

Cobalt-60 and gamma applications: Effective, understood, growing, and sustainable

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Nordion has been a leader in the production of Cobalt-60, used for the prevention and treatment of disease, since the inception of the technology in the 1950s. This product has become a critical component of the global healthcare system, impacting the lives of millions of people around the world every day.

Since the first Cobalt-60 based radiotherapy treatment in 1951, Nordion has shipped more than one billion curies of Cobalt for use by the cancer therapy and gamma processing industries. During this seven-decade period, there have been significant changes in technology, regulation and the global supply chain. Our approach to managing the full lifecycle, from sourcing to production to transportation to disposal, along with a strong commitment to understanding and meeting industry needs, has enabled us to adapt to these changes and continue to provide a reliable supply of Cobalt to a global customer base.

In this session, you will learn about how Cobalt-60 is produced, the current status of the global supply chain and initiatives under way to increase production, and gain insight into the unique aspects of the technology that make it inherently sustainable for the long term.