

# IAEA Cataract Study

## Retrospective Evaluation of Lens Injuries and Dose (RELID)

11 to 15 July 2009, Bulgaria Varna and Sofia

The IAEA has promoted the fourth RELID survey in fluoroscopy guided procedures in Bulgaria in parallel with training sessions on radiation protection (Varna 11-12 of July and Sofia 13-15 of July). A team of international and national experts was involved in the exercise:

Madan Rehani (IAEA, during the activities in Varna).

Norman Kleiman (Ophthalmology expert from Columbia University, New York) and Eliseo Vano (Medical Physics expert from Complutense University Madrid) were involved in the surveys in Varna and Sofia.

The local involved experts were: Jenia Vassileva (Head of Department of Radiation Protection at the National Centre of Radiobiology and Radiation Protection, Sofia), Irina Stankova (Ophthalmology expert from NCRRP, Sofia), Rada Borisova (Medical Physicist from NCRRP, Sofia). Logistical support from Radostina Georgieva (Director of NCRRP), Anelia Klisarova (Rector of Medical University in Varna), Bulgarian Society of Interventional Cardiology, Eye Clinic in Varna, University Hospital "Sveta Marina" in Varna, University Hospital "Sveta Ekaterina" in Sofia and Radiation Protection Inspectorate in Varna.

In Varna a total of 8 persons were screened for lens injuries (2 interventional cardiologist and 6 paramedical personnel). In Sofia, the survey involved 17 persons (2 cardiologists and 15 paramedical personnel). The control groups (sample of people not involved with the use of ionizing radiation) were 6 in Varna and 14 in Sofia.

Written informed consent was obtained from all individuals prior to participation in the study.

Final results on lens injuries and radiation dose evaluation will be made in coming months. However, advance information on main findings is:

Sample of interventional cardiologists: 4 (2 cases with opacities, 50 %)

Sample of paramedical personnel: 21 (8 cases with opacities, 38 %)

Control sample 20 (2 cases with opacities, 10 %)

It is planned to continue the RELID evaluation during the IV National Interventional Cardiology Symposium to be held in Sofia from 9 to 11 October 2009.