

**The Biodosimetry Program at the
Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority
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A large-scale radiological incident would result in an immediate critical need to assess the radiation doses for thousands of individuals. Diagnostic and dosimetric devices and their capabilities are central for triaging decisions. The Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) is the focal point within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for the advanced development, acquisition, and manufacturing infrastructure building of medical countermeasures to protect the American civilian population against chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) and naturally occurring threats to public health. BARDA and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) at National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) collaboratively support research and development of new and improved medical treatments and diagnostics for radiation casualties. BARDA coordinates the interagency HHS Public Health Emergency Medical Countermeasures Enterprise (PHEMCE) operations for research, development, licensure, acquisition, storage, maintenance, deployment, provision, and guidance for emergency use in a radiation incident. The BARDA approach utilizes a diverse, balanced portfolio of medical radiation countermeasures. HHS and the Department of Defense (DoD) are coordinately supporting research and development of new and dual use therapeutic products to treat the multiple body systems injured during nuclear and radiological attacks. Most recently BARDA released a Request for Information (RFI) to gather information on technologies and manufacturing capabilities to meet biodosimetry requirements. HHS anticipates in 2009 the issuance of solicitations (Request for Proposals and/or Broad Agency Announcements) for advanced development of biodosimetric devices and new medical countermeasures to treat various aspects of Acute Radiation Syndrome. HHS partnering with DoD is enhancing the nation's preparedness to respond to the public health threats caused by a radiological or nuclear event.