

NIOSH Program Update

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March 2015
Richland, WA

Program News

- Additional work with Department of Labor (DOL)
- Worker outreach
 - Feb 2015 – Carlsbad, NM
 - Mar 2015 – Denver, CO
- Yearly meeting with advocates, DOL, Department of Energy (DOE), and NIOSH
- Plain writing efforts for documents, reports, letters
- NIOSH internal blind dose reconstruction (DR) review process

NIOSH Blind DR Review Process

- One case is randomly selected every week
 - Cases that have not had initial DR completed
- Cases are assigned to individual DCAS Health Physicists
- DR performed using existing technical documents and tools when available
- Reviews are documented in a table
- Actual DR report is not generated

Blind DR Review Process

- Reviews compared actual approved DRs by an independent DCAS reviewer after the official DRs are completed and approved
- Results of the blind review are compared to the approved DRs
- Comparison documented
- Team lead reviews inconsistencies

Example Quality Assurance (QA) Form

DATA			
A.1	Data	DCAS Response	ORAU Response
A.1.1	Did NIOSH receive all the requested data?	Yes	Yes
A.1.2	Was additional data received after the DCAS DR was completed but before the ORAU DR was completed?	Yes (see comment on ORAU recorded photon dose)	No
Photon Dose			
B.1	Recorded Dose – considered dose recorded at or above LOD/2 for the individual employee.	DCAS Response	ORAU Response
B.1.1	Total positive photon dose assigned	0.166 rem	0.364 rem (this includes the same corrections as DCAS, but also included a correction for glovebox use. ORAU initially has identical dose with DCAS, but claimant wanted it to address glovebox work, so DR was revised and factor included).
B.1.2	Number of years of positive recorded photon dose in IREP sheet	6	6
B.1.3	Energy split consistent with TBD (circle one)	Favorable	Favorable
B.1.4	DCF used correct per IG-001?L	Used favorable DCF of 1.	Used favorable DCF of 1.
B.1.5	Uncertainty or other modifying factors used	Yes.	Yes.
B.2	Missed Dose – does not include unmonitored dose.	DCAS Response	ORAU Response
B.2.1	Total missed photon dose assigned.	1.880 rem (overestimated based on maximizing possible zeros)	1.183 rem (based on actual zeros, but also includes glovebox factor and distribution)
B.2.2	Number of years of missed photon dose in IREP sheet?	18	17
B.2.3	Energy split consistent with TBD (circle one)	Favorable	Favorable
B.2.4	DCF used correct per IG-001	Used favorable DCF of 1.	Used favorable DCF of 1.
B.2.5	Uncertainty or other modifying factors used?	Yes	Yes
B.3	Unmonitored Dose – includes co-worker/environmental/co-worker.	DCAS Response	ORAU Response
B.3.1	Total unmonitored dose assigned	0	0
B.3.2	Number of years of positive recorded photon dose in IREP sheet	0	0
B.3.3	Energy split consistent with TBD (circle one)		

Example QA Form

F.1.2	Intakes correct TBD/TIB?	True	True
F.1.3	Correct solubility used per TBD?	True	True
F.2	Intakes from Monitoring data.	DCAS Response	ORAU Response
F.2.1	Was monitored dose assigned (if no, enter N/A)	True	True
F.2.2	Total monitored dose assigned? (if none, enter N/A)	0.109 rem (0.103 rem from tritium and 0.005 rem from missed Pu); I could not determine with certainty that Super S from Pu-239 mixture could be eliminated, so I marked this incorrect for solubility type based on info in OTIB-049 and process info in the Mound TBD. It is not significant for this claim.	0.119 rem (0.103 from tritium and 0.016 rem from missed Pu); difference in dose from DCAS is that ORAU considered Super S Pu and DCAS did not.
F.2.3	Intakes correct per TBD/TIB?	True	
F.2.4	Correct solubility used per TBD?	False	
Probability of Causation			
G.1	Total Probability of Causation	DCAS Response	ORAU Response
G.1.1	Total Probability of Causation	5.32%	4.17%
Comments			

Blind Review Results

- **198** cases selected to date
- **94** cases assigned to DCAS HPs for blind review
- **49** cases completed
- **44** found consistent with official DR
- **5** submitted with different compensation decision

Blind Review Results

- In all 5 cases, the QA review found the official DR was correct and the blind reviewer erred

Conclusions

- The official dose reconstructions, which include peer review and multiple additional reviews and approvals, are more accurate than blind reviews, which receive no additional reviews
- The person-hours required to complete blind DRs prevents timely completion of randomly chosen DRs
- Accessing the DR tools limited to only a few individuals at any given time, which adds delays

Overall Initial Claim Information

(as of March 19, 2015)

- **43,125** cases have been referred to NIOSH for Dose Reconstruction (DR)

- **41,014** cases have been returned to DOL
 - Cases submitted with a DR report **36,277**
 - Cases currently pulled from DR by DOL **1,379**
 - Cases pulled for Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) **3,358**

- **1,386** cases remained at NIOSH for DR

- **725** cases were administratively closed

Overview of Active Cases

(as of March 19, 2015)

- Of the **1,386** cases remain at NIOSH for DR
 - **248** cases in DR process
 - **208** initial draft DR reports with claimants (NIOSH is awaiting the return of the OCAS-1 form)
 - **930** cases in DR development

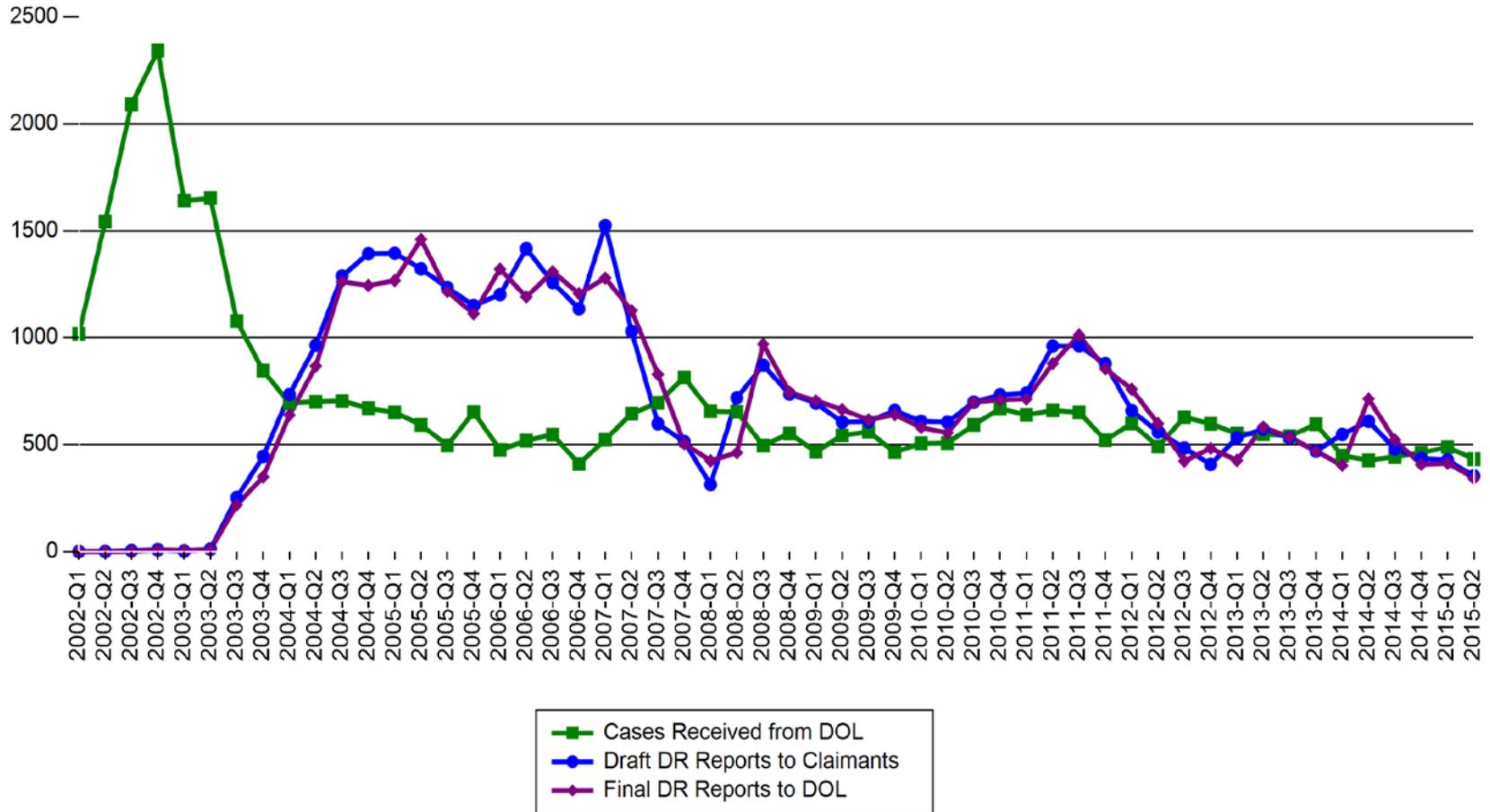
Probability of Causation (PoC) Summary for Completed DRs

(as of March 19, 2015)

- Of the **36,277** DRs sent back to DOL for final adjudication:
 - **10,223** cases had a PoC \geq 50%
 - **26,054** cases had a PoC $<$ 50%

Submittals vs. Production

(as of March 19, 2015)



Status of First 5,000 Claims

(as of March 19, 2015)

- **4,894** claims at DOL
 - **264** pulled for DOL issues
 - **393** pulled for SEC
 - **4,237** submitted with DR
- **87** claims at NIOSH
 - **82** administratively closed
 - **2** DRs with claimants (DOL reworks/reinstated within past year)
 - **3** DRs in process (DOL reworks/reinstated within past year)
- **19** claim numbers deleted

Status of First 10,000 Claims

(as of March 19, 2015)

- **9,807** claims at DOL
 - **439** pulled for DOL issues
 - **1,027** pulled for SEC
 - **8,341** submitted with DR
- **163** claims at NIOSH
 - **146** administratively closed
 - **5** DRs with claimants (0 initial; 3 DOL reworks within past year)
 - **12** DRs in process (1 initial; 11 DOL reworks within past year)
- **30** claim numbers deleted

DOE Response to Requests for Exposure Records

(March 20, 2015)

- Outstanding requests **343**
- Outstanding requests > 60 days **57**

Questions?

