

ALARA in practice - an example from the research sector in Sweden



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Is Theory one Thing and Practice Another?

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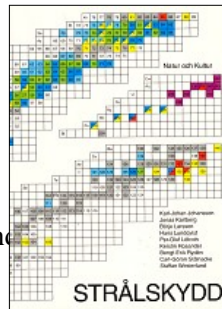
The responsibility and the assignment for all people in the organisation is very well known and understood.

Competence

All people have the competence needed for their work.

A qualified expert assists in reaching the correct level of competence.

The competence differs and should differ a lot between a biochemist and a physicist.



Quality Assurance

Quality Assurance is a practical way to control ALARA and Good Laboratory Practice is a natural process of QA.



Premises and Equipment

The laboratory is equipped with all functional accessories from such as fume cupboards to radiation shields and detectors. Best Available Technique is used to fulfil ALARA.



Work

Plan → Discuss → Perform



In some practices the work can be tailored but for others the work has to be adjusted continuously.



Standard Operation Procedures can not be used.

SOP can be used.

Release, Waste and Decommissioning

Release, waste and decommissioning are included in the work with ALARA.



Conclusion

It is essential for ALARA that all people involved in work with ionizing radiation know their responsibilities and the routines applicable. For that reason the RPO including the QE is important. The regulations and general advices from the Authority are helpful. Common sense together with GLP are also tools to use in practising ALARA. BAT is another part of the practical way to reach ALARA. In fact there are no differences between theory and practice when working with ALARA.