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Summary of Citizens Advisory Committee On Public Health Services (CDC).

by Charles Utley

~~The~~ was held in Augusta, GA. January 25, 2005.

This were several issues address but among these I feel the most important was the information shared on the Epidemiology Studies and Dose Reconstruction Facts.

The Epidemiology studies although they are on going and inclusive. I found them to be interesting because of the impact that they have on the citizens in the cohort group around SRS. The studies were for the most part summary of previous studies and another study would be held or bounced off to start another study. It just reminded me that we study to have another study.

This was interesting because even the members of the committee were not clear on the finding of the study and there were question after question concerning to out come of these studies.

I thought it was interesting that although they were reviewing studies they had no apparent part in who had don the studies. These studies were done by out side contractors, which made me wonder who had set the perimeter for the study? Was the cohort notified of any of these studies? And what was the finding? These entire question came to mind because even in this discussion the committee was not sure of what the other out comes were and I am not sure that they know what to expect from the ones now in process.

There was an attempt to explain the study of the one's who worked at the site and the ones who just lived in the area. There was some reports that said that their were not a great difference between the two, that I must question.

The next discussion was Dose Reconstruction; there was a lengthy discussion on this issue. There were several areas of pathways that were discussed that would have an impact on Dose Reconstruction. One in particular that was mention was through the food chain (milk) I thought this was interesting because I don't know the high rate of people who use milk enough to designate using milk as a pathway other than through young children.

There was a discussion on a formula that would be use to determine how much exposure a person would be exposed to and how it would be calculated. On this subject they were being asked to let the formula the determining factor. This was not acceptable to the group because all of the facts were not know about the formula.

My question to the group was how can a set formula determine the our come not know all the factors involved. For example if a person was exposed to living around SRS and also was exposed to the train rack chemicals, that person(s) would not have the same levels of exposure as a person who was not in the area. Therefore it would not be a good formula to say that all persons in the SRS area should be treated the same way.