



NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SYMPOSIUM 2019



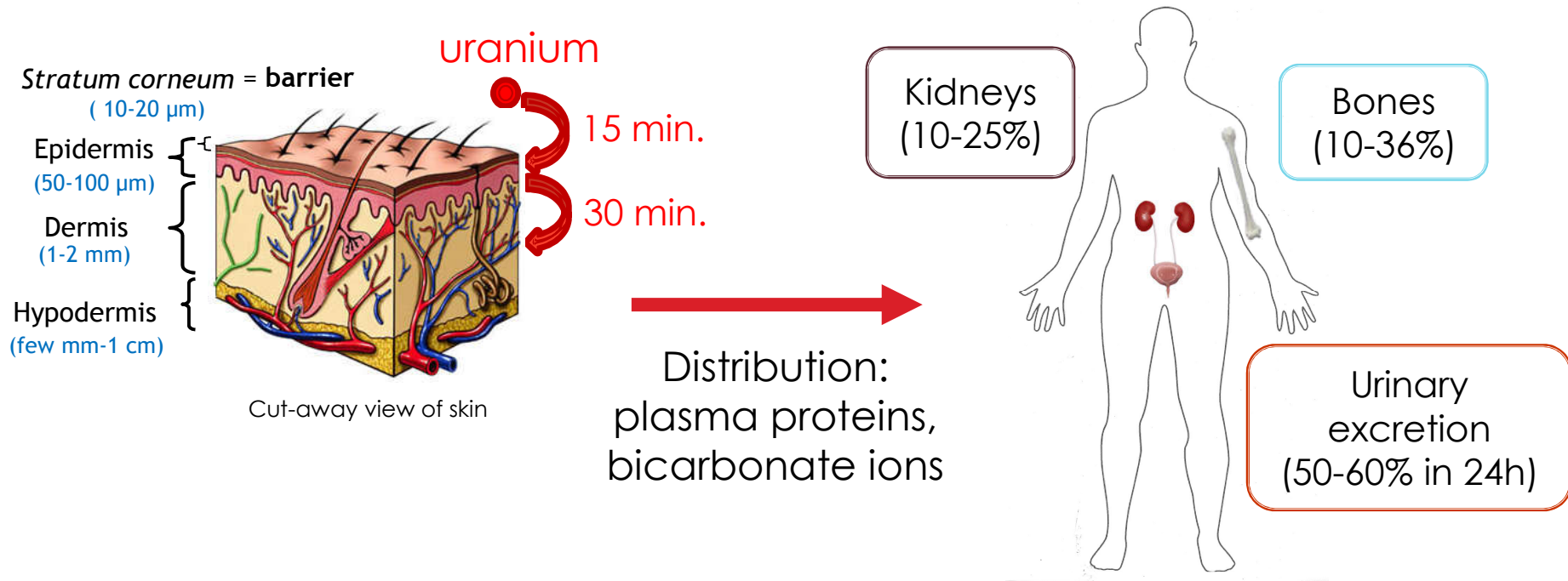
Emergency treatment for external radionuclides contamination

Helsinki, Marina Congress Center

October 30-31, 2019

THE CONTAMINATION

What is an external contamination ?



Fast diffusion even through intact skin

De Rey *et al.*, Environ. Res., 1983; 30(2):440-91

Petitot *et al.*, Can. J. Physiol. Pharmacol., 2004; 82(2):133-9

Toxicity on retention organs and skin

Lopez *et al.*, Health Physics, 2000; 78(4):434-7

Kathren and Burklin, Health Physics, 2004; 94(2):170-9

Brugge *et al.*, Rev. Environ. Health, 2005; 20(3):177-93

THE DECONTAMINATION



Criteria for a good decontamination :

- **Avoid the percutaneous penetration** of radionuclides
- **Decrease the use of treatment for internal contamination**
- **Avoid dissemination / cross contamination**
- **Prevent inhalation/ingestion** of radionuclides from the cutaneous contamination (resuspension etc.)



DEVELOPING THE EMULSION



In the early 1990s and 2000s Knowledge about calixarene family

- The calixarenes have strong affinity for actinides due to **complexing function**
+ **geometry**

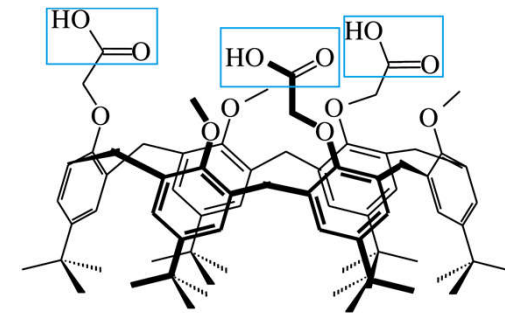


Fig. 1. Chemical structure of 1,3,5-OCH₃-2,4,6-OCH₂COOH-*p*-terbutylcalix[6]arene.

- Use in **radiotoxicology** : analyze/extract actinides from urine, drinking water, etc.
- In 1990s** calixarene were considered for internal decontamination from uranium.
But two **sulfonic** calixarenes showed **hepatotoxicity**.

→ **The use of calixarenes in decontamination treatments was ruled out for a long time.**

2006-2016

IRSN worked on a treatment for external contamination

- **No efficient treatment** for uranium internal contamination **without toxicity**
- What about a treatment with calixarenes for external contamination ?

The main challenge was to find a galenic form that :

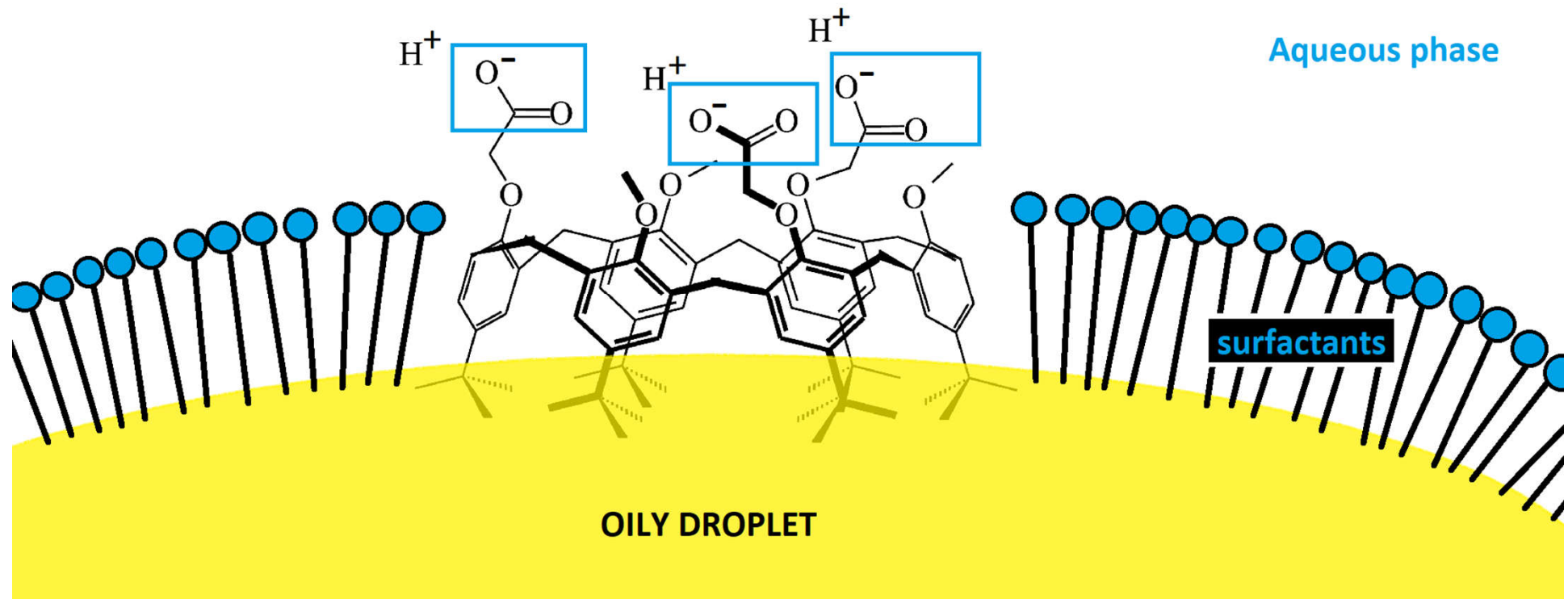
- **immobilizes the calixarene** in the topical form
- **prevents the absorption of the topical form** with the trapped radionuclides
- and allows the **maximum amount of uranium** to be trapped.

2006-2016

IRSN worked on a treatment for external contamination

- The calixarenes used are liposoluble molecules
- Developing an oil-in-water emulsion should locate the calixarene at the surface of the oily droplets

WHAT IS AN OIL-IN-WATER EMULSION ?

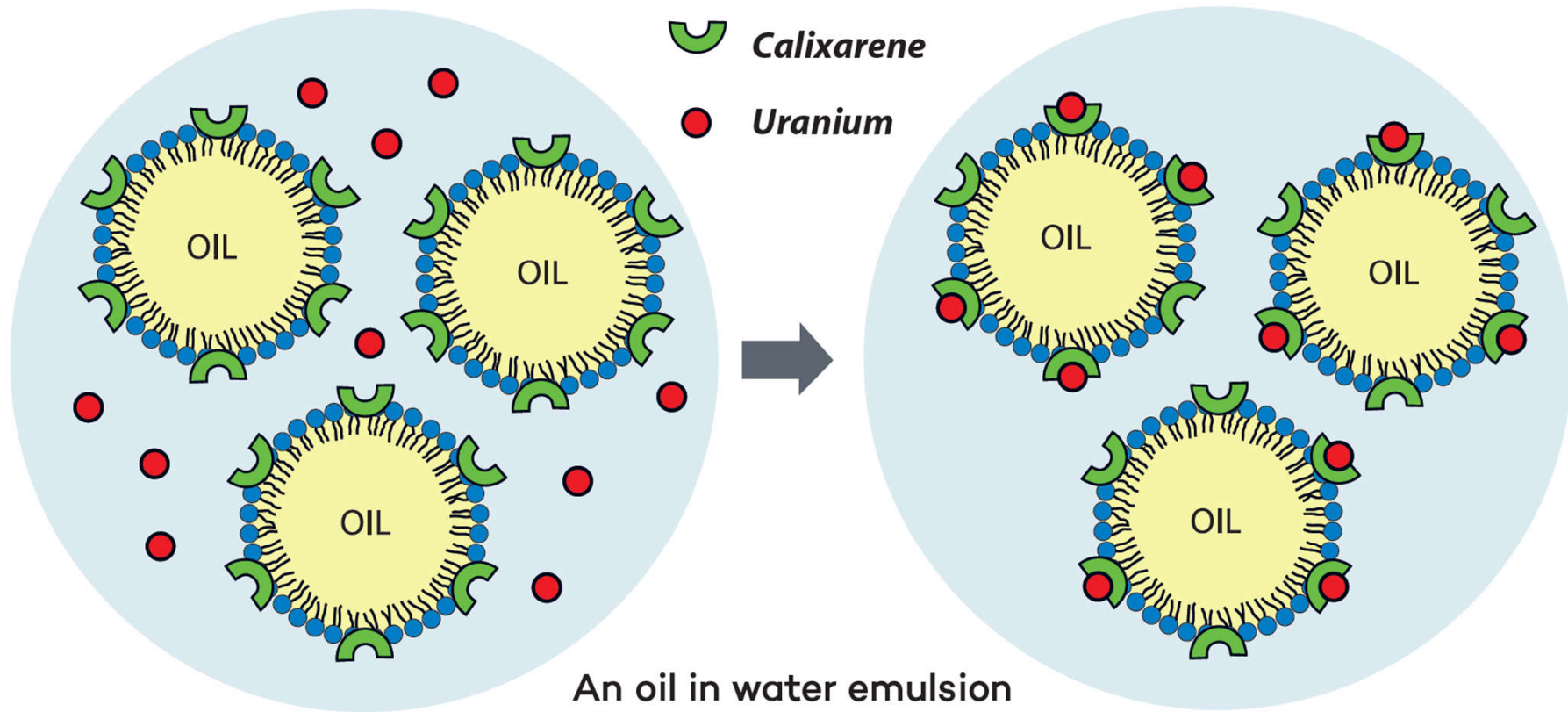


2006-2016

IRSN worked on a treatment for external contamination

- The calixarenes used are liposoluble molecules
- Developing an oil-in-water emulsion should locate the calixarene at the surface of the oily droplets
- The droplets' surface makes the calixarene more available to chelate radionuclides → need to **decrease the droplet size** to increase the total surface.

WHAT IS AN OIL-IN-WATER EMULSION ?



An oil in water emulsion
of Carboxylic Calixarene
(Oily droplet size <math>< 1 \mu\text{m}</math>)

2006-2016

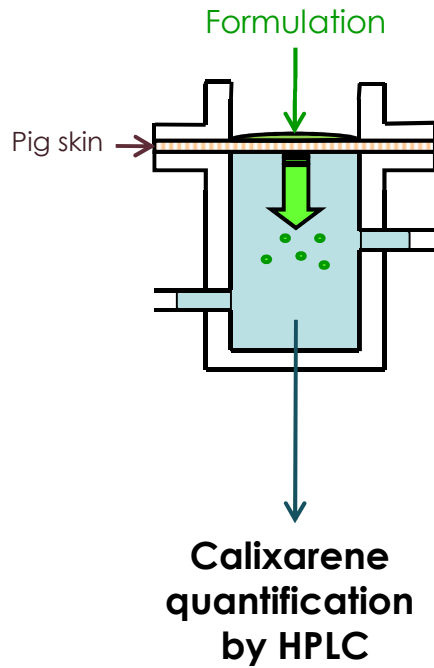
IRSN worked on a treatment for external contamination

- The calixarenes used are liposoluble molecules
- Developing an oil-in-water emulsion should locate the calixarene at the surface of the oily droplets
- The droplets' surface makes the calixarene more available to chelate radionuclides → need to **decrease the droplet size** to increase the total surface.
- The droplets (with calixarene) must be too large to be absorbed by the skin. → **do not decrease too much the droplet size.**
- The contamination would not be absorbed anymore

EFFICACY STUDIES

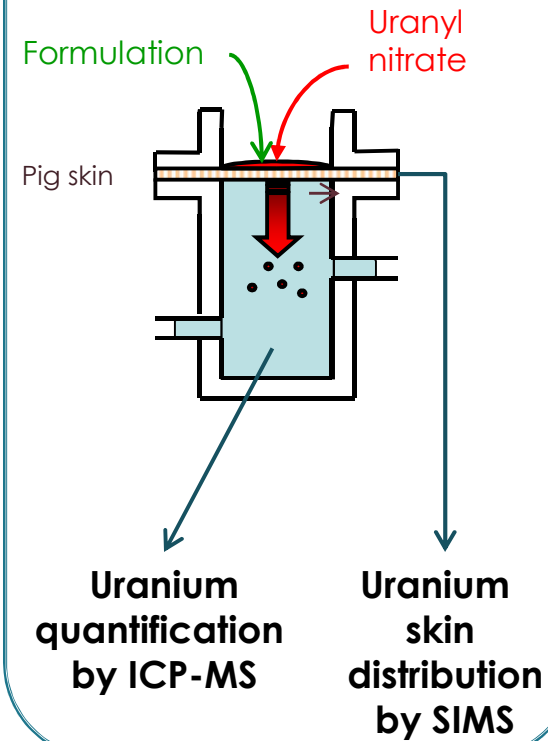
*Calixarene
formulations*

*Ex vivo
calixarene
diffusion studies*



Franz diffusion cell

*Ex vivo
decontamination
studies*



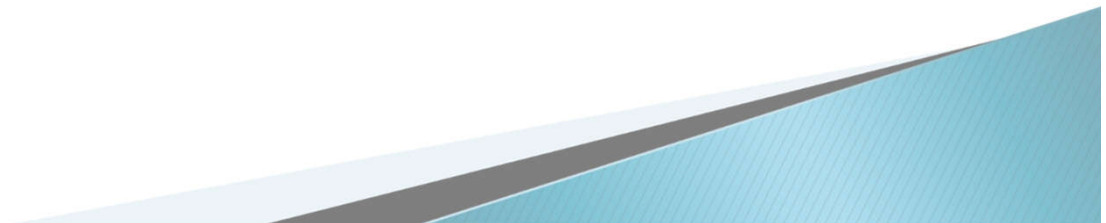
Franz diffusion cell

THE DECONTAMINATION



Criteria for a good decontamination :

- **Avoid the percutaneous penetration** of radionuclides
- **Decrease the use of treatment for internal contamination**
- **Avoid dissemination / cross contamination**
- **Prevent inhalation/ingestion** of radionuclides from the cutaneous contamination (resuspension etc.)



THE DECONTAMINATION



Criteria for a good decontamination :

- **Avoid the percutaneous penetration** of radionuclides ✓
- **Decrease the use of treatment for internal contamination**
- **Avoid dissemination / cross contamination**
- **Prevent inhalation/ingestion** of radionuclides from the cutaneous contamination (resuspension etc.)



THE DECONTAMINATION

Criteria for a good decontamination :

- **Avoid the percutaneous penetration** of radionuclides



- **Decrease the use of treatment for internal contamination**



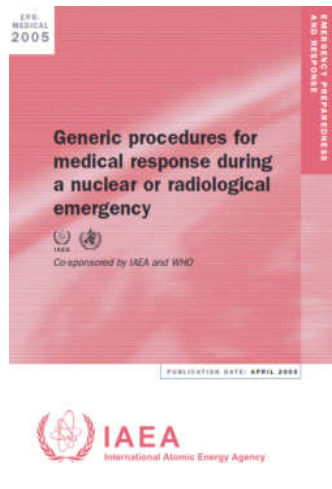
- **Avoid dissemination / cross contamination**

- **Prevent inhalation/ingestion** of radionuclides from the cutaneous contamination (resuspension etc.)

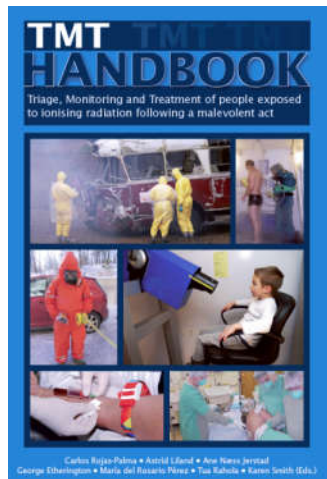


GUIDELINES

INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES



AIEA
(2005)



TMT Handbook
European Union
(2009)

THE ACTUAL GUIDELINES FOR DECONTAMINATION ON HEALTHY SKIN:

1. **Water + mild detergent = soapy water**
or hydrogen peroxide 3% (H_2O_2)
or sodium hypochlorite 1% (bleach)
or potassium permanganate 5% ($KMnO_4$)
2. Anti-inflammatory pomade (in case of fixed contaminations)



THE CEVIDRA CALIXARENE CREAM

THE CALIXARENE CREAM

A CHELATING AND CLEANSING EMULSION

3 major modes of action :

1) **Chelation (really strong bond)** from the carboxylic calixarene for **cationic radionuclides**

2) **Several capabilities of affinity** (hydrogen bonds, hydrophobic interactions, electrostatic interactions)

3) **Cleansing action**, removes the contaminants which are not chelated

Enlarge the spectrum of efficacy towards **non-cationic radionuclides**

THE CALIXARENE CREAM

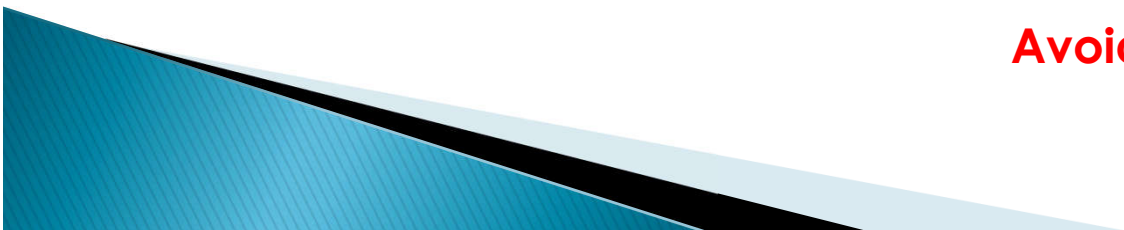
APPLICATION OF THE DECONTAMINATING CREAM

(• **Moisten** the skin with warm water on a compress) Optional step

• **Apply** with **gentle rubbing motion**.

• **Rinse/wipe** with water or wet compresses.

Avoid contaminated effluent



THE CALIXARENE CREAM

→ The **modes of action** :

- Retain the contamination into the cream
- Reduce the risk of cross contamination.

→ The **viscosity** and the **removal with compresses** :

- Avoid flowing of contamination on non-contaminated areas
- Avoid dissemination
- Reduce the risk of cross contamination.
- Reduce the volume of contaminated waste

THE DECONTAMINATION



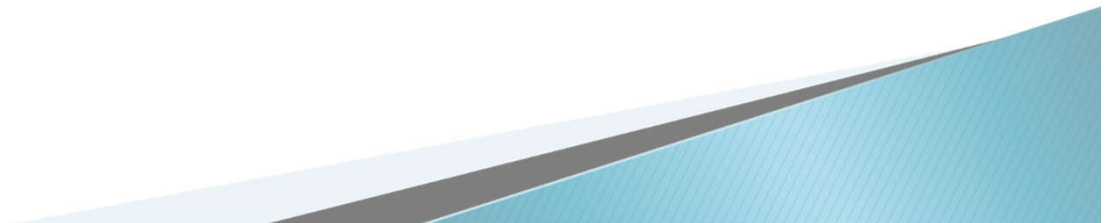
Criteria for a good decontamination :

- **Avoid the percutaneous penetration** of radionuclides ✓

- **Decrease the use of treatment for internal contamination** ✓

- **Avoid dissemination / cross contamination**

- **Prevent inhalation/ingestion** of radionuclides from the cutaneous contamination (resuspension etc.)



THE DECONTAMINATION



Criteria for a good decontamination :

- **Avoid the percutaneous penetration** of radionuclides ✓

- **Decrease the use of treatment for internal contamination** ✓

- **Avoid dissemination / cross contamination** ✓

- **Prevent inhalation/ingestion** of radionuclides from the cutaneous contamination (resuspension etc.)



THE DECONTAMINATION



Criteria for a good decontamination :

- **Avoid the percutaneous penetration** of radionuclides ✓
- **Decrease the use of treatment for internal contamination** ✓
- **Avoid dissemination / cross contamination** ✓
- **Prevent inhalation/ingestion** of radionuclides from the cutaneous contamination (resuspension etc.) ✓

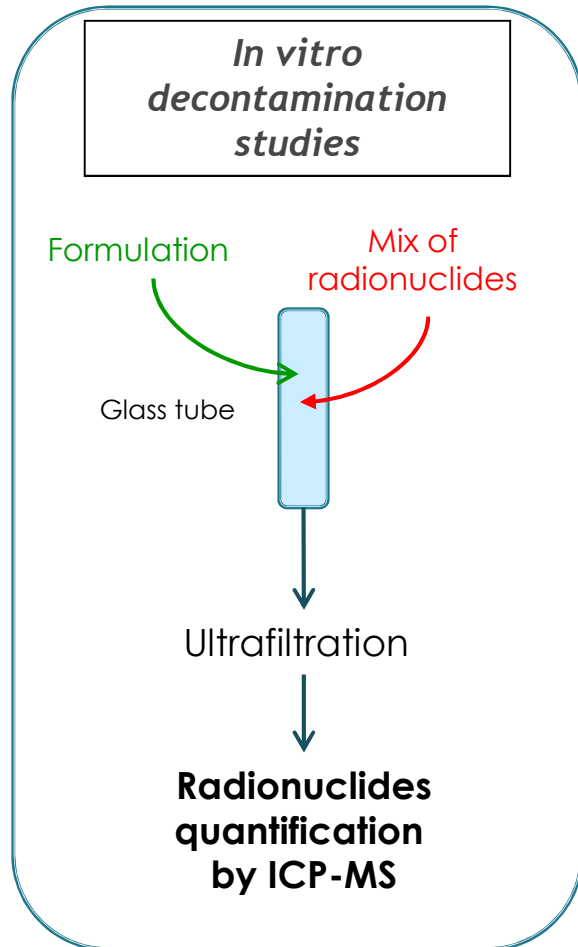


Current knowledge about external decontamination with carboxylic calixarene

- **Since July 2018, a specific treatment does exist as a medical device**
- The **spectrum is large** and the proven efficacy is not limited to actinides (**uranium, plutonium, americium, thorium**) :
 - Chelation on : **cobalt, antimony, silver, zirconium, manganese, cesium, strontium**
 - Cleansing action on : **all other radionuclides**

THE CALIXARENE CREAM

IN VITRO - SCIENTIFIC STUDIES



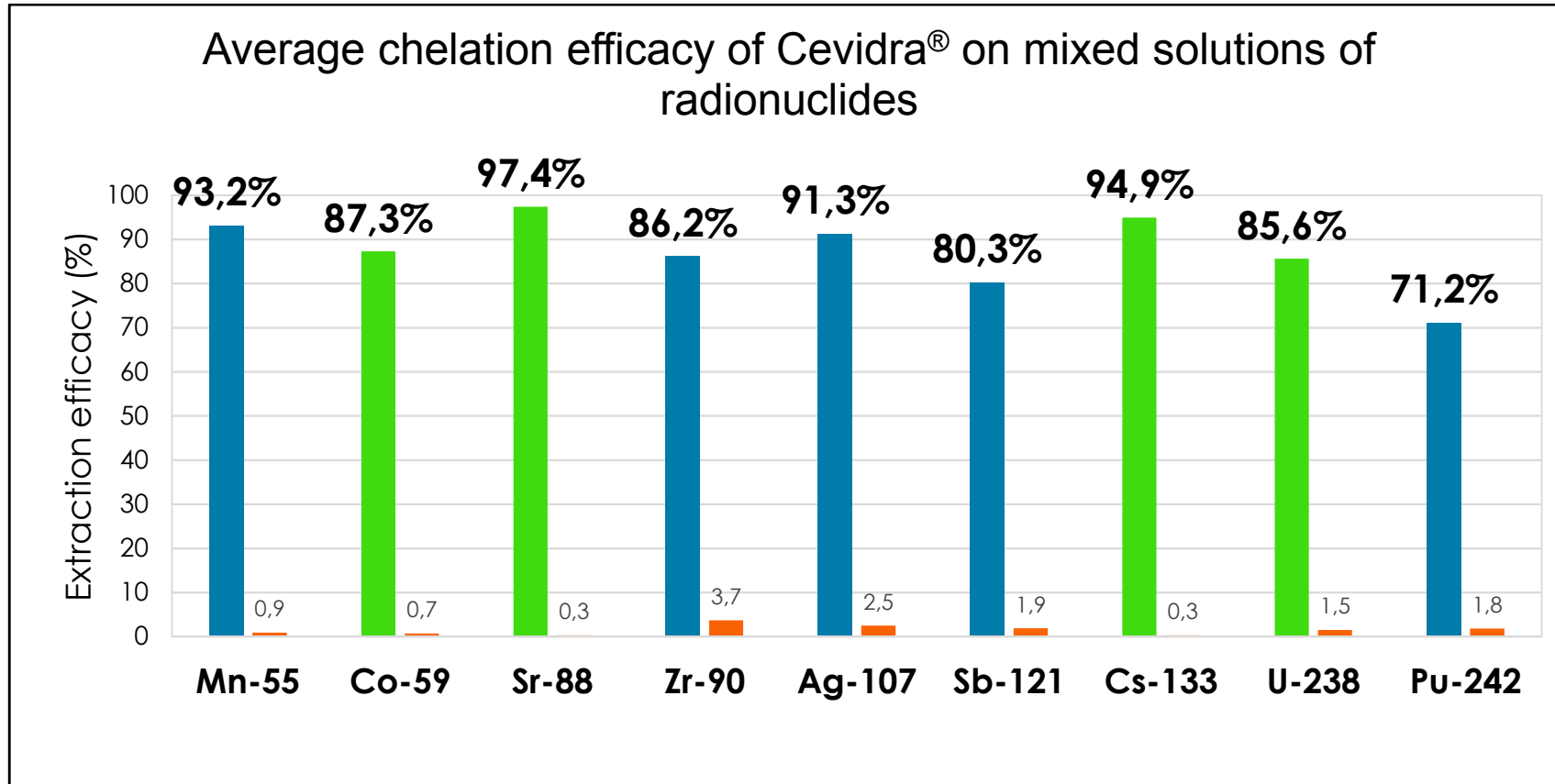
- Two recent studies: **IRSN**

Mix for study n°1 = **U + Cs + Sr + Co**

Mix for study n°2 = **Mn + Zr + Ag+ Sb + Pu**

- Studies were carried out with stable isotopes when possible. As a reminder, the isotopes of the same element have **identical chemical properties** but **different physical properties** (stable or radioactive in particular).
 - It does not influence the chelation.

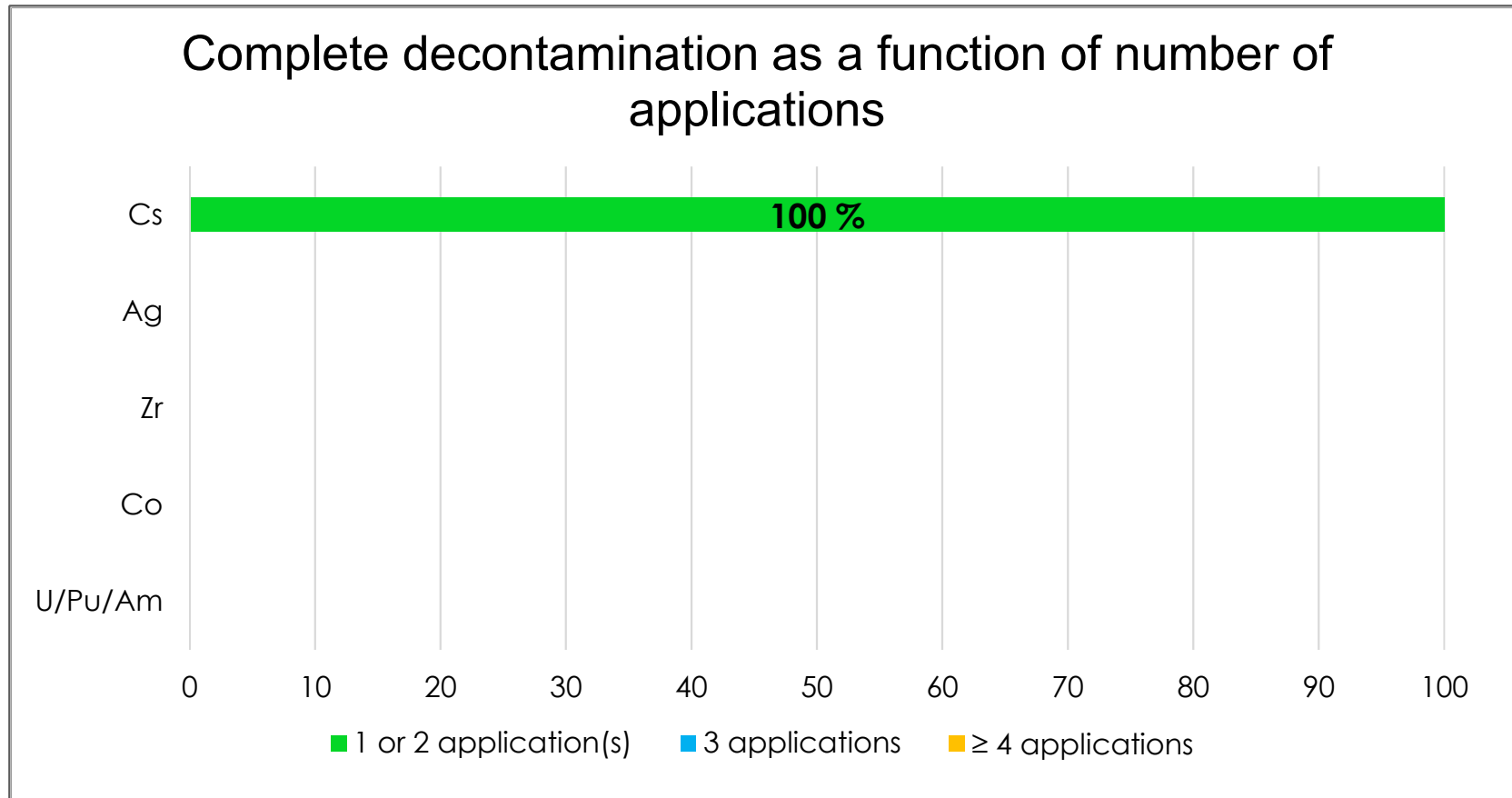
IN VITRO - SCIENTIFIC STUDIES



- Extraction efficacy study n°1
- Extraction efficacy study n°2
- Standard deviation

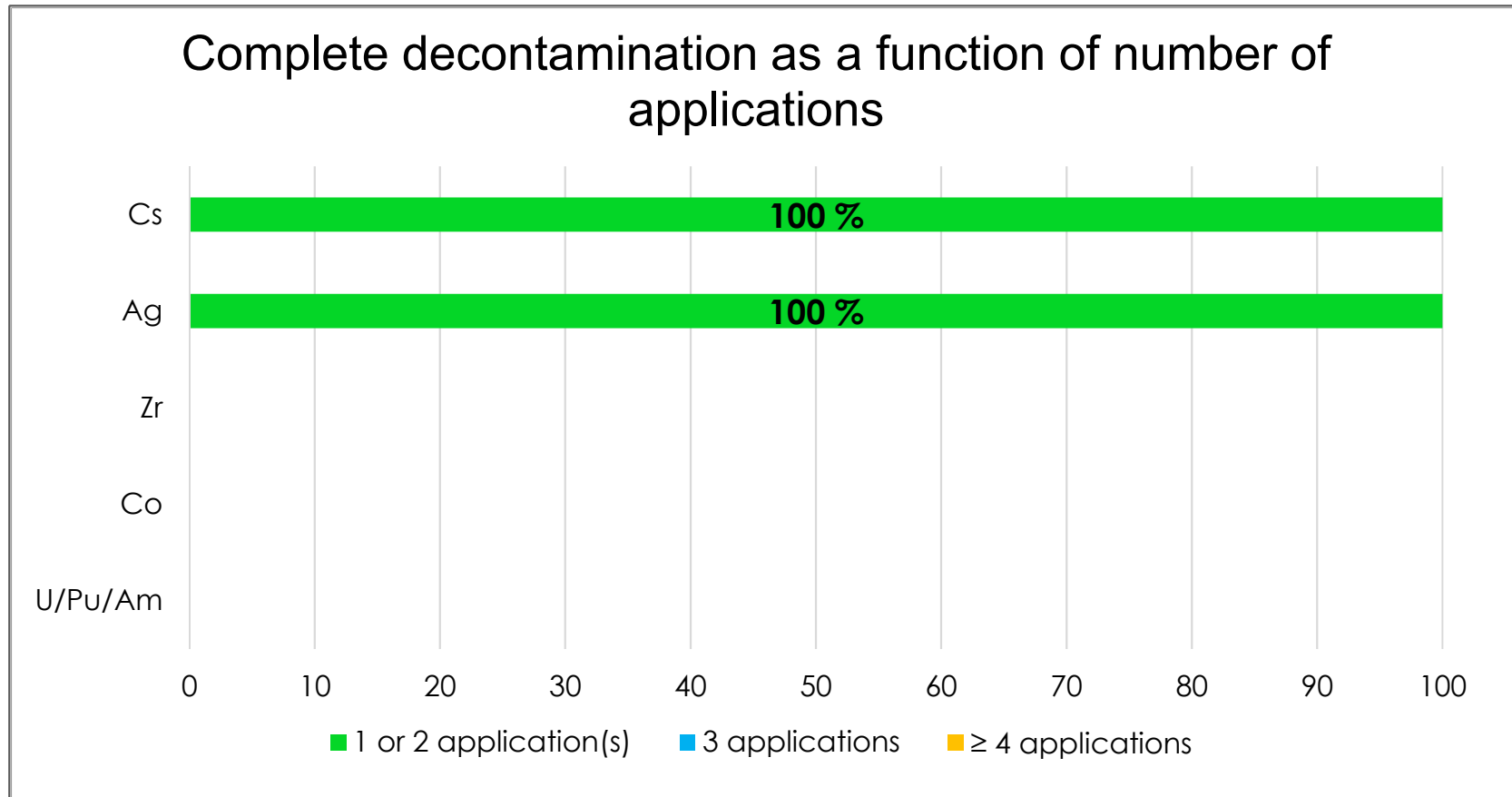
THE CALIXARENE CREAM

IN VIVO - REAL CASES OF DECONTAMINATION IN NUCLEAR FACILITIES



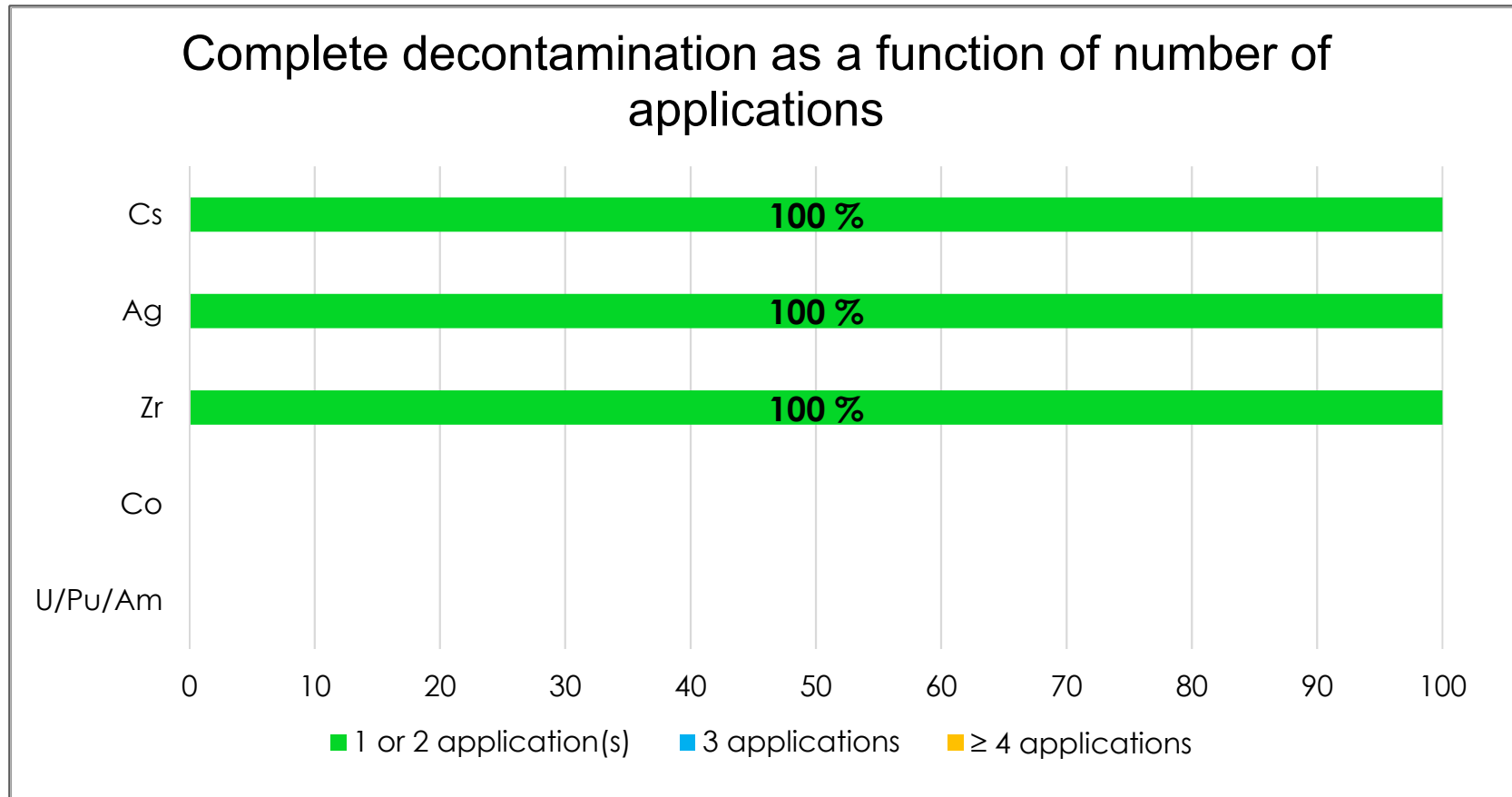
THE CALIXARENE CREAM

IN VIVO - REAL CASES OF DECONTAMINATION IN NUCLEAR FACILITIES



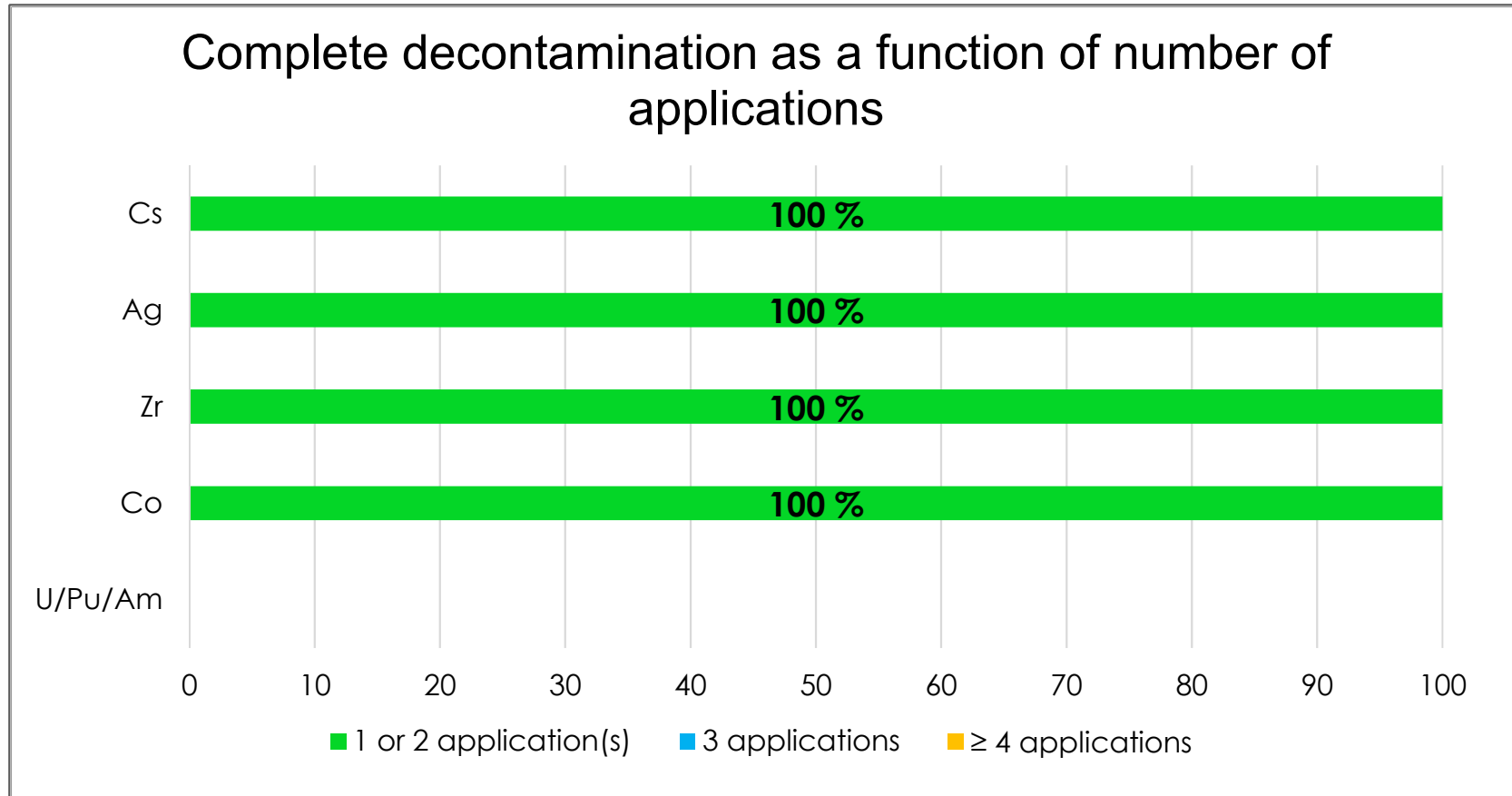
THE CALIXARENE CREAM

IN VIVO - REAL CASES OF DECONTAMINATION IN NUCLEAR FACILITIES



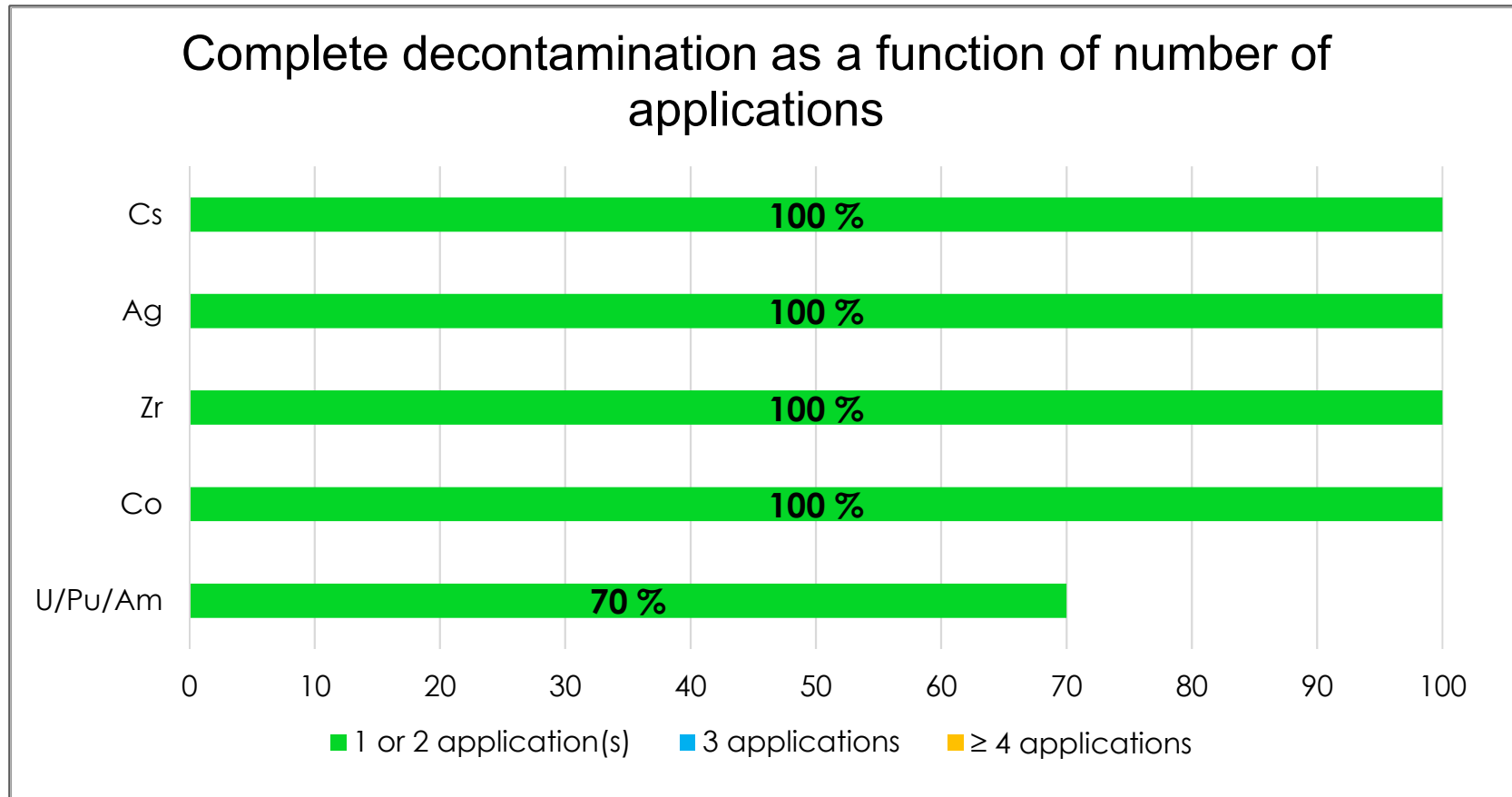
THE CALIXARENE CREAM

IN VIVO - REAL CASES OF DECONTAMINATION IN NUCLEAR FACILITIES



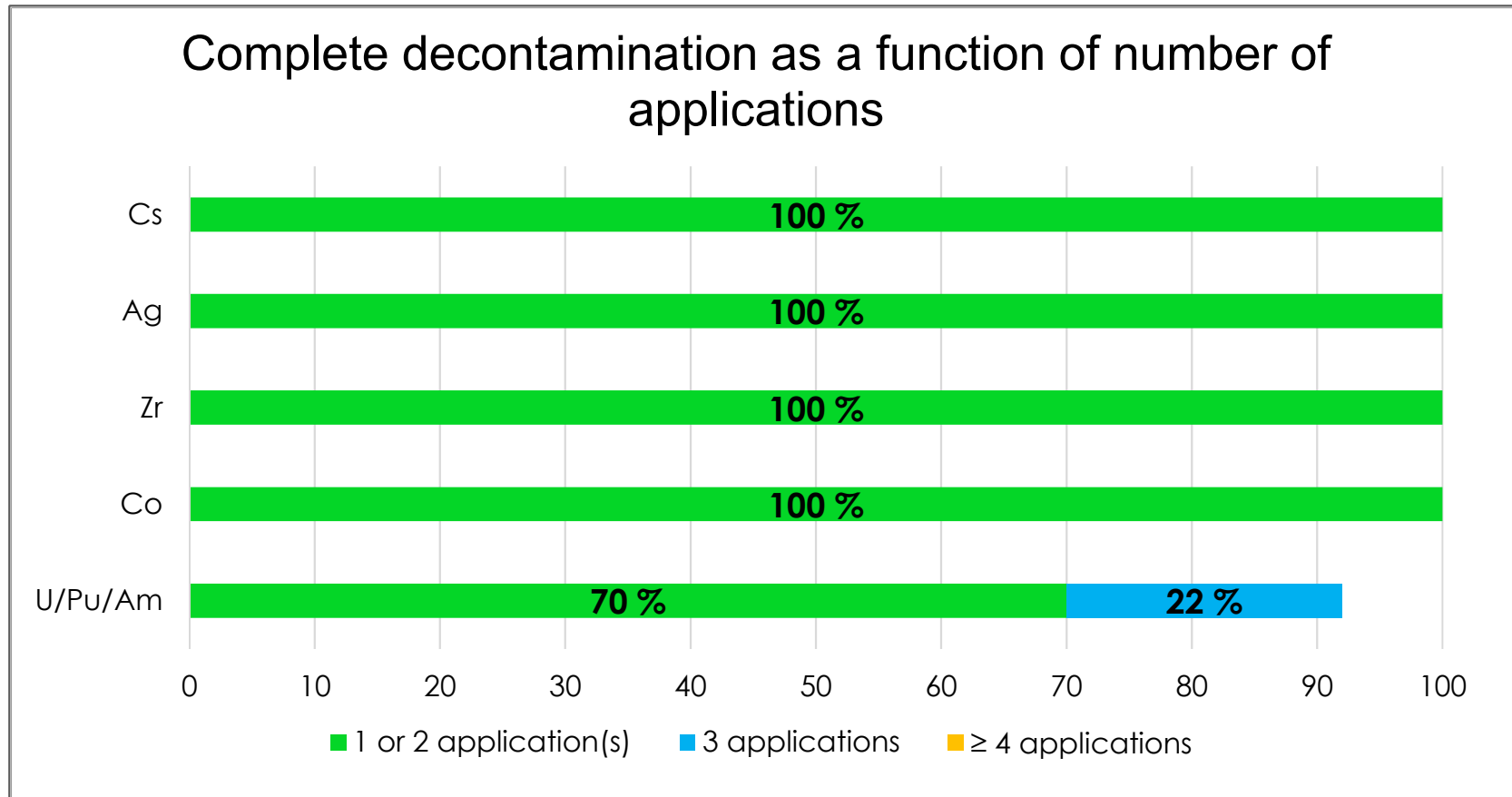
THE CALIXARENE CREAM

IN VIVO - REAL CASES OF DECONTAMINATION IN NUCLEAR FACILITIES



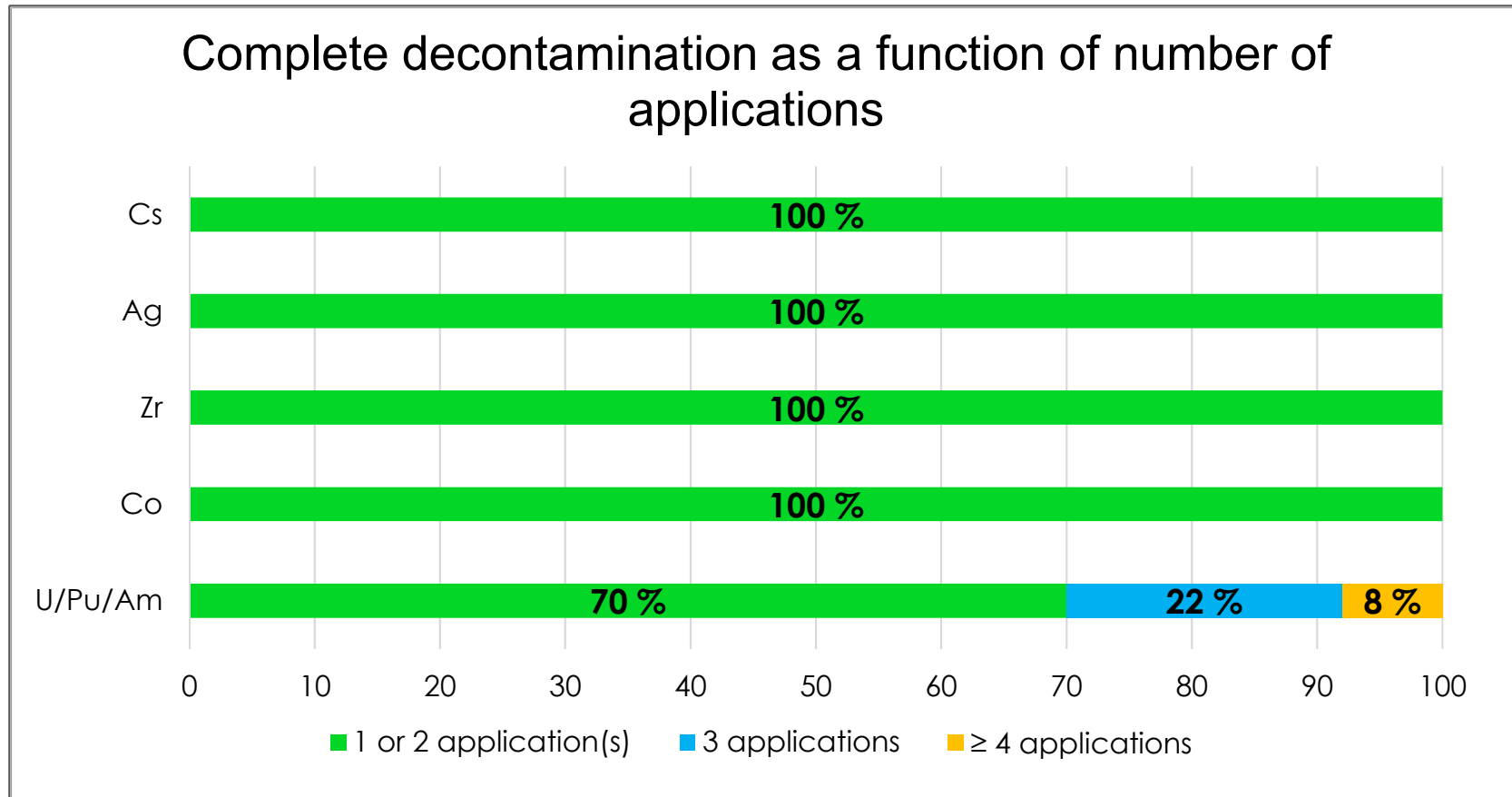
THE CALIXARENE CREAM

IN VIVO - REAL CASES OF DECONTAMINATION IN NUCLEAR FACILITIES



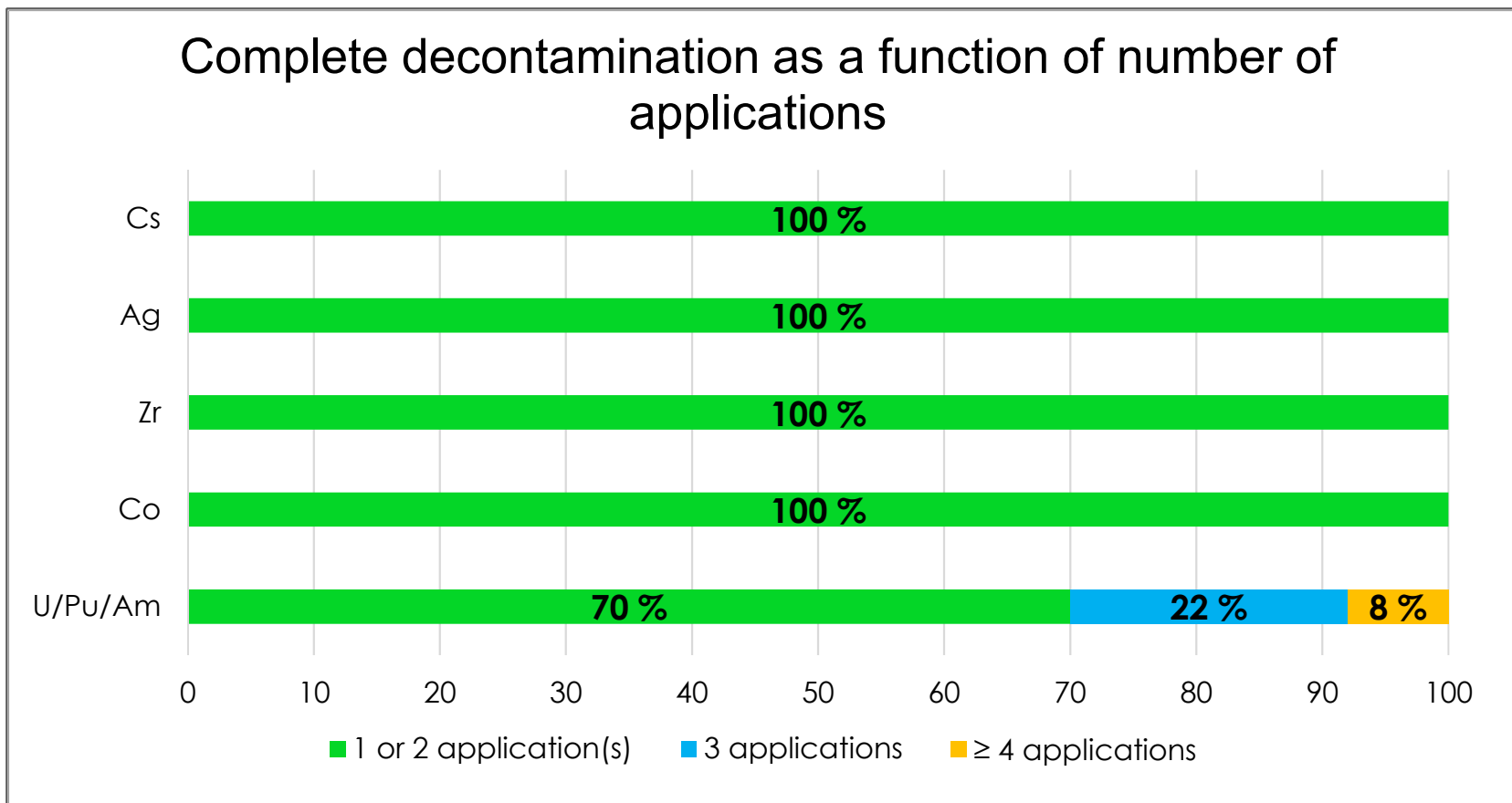
THE CALIXARENE CREAM

IN VIVO - REAL CASES OF DECONTAMINATION IN NUCLEAR FACILITIES



THE CALIXARENE CREAM

IN VIVO - REAL CASES OF DECONTAMINATION IN NUCLEAR FACILITIES



→ The cream led to a complete decontamination without associated treatment in 100% of the cases.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bouvier-Capely, C., Manoury, A., Legrand, A., Bonthonneau, J. P., Cuenot, F. et Rebière, F. (2009). "The use of calix[6]arene molecules for actinides analysis in urine and drinking water: An alternative to current procedures". *Journal of Radioanalytical and Nuclear Chemistry*, 282(2), 611-615
- Mekki, S., Bouvier-Capely, C., Jalouali, R. et Rebière, F. (2010). " The extraction of thorium by calix[6]arene columns for urine analysis ". *Radiation Protection Dosimetry*, 144(1-4), 330-334
- Spagnul, A., Bouvier-Capely, C., Phan, G., Rebière, F. et Fattal, E. (2010). "Calixarene-entrapped nanoemulsion for uranium extraction from contaminated solutions". *Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*, 99(3), 1375-1383
- Spagnul, A., Bouvier-Capely, C., Adam, M., Phan, G., Rebière, F. et Fattal, E. (2010). "Quick and efficient extraction of uranium from a contaminated solution by a calixarene nanoemulsion". *International Journal of Pharmaceutics*, 398(1-2), 179-184
- Spagnul, A., Bouvier-Capely, C., Phan, G., Landon, G., Tessier, C., Suhard, D., Rebière, F., Agarande, M. et Fattal, E. (2011). "Ex vivo decrease in uranium diffusion through intact and excoriated pig ear skin by a calixarene nanoemulsion". *European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics*, 79(2), 258-267
- Phan, G., Semili, N., Bouvier-Capely, C., Landon, G., Mekhloufi, G., Huang, N., Rebière, F., Agarande, M. et Fattal, E. (2013). "Calixarene cleansing formulation for uranium skin contamination". *Health Physics*, 105(4), 382-389
- Grives, S., Phan, G., Morat, G., Suhard, D., Rebiere, F. et Fattal, E. (2015). "Ex vivo uranium decontamination efficiency on wounded skin and in vitro skin toxicity of a calixarene-loaded nanoemulsion". *Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*, 104(6), 2008-2017



Cevidra® cream has been developed with the support of

THE GENERAL
DIRECTORATE FOR
ARMAMENT

AND

THE FRENCH INSTITUTE FOR
RADIATION PROTECTION AND
NUCLEAR SAFETY



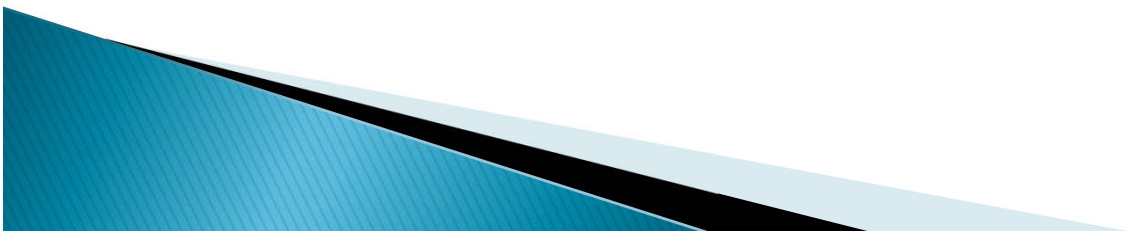
Thank you for your attention !

Contact: **Alexis Finet** – Pharmacist / Radiation Protection Engineer

Laboratoire Cevidra, 45 boulevard Marcel Pagnol
06130 GRASSE – FRANCE

Phone: +33 (0)4.93.70.58.31
Email: afinet@cevidra.com

ANNEXES



REAL CASES IN NUCLEAR FACILITIES

URANIUM / PLUTONIUM / AMERICIUM	Contaminated body area	Initial measure of contamination	Elapsed time before treatment	Final measure and number of applications
Case 1 (U and Pu)	Head	70 c/s (3,2 Bq/cm ²)	< 2 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 c/s and 0 Bq/cm ² after 1 application
Case 2 (Pu)	Head	1,6 Bq/cm ²	< 2 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 Bq/cm ² after 1 application .
Case 3 (U and/or Pu, no information)	Head	14 c/s alpha 10 c/s beta	< 2 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 c/s after 2 applications .
Case 4 (U)	Hand	2 Bq/cm ²	< 15 min	Incompleted decontamination. <u>Misuse had been confirmed from the user*</u>
Case 5 (U and Pu)	Head + upper limbs	32 Bq/cm ²	< 2 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 Bq/cm ² after 2 to 5 applications (depending on the location).
Case 6 (U and/or Pu, no information)	Head	2 Bq/cm ²	< 2 h	Fully decontaminated. Already 0 Bq/cm ² after 1 application . 2 applications were performed.
Case 7 (Pu and Am)	Hands and fingers	2 c/s	< 2 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 c/s after 3 applications .
Case 8 (U and Pu)	Upper limb	0,2 Bq/cm ²	< 2 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 Bq/cm ² after 1 application .
Case 9 (Pu)	Head and upper limb	2 c/s	< 1 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 c/s after 2 applications .

COBALT	Contaminated body area	Initial measure of contamination	Elapsed time before treatment	Final measure and number of applications
Case 1	Head	15 c/s	< 1 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 c/s after 1 application .
Case 2 (Co and Zr)	Head	70 c/s	< 1 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 c/s after 1 application .
Case 3	Head	220 c/s	< 2 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 c/s after 1 application .
Case 4	Head	40 c/s	< 1 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 c/s after 1 application .

ZIRCONIUM	Contaminated body area	Initial measure of contamination	Elapsed time before treatment	Final measure and number of applications
Case 1	Head	70 c/s	< 1 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 c/s after 1 application .
Case 2	Head	10 c/s	< 1 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 c/s after 1 application .
Case 3 (Co and Zr)	Head	70 c/s	< 1 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 c/s after 1 application .

REAL CASES IN NUCLEAR FACILITIES

SILVER	Contaminated body area	Initial measure of contamination	Elapsed time before treatment	Final measure and number of applications
Case 1	Head	5 c/s	< 2 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 c/s after 1 application .
Case 2	Head	10 c/s	< 2 h	Fully decontaminated. 0 c/s after 1 application .

CESIUM	Contaminated body area	Initial measure of contamination	Elapsed time before treatment	Final measure and number of applications
Case 1	Head et upper limb	250 Bq/cm ²	< 30 min	Fully decontaminated. 0 Bq/cm ² after 2 applications .

WHAT IS THE CEVIDRA CREAM

The **Cevidra**[®] cream is an oil in water emulsion composed of:

- **carboxylic calixarene** (active substance)
- paraffin oil
- water
- surfactants
- emulsifiers
- preservatives

