

Workshop Session 5

**ICLN RADIOLOGICAL/NUCLEAR LABORATORY WORKGROUP:  
BACKGROUND, EMERGENCY RESPONSE ISSUES, INTERAGENCY  
COORDINATION, PRODUCTS AND PATH FORWARD**

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The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Integrated Consortium of Laboratory Networks (ICLN) is a group representing 10 federal agencies with a mission to provide:

*“A U.S. homeland security infrastructure with a coordinated and operational system of laboratory networks that provides timely, high-quality, and interpretable results for early detection and effective consequence management of acts of terrorism and other events, such as natural disasters and disease outbreaks, requiring an integrated laboratory response.”*

The establishment of an integrated laboratory response capability could significantly reduce vulnerabilities to infectious diseases, and chemical, biological, and radiological/nuclear contamination incidents, and reduce the adverse consequences of these events on the public health, food supply, and agriculture sectors. As part of these overall networks, the DHS ICLN established the Radiological/Nuclear Laboratory Workgroup to address various radiological specific issues among the federal and state radiological labs and networks. This workgroup has been very successful in sharing laboratory contacts, methods, information on many issues, developing radiation lab specific documents and products as well leading the development of table top exercises and full exercises as well as the participation in full scale exercises. This workgroup has created an inclusive forum for federal and state radiological laboratories to share ideas, work collaboratively, and build relationships that support a more effective integrated response during emergencies.

This workshop will address the following topics:

- Description of the Federal Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) threat issues and how the federal partners are involved from a laboratory point of view.
- Background and historical info on the ICLN Rad Lab Workgroup and where the Federal Radiological laboratories fit into the structure and possible incident response.
- A description of the priority radionuclides of concern from a radiological dispersive device (RDD) incident from the outcome of the Federal Interagency Workgroup.
- Description of the Rad lab networks: ERLN, FERN, NAMP, DLN and the LRN
- Past ICLN Radiological Laboratory Exercises – tabletop and full exercises.
- The Laboratory Limiting Issues Document – covers radiological as well as chemical and biological issues that would greatly limit a laboratory’s ability to respond to a major incident.
- The Radiological Screening guidance for the receipt of “unknown samples” for non-Radiation laboratories – this guidance is intended for laboratories that do not routinely measure radiological samples.
- Radiological Workgroup products: documents, reference materials, PT issues
- Current and future activities of the Radiological Laboratory Workgroup