

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 25, 1999

TO: Tom Bell, Mohandas Bhat, Frank Hawkins, Ruth Neta, Joe Weiss, and Libby White

FROM: Barrett Fountos *BF*

SUBJECT: Summary of the October 5, 1999 Meeting of the Chernobyl Oversight Panel (COP)

The Chernobyl Oversight Panel of the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics met at NCI to review the status of the Chernobyl thyroid and leukemia studies. Shelia Zahm, Deputy Director, chaired the meeting. Attendees included Dr. Andre Bouville, Ms. Betsy Duane, Dr. Joe Fraumeni, Dr. Patricia Hartge, Dr. Robert Hoover, Dr. Geoffrey Howe, Dr. Charles Land, Dr. Jay Lubin, Dr. Nick Luckyanov, Dr. Ihor Masnyk, Ms. Sharon Miller, Dr. Jacob Robbins, Dr. Elaine Ron, Ms. Kathi Stine, Dr. Terry Thomas, and Mr. Barrett Fountos.

Ms. Duane discussed the status of the meetings of the Advisory Committee for Energy-Related Epidemiologic Research (ACERER) Subcommittee for Management Review of the Chernobyl Studies. This was followed by discussion of the NCI presentation to the Subcommittee scheduled for October 12.

There was some discussion about the need to change the study protocols. The originals were considered to be "wish lists" in that they proposed more diagnostic tests than necessary. It was suggested that the Binational Advisory Groups work on changes to the thyroid study protocols and reduce the length of the questionnaires.

Working with the Science and Technology Center of Ukraine (STCU), NCI has established procedures to pay each participant \$5.00 to defray transportation costs and lost work time. NCI is working with the International Science and Technology Center (ISTC) to establish a similar procedure in Belarus.

NCI staff prepared a list of action items for the Chernobyl Operations Unit.

The COP will meet on November 8 at 10:30 a.m. at NCI.