lopez, WG7 Chair  
Clemens Woda, WG10 Chair

Southern Urals Biophysics  
Institute, Ozorsk, Russia

JCCRER /PNNL  
Bruce Napier, Manager

REAC/TS  
Nicholas Dainiak, Director

KIT: Radioanalytical Lab  
Bastian Breustedt, Head



EURADOS

一般財団法人  
九州環境管理協会



National Council on Radiation  
Protection and Measurements





# New Opportunities

- Washington State University, Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology (INST)  
<https://nuclearscience.wsu.edu/>
- Colorado State University, Department of Environmental and Radiological Health Sciences  
<http://csu-cvmb.colostate.edu/academics/erhs/>





# Broader Use of USTUR

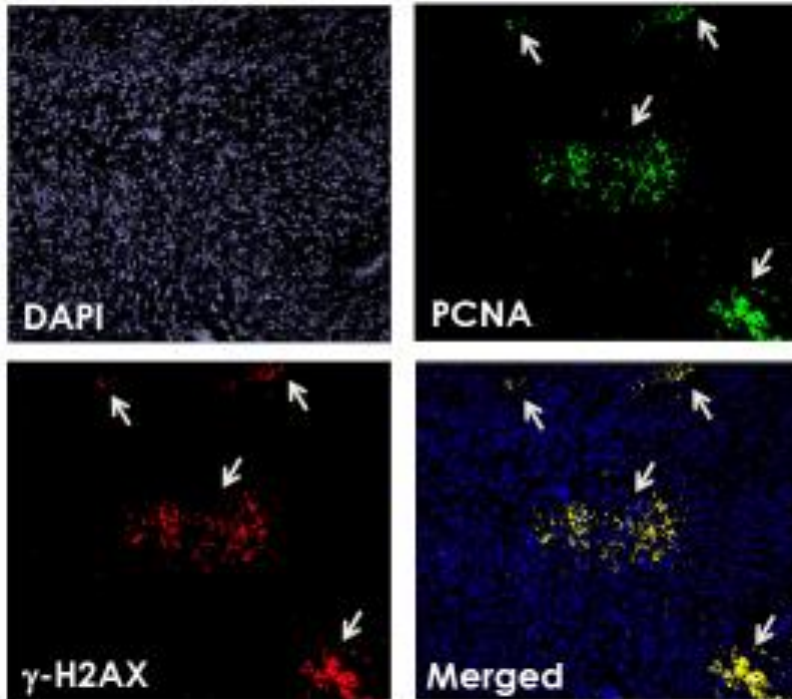
## Materials:

- Actinides in brain (NCRP-NWU)
- Radiation biomarkers and DBS markers (REACT/TS, Health Canada)
- Nuclear forensics (LANL)
- Beryllium determination (KEEA)

## Data:

- Plutonium bound fraction (ORNL, JCCRR)
- Development of chelation model for actinides (EURADOS, LANL, ISU)

# REACT/TS: Immunostaining Case 0785 Tumor



- Green: proliferating cell nuclear antigen (PCNA) - specific for proliferating cells
- Red: phosphorylated H2AX (Ser139/Tyr142) - surrogate DSB marker

- Arrows indicate regions of poorly differentiated tumor cells positive for PCNA and  $\gamma$ -H2AX



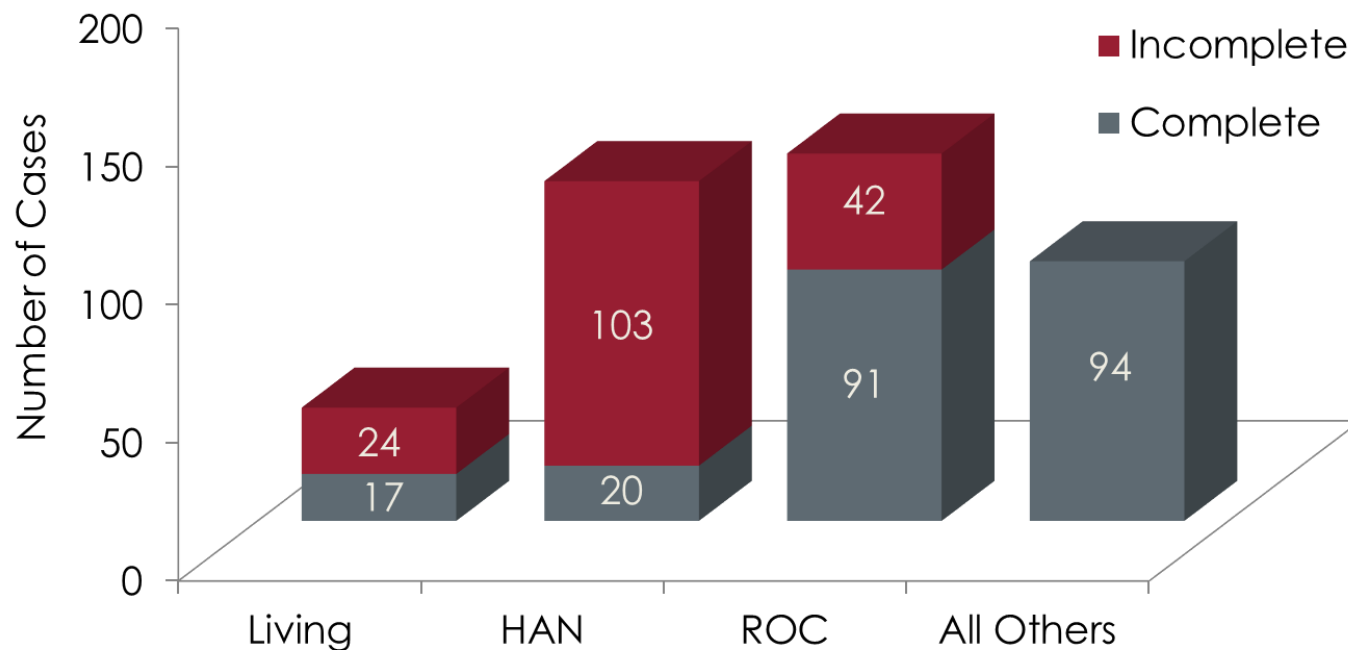
# National Human Radiobiological Tissue Repository (NHRTR)

- Exeditiously dissect and inventory tissues from new donations
- Inventory remaining USTUR materials
- Inventory tissue samples from non-USTUR collections
- Inventory of acid-digested tissue samples from non-USTUR collections



# Health Physics Database Tasks

- Complete data standardization for all living Registrants in 2018
- Complete database population in 2022





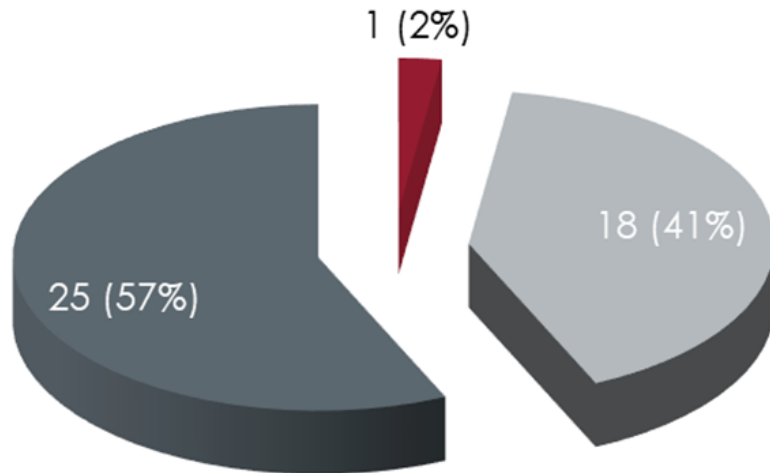
# Radiochemistry Group Tasks

- Analyze new donations as received
- Complete analysis of all partial-body donations
- Complete DQO
- Populate Radiochemistry database



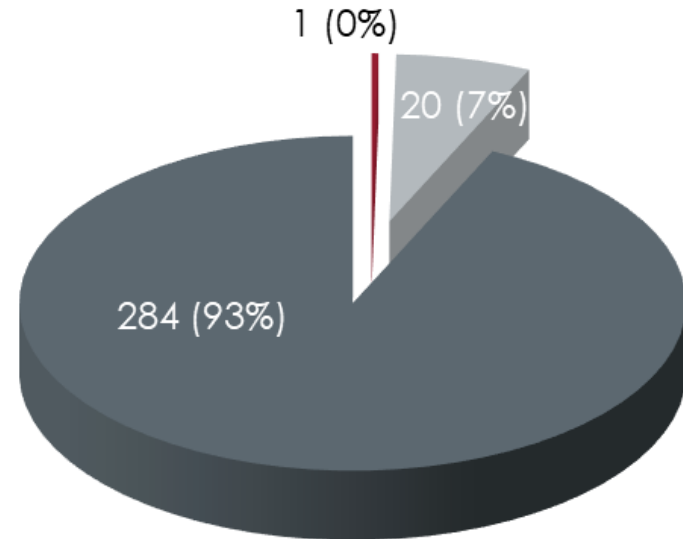
# Radiochemical Analysis Status 2017

- Whole-body: 44



■ Intact ■ Incomplete ■ Complete

- Partial-body: 305



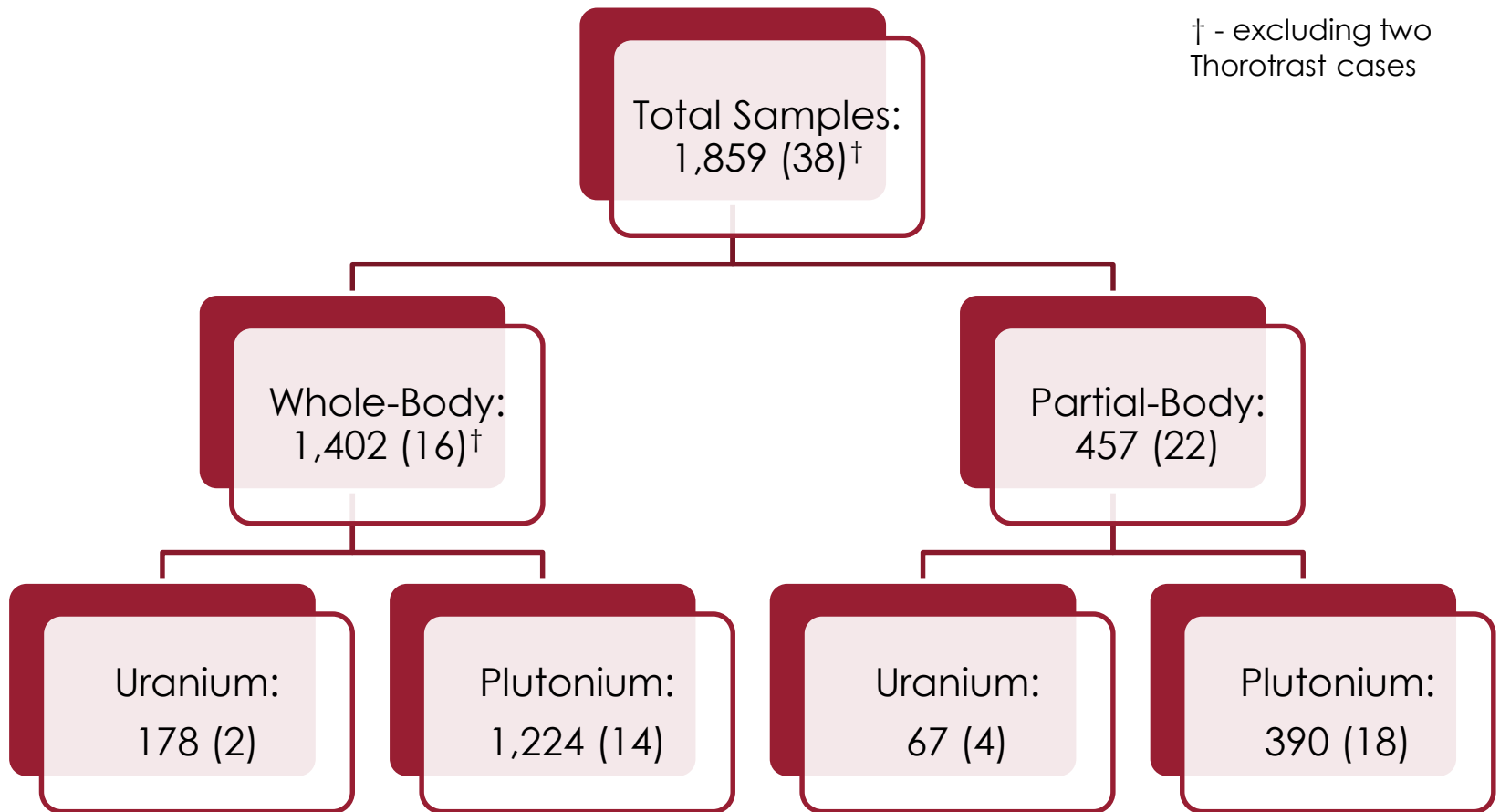
■ Intact ■ Incomplete ■ Complete

1. Intact – no tissue samples were analyzed
2. Incomplete – limited samples were analyzed; ‘survey’ analysis completed
3. Complete – no samples need to be analyzed

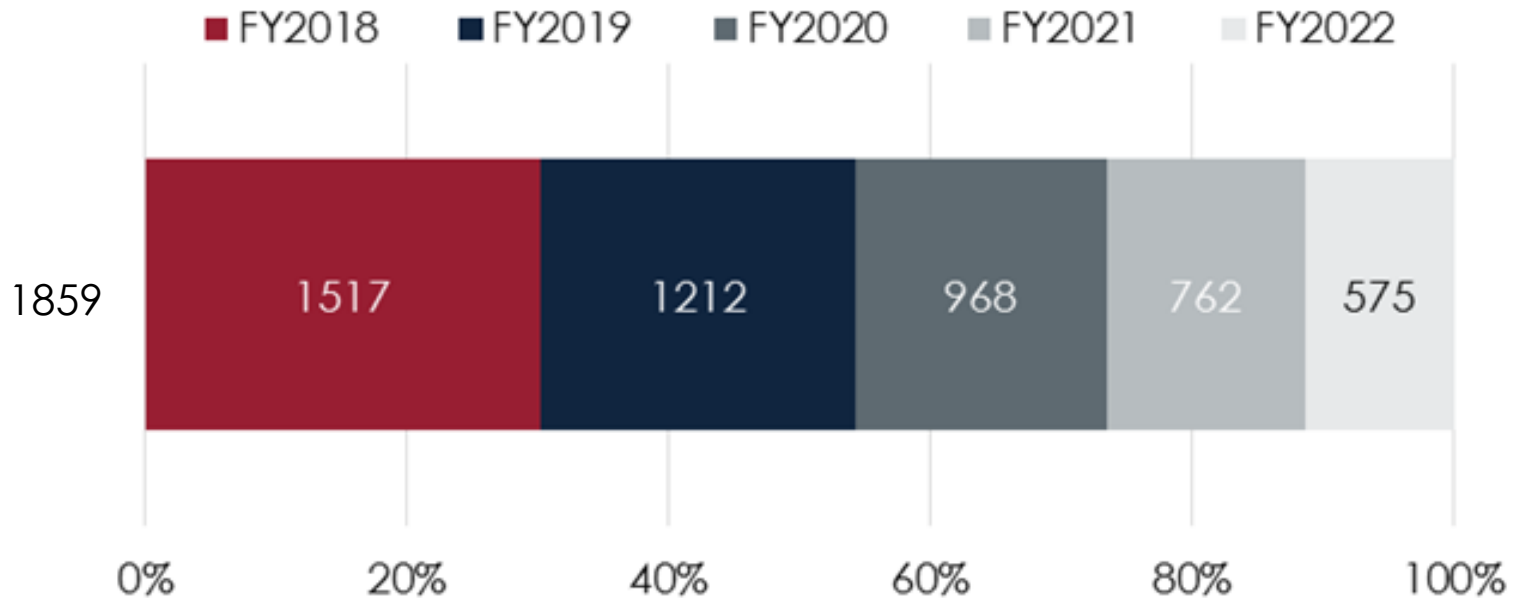


# Tissue Sample Backlog

† - excluding two Thorotrast cases



# Estimation of Tissue Sample Backlog





# 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Activities

- Publishing video presentation from USTUR special session



- Publishing special issue of Health Physics journal
- Publishing book of USTUR publications 1994 – 2017



# Improving Worker Safety





# Radiation Dose Assessment

## Worksite

- Chest and urine measurements (bioassay)
- Estimation of intake and radiation dose using biokinetic and dosimetric models

## USTUR

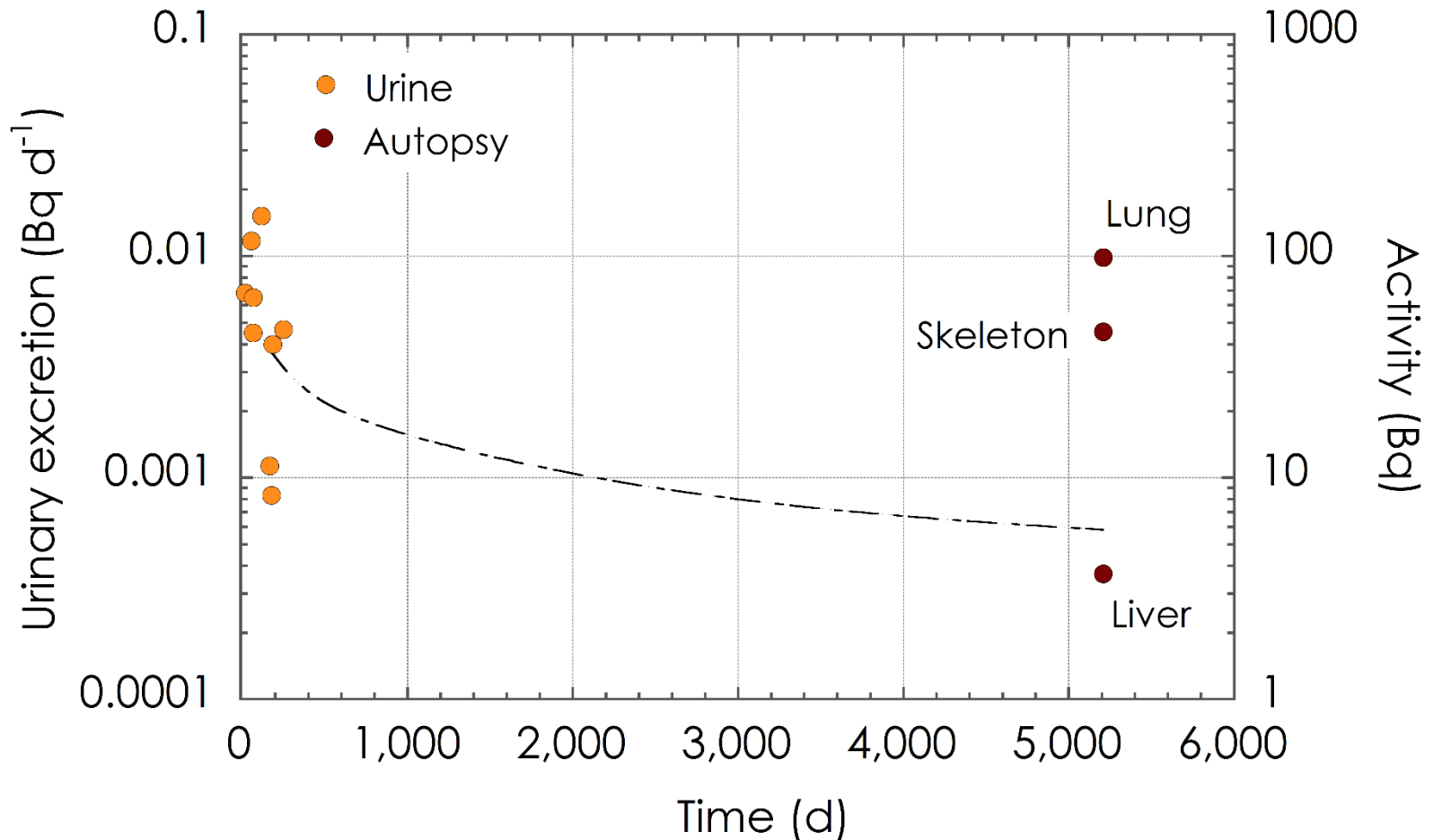
- Using autopsy data to improve models and predictions of committed dose
- Improving worker protection

# Dose Estimation: Bioassay vs Autopsy

| Case           | Lung Dose, mSv |                    | Ratio          |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
|                | Urine Only     | Bioassay + Autopsy |                |
| <i>Nitrate</i> |                |                    |                |
| 0224           | 395(2.5)       | 230(1.5)           | 0.58           |
| 0631           | 525(2.2)       | 190(2.0)           | 0.37           |
| 0795           | 130(2.5)       | 48(1.5)            | 0.37           |
| <b>Average</b> |                |                    | <b>0.4±0.1</b> |
| <i>Oxide</i>   |                |                    |                |
| 0028           | 3,410(2.2)     | 9,830(1.3)         | 2.88           |
| 0036           | 3,350(2.5)     | 5,050(1.2)         | 1.51           |
| 0407           | 8,800(3.1)     | 20,920(1.2)        | 2.38           |
| 0821           | 5,110(2.7)     | 7,000(1.3)         | 1.37           |
| <b>Average</b> |                |                    | <b>2.0±0.7</b> |

# Data Gap: Post-employment Bioassay

- Extensive urine sampling immediately after intake, but less or none later on





## Late Bioassay Benefits

- Better quality data
- Improving dose estimate

| Case 0785     | Early | + Late | + Autopsy |
|---------------|-------|--------|-----------|
| Eff. Dose, Sv | 1.3   | 1.4    | 1.5       |

- 41 living Registrants
  - Post-nuclear employment:  $33.6 \pm 14.9$  y
- Urine sample collection from living Registrants



Thank you

