

The T.R.I.P Odyssey

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Abstract

The Thyroid Radioiodine Intercomparison Program (T.R.I.P.) has been developed and coordinated by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory since March 1997 to obtain valuable information and data on the nuclear medical capability and the emergency preparedness of research and nuclear facilities.

This program allows laboratories and facilities to self-assess their performance for in-vivo measurements of  $^{125}\text{I}$  and  $^{131}\text{I}$  in the thyroid. These intercomparison results can be used to assist the participating facilities in demonstrating compliance with federal and state regulations.

T.R.I.P. has selected to use the IAEA/ANSI thyroid calibration neck phantom and well-characterized, NIST-traceable  $^{125}\text{I}$  and  $^{131}\text{I}$ . QC samples for  $^{125}\text{I}$  and  $^{131}\text{I}$  are distributed quarterly to the participating facilities. To preserve confidentiality, each facility is numerically encoded. The results measured by each facility are collected, evaluated and distributed to the participating facilities. Each facility receives its own results from the previous quarter with the next quarter intercomparison QC vials. An annual report, summarizing the entire year's results is prepared and contains a comparison with the ANSI 13.30 criteria for bioassay and the other participating facilities. This presentation will report on the progress of the T.R.I.P.