

Calibration services:

As reported in the [SSDL newsletter 64](#), we have implemented some changes in the calibration services available at the IAEA dosimetry laboratory.

1. The selection of **radiation qualities used for mammography** calibrations have been modified.

- a. New tungsten anode based radiation qualities have been established.

The justification for this change is the limited number of mammography dedicated X-ray tubes with Mo-anode available at the SSDLs. In addition, the clinical use of tungsten anode based systems has increased, due the increased use of digital mammography machines.

- b. Maximum tube voltage was reduced to cover the range from 25 kV to 35 kV.

This range covers the clinically used tube voltages and it is also covering the range recommended for calibration services.

Technical details of these and other diagnostic radiation qualities are available ([Appendix to IAEA Calibration Certificate for diagnostic radiology](#)).

2. The calibration procedure of the pencil shape ionization chambers used in the computed tomography in terms of **kerma-length product (Gy·cm/C)** has been established. Procedure is based on the [IAEA TRS 457](#) and calibration is provided for the RQT beam qualities.
3. The calibration of kerma-area product meters both for incident and transmitted radiations in terms of **kerma-area product (Gy·cm²/C)** is now also available. The procedure is based on the [IAEA TRS 457](#) and calibration is provided for the RQR beam qualities.

All the details of the revised IAEA CMCs are available in the [KCDB](#) or at the [SSDL website](#) being under further update. If you need calibration of your CT chamber and /or KAP meter used as reference instrument at your laboratory, don't hesitate to contact me.

IAEA-SSDL bilateral comparisons:

Radiation therapy:

The invitation was send one month ago and we have 10 participants in the comparison. It is still possible to take a few more participants. The comparison protocol has been revised and more information will be sent to the participants soon.

Diagnostic radiology:

A comparison will be organized this year. The [technical protocol](#) is available on the SSDL website. Please inform me if your SSDL is interested participating in this bilateral comparison.

Radiation protection:

The comparison protocol has been under review. This year one comparison is organized under a regional project (ARASIA). In addition, a pilot comparison will be organized by the IAEA. Please inform me if your SSDL is interested in participating in this pilot comparison.

Annual reports:

One of the responsibilities of an SSDL Network member is to send the annual report to the IAEA. This year we aim at getting a response from all SSDLs. The correct SSDL contact information is crucial; so please remember to inform us about the changes in your contact details.

The request to submit the Annual report 2015 will be send to you in a separate email before the summer break. Some small changes will already be implemented in this form. However, next year we are planning to change the annual report from a pdf format to a web based questionnaire and the annual report form will be re-designed.

SSC-17 and SSDL Newsletter:

The Scientific Committee of the IAEA/WHO network of SSDLs (SSC) meets every second year and reviews and evaluates the subprogramme of the Dosimetry and Medical Radiation Physics (DMRP) Section. The 17th meeting of SSC was held in March 2016. The final report and recommendations of the SSC will be published in the next SSDL Newsletter.

Please note that in the future, the SSDL Newsletter will be available only in PDF file format.

Best regards,
Paula Toroi, SSDL Officer