Progress Report

Office of international Health Programs (EH-63), Department of Energy

Title of Project: «RADIATION RISK ASSESSMENT OF CATARACT DEVELOPMENT IN A DOSE DEFINED COHORT OF WORKERS INVOLVED IN THE CHERNOBYL ACCIDENT»

Short report of the second funding period

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Period covered by this report: 1 April – 31 September 1998

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I. Summary of Work

The Funding Arrangement between the Department of Energy of the United States of America and the Institute of Occupational Health Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine for Support of the U.S.-Ukraine Cataract Study was signed on August 1997. Duration of entire project period from 10.01.97 to 12.31.01. The General Goal of this four-year investigation is to study a 12,000 subject cohort of the Liquidator population.

II. Milestones and Deliverables Accomplished during the Reporting Period

Milestones were included into the Annual Work Proposal. Fulfillment of all those milestones was conducted during the reporting period. A short summary of the results is presented in the following sub-sections.

A.

The goals of the work outlined in this years proposal (10.01.97 -10.01.98) are to:

1) Initiate the data acquisition and eye examinations of the second 3000 subjects (Liquidators).
2) Input the data from the epidemiological questionnaires as they are generated.
3) Analyze the acquired data for completeness and compliance.
4) Continue transport of the data into the epidemiological database.
5) Continually monitor program progress at the 9 active sites.
6) Participate in preparation of the initial list of Liquidator recruits for the second year of the study.

7) Program assessment

B.

Table. Summary of cohort study during the period from October 1, 1997 to 1 October 1, 1998 (for the date of September 31, 1998)

Region	Total database received from NCRM	Examined in the sites and in Institute
Kharkiv	481	180
Poltava	196	189
Zaporizja	46	-
Donetsk	477	397
Dnipropetrovsk	2414	2145
Kiev	1685	1289
Atomic workers	1200	1200
Total	6499	5400

III. Other relevant information

The principal US investigator, B.V. Worgul, traveled two times to Kiev during the period 04/01/98 – 10/01/98. The purpose of the trips was to meet with the primary team, discuss logistics for accelerating procedures to allow us to get back on schedule and to plan the addition of other sites in the program. He has delivered his report "The Visual System as a Means to Monitor Adverse Occupational and Environmental Factors" at the International Conference in Kiev.

During the reporting period several trips of Ophthalmologists-Investigators and the members of the main team related to the project were made in the sites.

There were no obstacles or unexpected costs in our portion of the project.

IV. Publications and Preprints

Worgul, B.V., Kundiev, Y., Likhtarev, I., Medvedovsky, C.P., Sergienko, N., Wegener, A., Parkhomenko, G., Chumak, V., Ruban, A., Vitte, P., and Shore, R. and Anspaugh, L. (In press) UACOS- The Ukrainian/American Chernobyl Ocular Study. Proceedings of the NATO ARW «Ocular Radiation Risk Assessment in Populations

Exposed to Environmental Radiation Contamination» Eds. B. V. Worgul, Y. Kundiev, A. K. Junk and P. Vitte.

P.Vitte The experience of surveys for an Epidemiological database of different occupational groups of rural workers in Ukraine (In press) UACOS- The Ukrainian/American Chernobyl Ocular Study. Proceedings of the NATO ARW «Ocular Radiation Risk Assessment in Populations Exposed to Environmental Radiation Contamination» Eds. B. V. Worgul, Y. Kundiev, A. K. Junk and P. Vitte.

Signatures:

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Dr. Peter N. Vitte