

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
memorandum

DATE: October 15, 1982

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: EP-32

402901

SUBJECT: Cost per Person for DOE Medical Services in the Marshall Islands

TO: D. E. Patterson, Director
Office of Operational Safety, EP-32

Per your request re the above subject, the attached table is the current number of persons seen by the Brookhaven medical teams, together with their atoll of residence and their general population category (e.g., exposed, children of exposed, controls, etc.).

The Bikinians are those who were removed from Bikini Island in 1978, together with some family members. The other categories are self-explanatory.

It is difficult to provide an accurate cost for this activity because the ship which is contracted for this purpose provides transportation and logistical and programmatic support not only for the medical program, but also for the environmental studies and the radiological monitoring activities; therefore, the cost of the ship includes support for multiple program elements.

To give you an estimate of the range of cost per person, costs will be calculated in two ways: assuming that the entire cost of the ship is related to the medical program (which would be a gross overestimate), and assuming that one-third the cost of the ship is related to the medical program (roughly based upon the number of trips supporting the medical program compared to the total number of trips for all purposes).

If the total cost of the ship is included, the entire medical program support is:

<u>FY 82</u>	<u>Est. FY 83</u>
\$2,071,000	\$2,174,000

The cost per person, then, is:

<u>FY 82</u>	<u>Est. FY 83</u>
\$1,409	\$1,479

If one-third of the ship cost is apportioned to support of the medical program, the entire medical program support is:

<u>FY 82</u>	<u>Est. FY 83</u>
\$1,513,667	\$1,624,667


The cost per person, then is:

<u>FY 82</u>	<u>Est. FY 83</u>
\$1,023	\$1,105

Therefore, the cost per person in FY 82 ranges from \$1,000 - \$1,400, although the lower figure undoubtedly is the more realistic of the two. The comparable estimated cost in FY 83 is \$1,100 - \$1,500.

It should be recognized that the actual population mandated by Public Law 95-134 is the 175 exposed persons. Observations on these people would have little meaning without comparison populations, however. Furthermore, both medical ethics and the people require that children not be excluded from examination by the medical personnel. The Bikinians are included by verbal request of the Congress and by written agreement between the Department of the Interior, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and the Bikini people.

Except for medical emergencies, medical care and treatment is limited to those beneficiaries mandated by P.L. 95-134 (i.e., the 175 persons); others receive a clinical examination, diagnostic tests, and such limited medical assistance as can be provided at the time; anything requiring greater medical attention is referred to the Health Services of the Marshall Islands Government.



Bruce W. Wachholz, Ph.D.
Office of Operational Safety

Attachment

- cc w/Attachment:
- R. Davies, EP-30
- K. Johnson, EP-30.1
- J. Benedik, EP-12

- bcc: T. McCraw, EP-32
- J. Rudolph, DP-224



MARSHALLESE SEEN BY DOE MEDICAL TEAMS

	<u>ATOLL OF RESIDENCE</u>				<u>SUBTOTAL</u>
	<u>RONGELAP</u>	<u>UTIRIK</u>	<u>EBEYE</u>	<u>MAJURO</u>	
Rongelap persons exposed	22	-	35	8	65
Utirik persons exposed	-	54	6	50	110
Rongelap comparison group	40	-	70	30	140
Utirik comparison group	-	120*	-	-	120
Bikinians	-	-	-	250*(EJIT)	250
Children of exposed persons	54	120	80	80	334
Children of unexposed persons	81	130	120	120	451
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TOTALS	197	424	311	538	1,470

*Not all of these persons are examined each year.