



COMITÉ DE PROTECCIÓN RADIOLÓGICA
RADIATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

October 3, 2022

Principal Investigators
Medical Sciences Campus

Annabell C. Segarra-Marrero, PhD
Chair of the RSC

Jossian J. Pagán Lisboa, Dr PH, MS, CNMT
Radiation Safety Officer (RSO)

P/C Carlos A. Ortiz Reyes, PhD(c), MBA
Rector Interino

NEW POLICIES REGARDING THE PURCHASE AND USE OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL AT THE MEDICAL SCIENCES CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO

The Radiation Safety Manual is currently under revision to include the new institutional policies on the purchase and use of radioactive material at the Medical Sciences Campus. The main changes to the current guidelines are:

- To qualify for the use radioactive materials for clinical and research purposes, the laboratory must comply with good housekeeping practices.
- Since there are no certified companies to handle radioactive waste in Puerto Rico, the UPR MSC promotes the substitution of radioactive tracers for non-radioactive methodologies, such as chemiluminescent, in experimental procedures.
- In the absence of alternative non-radioactive methods, the RSC will evaluate proposals that use short half-life radioactive isotopes.
- To obtain approval for the use of long half-life radioactive isotopes (H^3 , C^{14} - with 10 half-lives of 123.4 years and 57,300 years respectively), the Principal Investigator will have to provide evidence of fund availability for the disposal of

UNIVERSIDAD DE PUERTO RICO, UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO
RECINTO CIENCIAS MÉDICAS, MEDICAL SCIENCES CAMPUS
DECANATO DE ADMINISTRACIÓN, DEANSHIP OF ADMINISTRATION
COMITÉ DE PROTECCIÓN RADIOLÓGICA, RADIATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

the radioactive waste and unused radioactive material when the laboratory is decommissioned.

Once the radioactive material license is authorized, it is valid for one year. After this period, a renewal application must be submitted for the approval of the Radiation Safety Committee (RSC). If neither a renewal nor an extension request is submitted, the RSC will revoke your license and all the radioactive materials in your laboratory will be decommissioned.

To submit an application follow the instructions on the RSC Application Form, which can be found at <http://committees.rcm.upr.edu>. Submitted applications must include all the required documents, such as a copy of the research proposal, copy of the standard operational procedures (SOPs) for the intended use of the radioactive material, and detailed references to justify the necessity of radioactive materials for the proposed research protocol. In addition, all authorized users must comply with an initial training and an annual refresher course and include evidence of these trainings with the application form.

For further information, please contact us at (787) 758-2525, extensions 1687 or 1688.