



**Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland**

An Institiúid Éireannach um Chosaint Raideolaíoch

**Guidance notes on disposal of unsealed  
radionuclides discharges to the sewer**



## **Guidance Notes**

on disposal of unsealed radionuclides discharges to the sewer

**Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland**  
3 Clonskeagh Square,  
Dublin 14

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## Recording and reporting of disposal of unsealed radionuclides discharges to the sewer.

### 1. Recording

In order to demonstrate compliance with revised licence conditions relating to the disposal of unsealed radionuclides, licensees are required to record the activity, form, type and disposal date for all radionuclides used *in-vivo* or *in-vitro* applications which are discharged directly to the sewerage system. The licensee shall ensure that all records are fully maintained and readily available for inspection, at all reasonable times, by inspectors of the Institute.

Where unsealed radionuclides are used for *in-vivo* applications the recorded values shall be based upon the individual administered activities and the number of patients treated per year. To determine the quantity of each radionuclide discharged the licensee is referred to the following table

**Table: Percentage of Administered Radionuclides in Discharges**

<b>Radionuclide</b>	<b>Application</b>	<b>Percentage Discharged</b>
I-131	Ablation therapy	100%
“	Thyrotoxicosis treatment	50% - in-patients
“	“	30% - out-patients
Others		100%

### 2. Reporting

In addition, licensees are required to report to the Regulatory Service, not later than the 31<sup>st</sup> March, the quantities of technetium-99m (Tc-99m) and iodine-131 (I-131) discharged directly to the sewers in the preceding calendar year. For *in-vivo* applications these quantities will take account of the figures in the above table

In the case of activities administered to babies/infants wearing nappies, excreta will not be discharged to the sewers, but instead stored to decay in accordance with the licensee's local rules. Activities administered in these instances should not be included in the overall summary figure when estimating activities disposed of to the sewerage system.



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## Mission Statement

“In the three year period from 2008 to 2010 the RPII will grow the level of awareness and implementation of the measures needed to protect people in Ireland from the harmful effects of ionising (and non-ionising) radiation through scientifically based regulation, monitoring and advice.”

## Contact us

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