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Measurement of the Radioactive Nuclides for the Medical Linear Accelerators based on the Spectroscopy using In-situ HPGe detector

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Activation in Linear accelerator (LINAC)

Purpose

- In the case of using X-ray energy above 8 MV, photoneutrons are generated by the photonuclear reaction
- The components of the linear accelerator (LINAC) are "ACTIVATED"
- We measured the radioactive nuclides using an in-situ High Purity Germanium (HPGe) detector for the real-disposed LINACs and components.



Activation

$${}_Z^AT_N(\gamma,n)^{A-1}D_{N-1}$$

$${}_{Z}^{A}T_{N}(n,\gamma)^{A+1}D_{N+1}$$

- LINAC > 8 MV energy, Photo-nuclear reaction
- Neutrons react with "Target, Filter, Collimator, Jaw..."
- Components be activated



Spectroscopy

- ✓ Spectroscopy (In-situ HPGe): The HPGe detector was positioned in front of the component and measured for 30 min for each component
- ✓ Targets for measurement: Disposed of LINACs (LINAC by Manufacturer: 1 Siemens, 2 Varian, 1 Elekta)

| Manufacturer | | Varian 1 (15 MV) | | | Siemens (15 MV) | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Component | | | | ROULD | | | | |
| Dose rate [µSv/hr] | | 15.6→2.21 *(5주뒤) | 4.10 → 2.37 | 2.43 → 2.49 | 26.9 → 7.05 | $6.97 \rightarrow 3.64$ | 7.65 → 7 | |
| *Half life > 100 days | | Target | 15 MV Filter | Primary Collimator | Target | 15 MV Filter | Primary Collimator | |
| ⁵¹ Cr | 27.70 d | | | | | | | |
| ⁵⁴ Mn | 312.2 d | | | | | | | |
| ⁵⁷ Co | 270.9 d | | | | | | | |
| ⁵⁷ Ni | 35.65 h | | | | | | | |
| ⁵⁸ Co | 70.80 d | | | | | | | |
| ⁵⁹ Fe | 44.63 d | | | | | | | |
| ⁶⁰ Co | 5.271 y | | | | | | | |
| ⁶⁴ Cu | 12.70 h | | | | | | | |
| ⁶⁵ Zn | 244.26 d | | | | | | | |
| ⁹⁹ Mo | 66.02 h | | | | | | | |
| ¹⁸¹ W | 121.2 d | | | | | | | |
| ¹⁸⁴ Re | 38.00 d | | | | | | | |
| ¹⁸⁷ W | 23.83 h | | | | | | | |
| ¹⁹⁶ Au | 6.183 d | | | | | | | |
| ¹⁹⁸ Au | 64.80 d | | | | | | | |



Spectroscopy

❖ The spectroscopy results for the LINAC "Varian 2" and "Elekta", we couldn't figure the radio nuclides for the major components.

❖ LINAC Varian 2

- → Institution where disposed Varian 2, used the 6 MV for 2 months before the disposal.
- → Nuclides such as ⁶⁰Co or ⁵⁴Mn (long-lived radionuclide) was found from the lead block.

❖ LINAC Elekta

→ We measured only for 10 min for the each components. (lack of the cps)









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Surface dose rate measurement

- ✓ We measured the surface dose rate for the each components using a survey meter
 - Measured the dose rate at the surface
 - Measured at the day of disposal & 5 weeks after disposal



* Surface dose rate (Major component such as Target, Primary collimator, flattening filter for high energy)

| Surface dose rate [µSv/hr] | Target | | Primary Collimator | | Flattening filter (for High energy) | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| point of the measurement | Day of disposal | 5 weeks after disposal | Day of disposal | 5 weeks after disposal | Day of disposal | 5 weeks after disposal |
| Elekta | 3.318 | 0.459 ~ 0.578 | 27.1 | 0.152 | 0.161 | 0.128 |
| Siemens | 26.856 | 7.0488 | 7.65 | 7.002 | 6.966 | 3.636 |
| Varian 1 | 15.5 | 2.38 | 4.59 | 3.46 | 4.1 | 2.69 |
| Varian 2 | 0.209 | - | 0.153 | - | 127.764 | - |

^{*} Background dose rate was around ~ 0.125~0.135 µSv/hr





^{*} For the other components, such as Ion chamber, MLC, Jaw, dose rate was around background level.

4. Conclusion

- ➤ In this study, we measured immediate radionuclide analysis and dose rate evaluation using an In-situ HPGe detector and a survey meter for the medical LINACs.
- > The difference in the level of radiation and the type of nuclide was confirmed depending on the period of use, energy, and workload.
- Therefore, in the process of relocating for the dismantling of the LINAC, it is considered to be safe exposure management when carried out 3 to 5 hours after stopping the operation.
- \succ In future work, we will compare the nuclides acquired w/ Monte Carlo simulation.

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