



2019 Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting
Hampton Inn, Richland, WA, April 11 – 12, 2019

Research Plan and Operation in FY2020

Sergei Y. Tolmachev, USTUR Director
stolmachev@wsu.edu

Associate Research Professor
College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Washington State University

1845 Terminal Drive, Suite 201, Richland, WA 99354
www.ustur.wsu.edu

*“Learning from Plutonium
and Uranium Workers”*





FY2020 Operation and Funding

- Fiscal year 2020 (FY2020): 4/1/2019 – 3/31/2020
- Agency: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Domestic and International Health Studies (AU-13)
- Project: Management and Operation of the United States Transuranium and Uranium Registries (DE-HS000073)
- Operated by: Washington State University, College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Operated under: Central DOE IRB #WASU-68-50181 (9/11/2019)
- Total budget: \$1,200,000





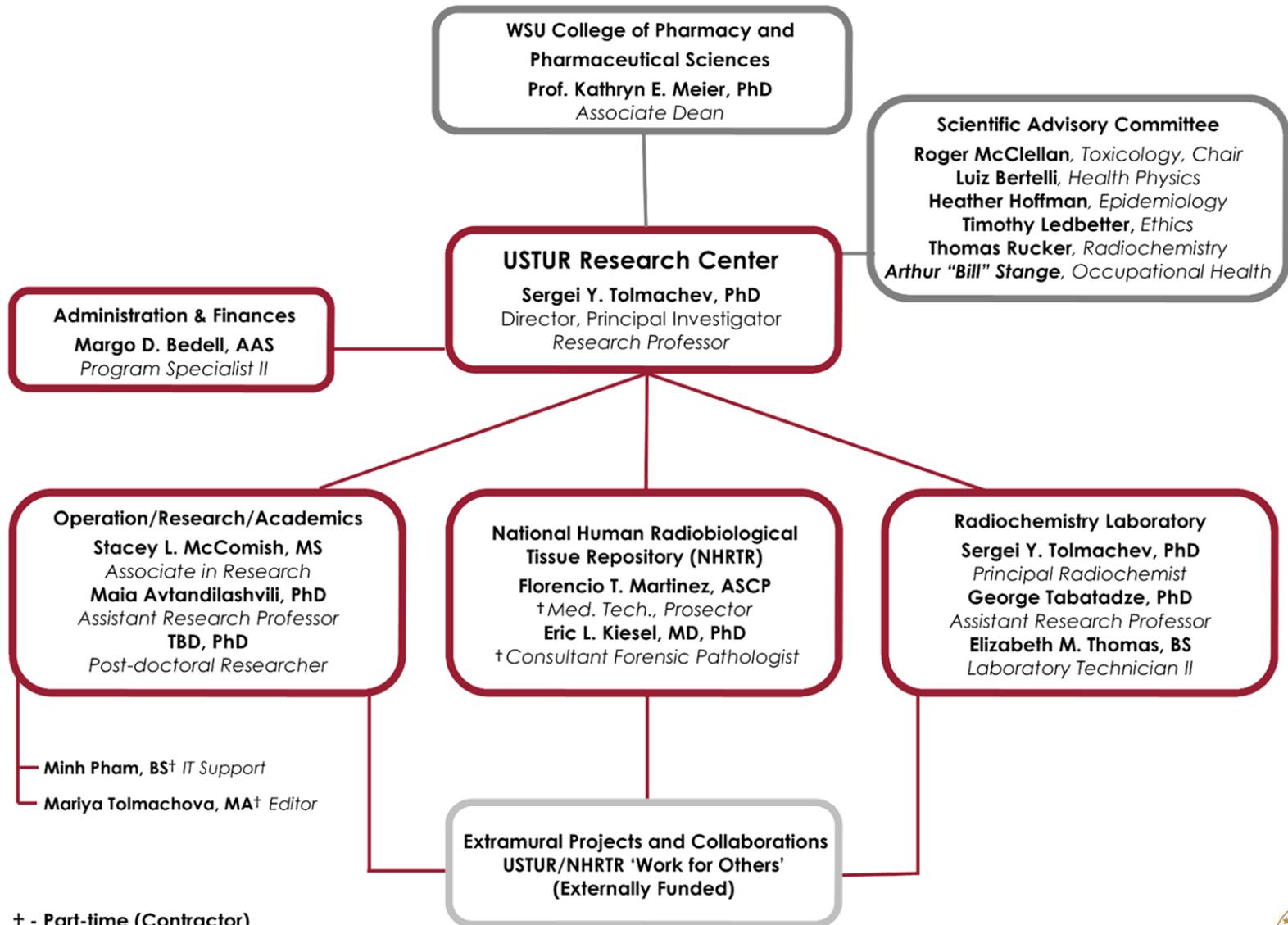
Personnel

FY2020 total FTE:	6.7
• Director, PI	1.0
• Research faculty	2.8
• Postdoctoral researcher	0.9
• Technical personnel	1.0
• Administrative personnel	1.0
Temporary appointment:	
• Adjunct faculty	0.2
• Hourly workers	1.0





Organization Structure





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





National Human Radiobiological Tissue Repository (NHRTR)

- Expeditiously 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





Radiochemistry Group Tasks

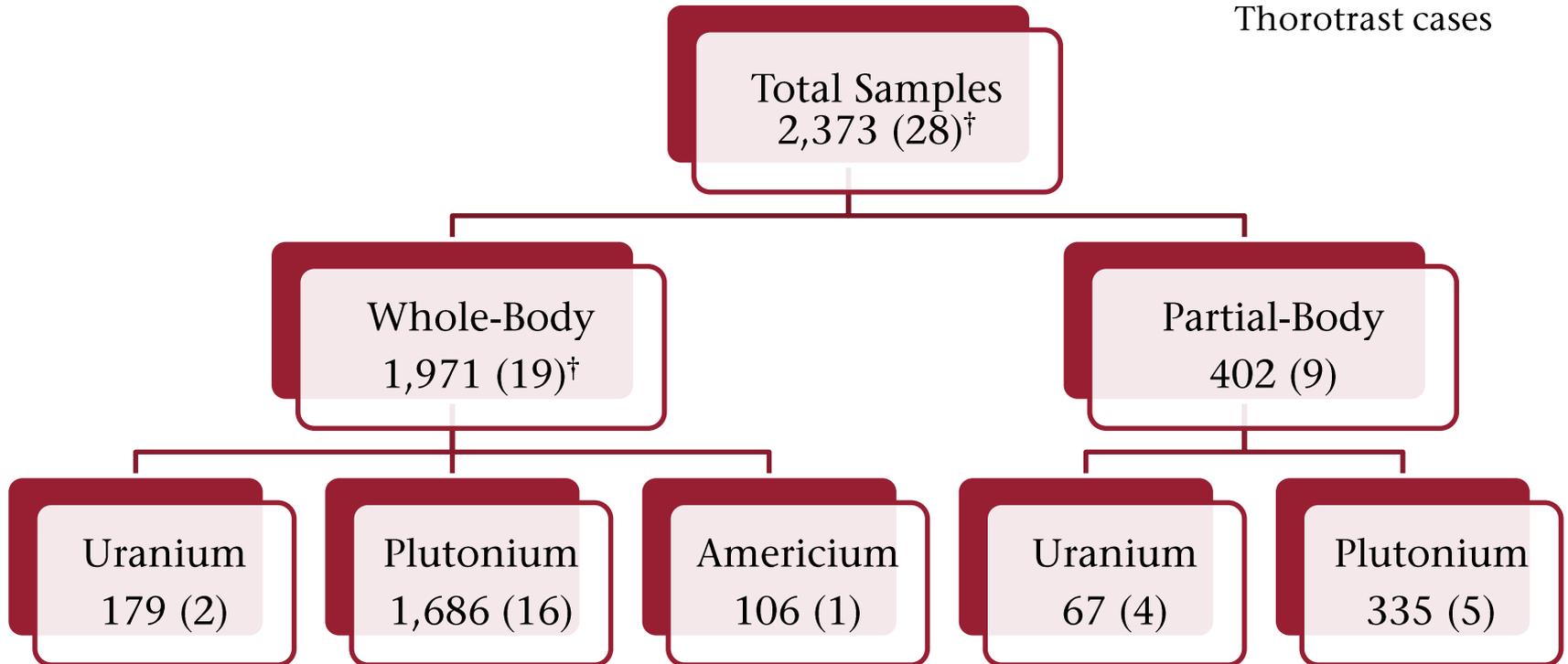
- Publish DQO
- Reduce tissue sample backlog
- Populate Radiochemistry database
- Integrate Radiochemistry and Health Physics databases





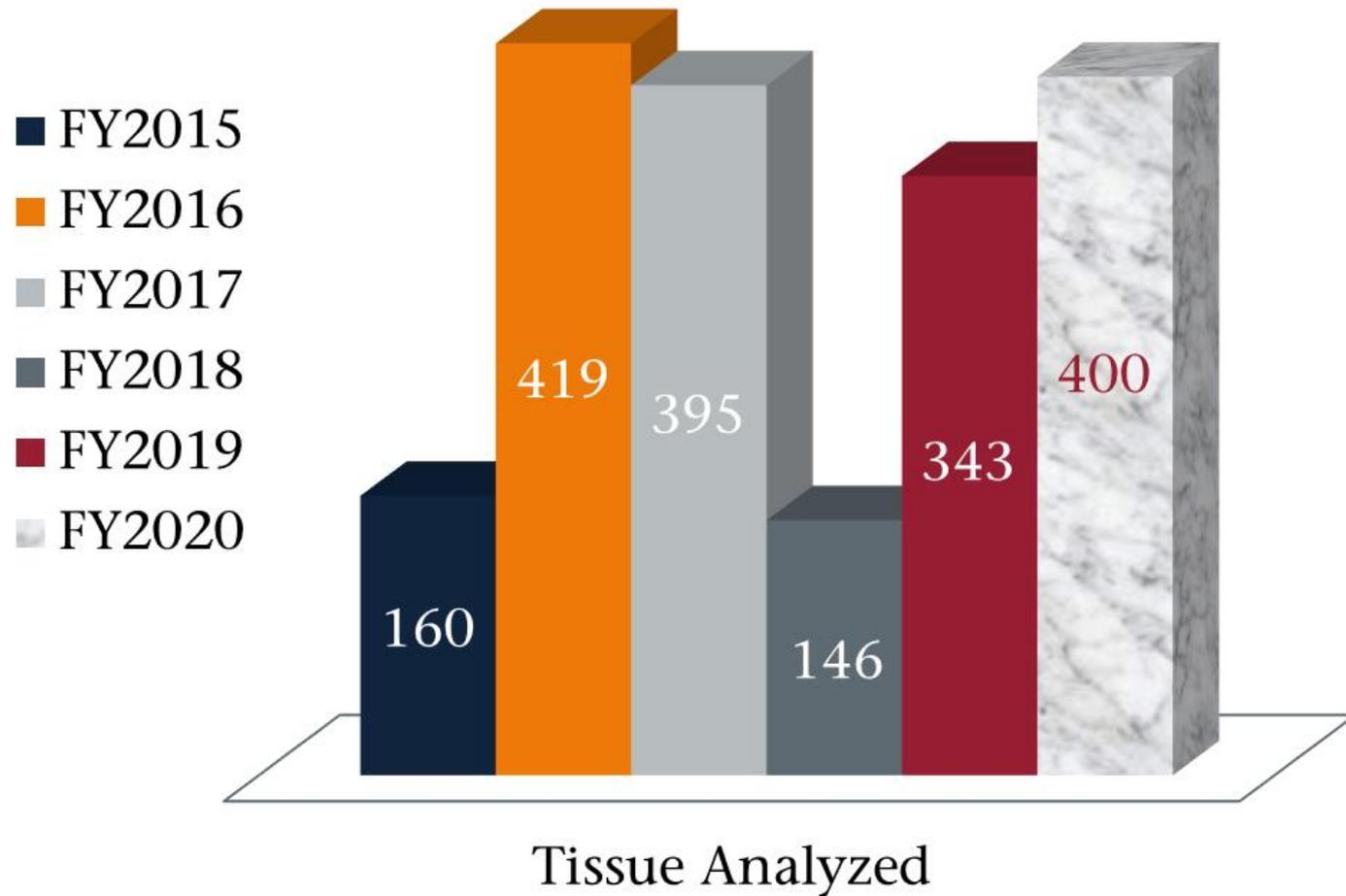
Tissue Sample Backlog 2019

† - excluding two
Thorotrast cases





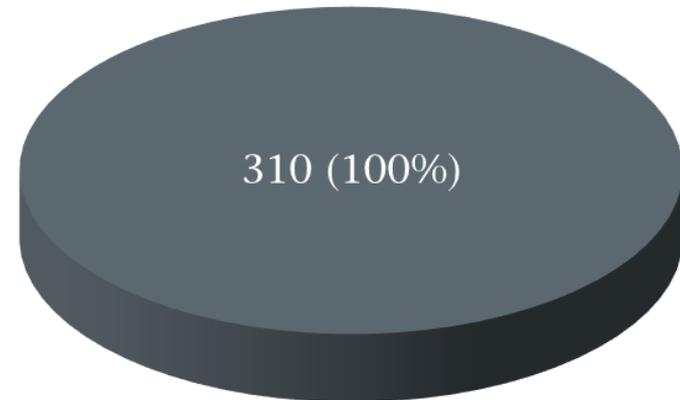
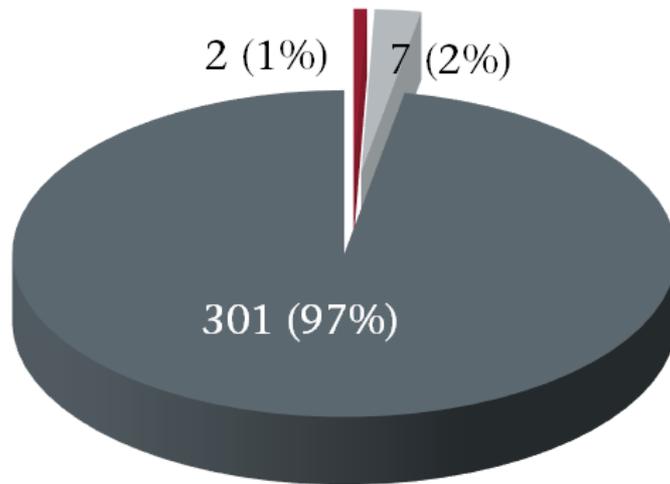
Tissue Analysis Throughput





Radiochemistry Goal 2020

- Analyze all partial-body cases



■ Intact ■ Incomplete ■ Complete



Health Physics in 2020: Study Groups

Group	Total	Complete		
		HP	RAD	HP+RAD
$^{239}\text{PuO}_2$	21	18	21	18
<i>UPPU</i>	12	12	11	11
Wound	12	10	12	10
^{238}Pu	9	9	9	9
DTPA	18	15	17	14
Single intake	61	60	60	59



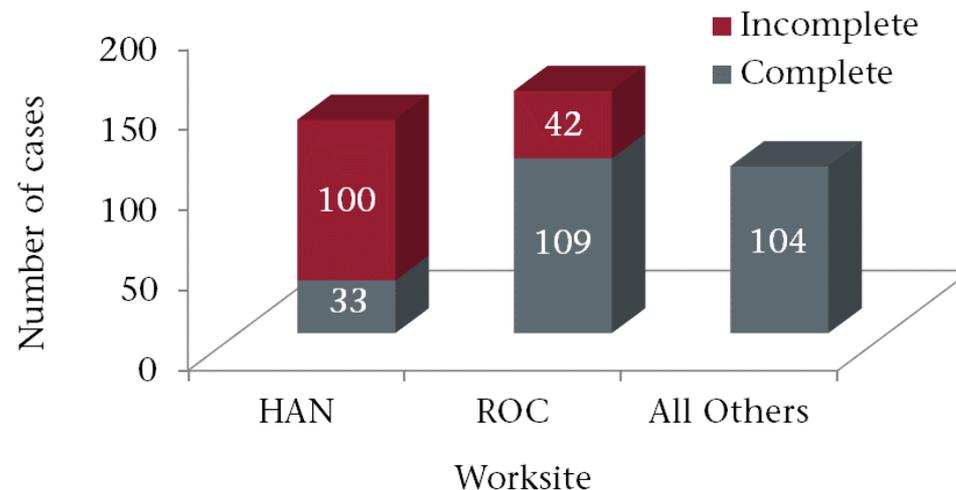


Health Physics Database Goals

Cases to be completed in 2020

- $^{239}\text{PuO}_2$: 3 cases (ROC)
- Wound: 2 cases (HAN)
- DTPA: 3 cases (HAN)

All worksites except Hanford (2021)





USTUR Research Projects

- Biokinetic modeling of individual cases: *Analysis of uncertainties in organ dose estimates*
- Improvement of plutonium decorporation model
- Long-term retention and distribution of ^{241}Am in the skeleton
- Beryllium in human tissues





Post-doctoral Research

- Project: *Evaluation of uncertainties in radiation dose assessment for internally deposited radionuclides in support of radiation epidemiology*
- Applicants
 - Domestic:* 3
 - International:* 4 (China, Czech Republic, India, Iraq)
- Skype interview: May 1, 2019
- Anticipated start date: June 1, 2019



'Golden Standard' in Internal Dosimetry

- Modeling 20+ plutonium inhalation cases with different material types (soluble vs insoluble)
- Estimating radiation dose using bioassay monitoring data and post-mortem radiochemistry tissue analysis results
- Comparing USTUR dose estimates with those derived in other studies using ICRP default or site-specific model parameters
- Quantifying uncertainties in support of radiation epidemiology





Collaboration, Collaboration and Collaboration

- Biokinetic modeling and uncertainty analysis in radiation dose assessment
- Plutonium binding in respiratory tract
- Characterization of plutonium particles in respiratory tract
- Distribution of beryllium in human body
- Keratinous tissues in biokinetics and nuclear forensics
- Plutonium biokinetics and brain dosimetry



National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements



Northwestern University

Research and Collaboration Network



National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements



Northwestern University





Upcoming Presentations

3rd International Conference on Dosimetry and its Applications, Lisbon, Portugal, May 27 – 31, 2019

1. Tolmachev et al. *Plutonium in human brain: Is more biokinetic detail needed for dosimetry?*

74th Northwest Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society, Portland, OR, June 16 – 19, 2019

2. Tolmachev et al. *Uranium content, distribution, and biokinetics in human body*

64th Annual Meeting of the Health Physics Society, Orlando, FL, July 7 – 11, 2019

3. Avtandilashvili and Tolmachev. *Macrodistribution of plutonium among dosimetric compartments of the human respiratory tract*
4. McComish et al. *Limitations of cause of death data among autopsied population in the United States Transuranium and Uranium Registries*
5. Strom et al. *Cylindrical representations of recycling biokinetic models*
6. Tolmachev et al. *Case studies in brain dosimetry for internally deposited radionuclides*





50th Anniversary Events

- HPS special session on USTUR's research (2016)
- USTUR booth at the HPS (2016)
- 4th special issue of Health Physics journal (2019)
- eBook of USTUR publications 1994 – 2018 (2019)

