



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

**Republic of the
Marshall Islands
Special Medical Care
and Logistics
Program Activities,
FY 2023**

**Report to Congress
March 2024**

**United States Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585**

Message from the Director, Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security

Enaan eo jen Director eo, Office eo an Environment, Health, Safety, im Security

This report provides information regarding the activities and expenditure of funds of the U.S. Department of Energy Republic of the Marshall Islands Special Medical Care and Logistics Program (Special Medical Care Program) during fiscal year (FY) 2023 as directed by Title 48 United States Code Section 1933(k). The report also provides projected costs for FY 2024.

Ripoot in ej kwalok melele ko ikijien makūtkūt im wāwen an jermal jāān ko jen U.S. Department eo an Energy Special Medical Care (Special Care Medical) im Logistic Program ilo Republic eo an Marshall Islands ilo iiō eo (FY) 2023 einwōt an kemlet ilo Title 48 United States Code Section 1933(k). Ripoot in ej bareinwōt reimaanlok ñan wāwen an naj jermal jāān ko ilo iiō ne 2024.

The Special Medical Care Program provides medical examinations and cancer treatment and logistical support associated with providing those services to the inhabitants of the Rongelap and Utrik Atolls who were exposed to radiation from the 1954 U.S. thermonuclear weapons test, named “Castle Bravo.” This report is being provided to the following Members of Congress:

Special Care medical Care Program eo ej kōmmāne kōmadmōd in taktō ko im kōmadmōd ko ikijien bōbrae cancer im jermal in makūtkūt ko ñan jibañ lelok services kein ñan armij in Ronglap im Utrik, ro im raar bōk jermatmat in radiation ko jen kōmālmel in kein tarinae ko jen nuclear an U.S ilo 1954, naetan “Castle Bravo”. Ripoot in emōj lelok ñan uwaan Congress rein rej elaajrak:

- **The Honorable Patty Murray**
Chairwoman, Senate Committee on Appropriations
- **The Honorable Susan Collins**
Vice Chairwoman, Senate Committee on Appropriations
- **The Honorable Kay Granger**
Chairwoman, House Committee on Appropriations
- **The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro**
Ranking Member, House Committee on Appropriations
- **The Honorable Patty Murray**
Interim Chair, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
Senate Committee on Appropriations

- **The Honorable John Kennedy**
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
Senate Committee on Appropriations
- **The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann**
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
House Committee on Appropriations
- **The Honorable Marcy Kaptur**
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
House Committee on Appropriations

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. Kevin L. Dressman, Director, Office of Health and Safety, within the Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security, at (301) 903-5144 or Ms. Meg Roessing, Deputy Director for External Coordination, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, at (202) 586-3128.

Ñe elōñ am kajitōk ak aikuj ñan melele ko jet, jouj im kebaak Mr. Kevin L. Dressman, Director, Office of Health and Safety, iloan Office of Environment, Health, Safety, im Security ilo (301) 903-5144 ak Ms. Meg Roessing, Deputy Director ñan External Coordination, Office eo an Chief Financer Officer, ilo (202) 586-3128.

Sincerely,
Ilo Kautiej,

Todd N. Lapointe
Director
Office of Environment, Health, Safety
and Security

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide information regarding the activities and expenditure of funds during FY 2023 for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Special Medical Care and Logistics Program (Special Medical Care Program), as directed by Title 48 United States Code Section 1933(k). Projections for FY 2024 costs are also provided.

Ripoot in ej kwalok melele ko ikijien makutkut im wāwen an jermal jāān ko jen U.S. Department eo an Energy Special Medical Care (Special Care Medical) im Logistic Program ilo Republic eo an Marshall Islands ilo iiō ne (FY) 2023 einwōt an kemlet ilo Title 48 United States Code Section 1933(k). Ripoot in ej bareinwōt reimaanlok ñan wāwen an naj jermal jāān ko ilo iiō ne 2024.

The Special Medical Care Program is administered through the DOE Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security (EHSS) via a cooperative agreement between DOE and International Outreach Services, a Hawaii-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The program provides medical screening examinations and cancer treatment to the inhabitants of the Rongelap and Utrik Atolls who were exposed to radiation from the March 1, 1954, U.S. thermonuclear weapons test, named “Castle Bravo.” There were 253 people on the Rongelap and Utrik Atolls during the Castle Bravo test. At the beginning of FY 2023, 71 individuals were eligible for participation in the Special Medical Care Program. Funding within this program also provided for logistical support associated with medical examination and treatment services including travel, lodging, and per diem expenses for program participants and their escorts.

Special Medical Care Program eo ej jermal iloan DOE Office an Environment, Health, Safety im Security (EHSS) iumin juōn kon eo kōtaan DOE im International Outreach Services, juōn non-profit organization 501©(3) eo ej bed ilo Hawaii. Program in lelok services ko ñan armij in Ronglap im Utrik, ro im raar bōk jermatmat in radiation ko jen kōmālmel in kein tarinae ko rekajur an U.S ilo 1954, naetan “Castle Brovo”. Ear wor 253 armij ilo aelōñ in Ronglap im Utrik ilo iien eo ear kōmman kōmālmel in kein tarinae eo, Castle Bravo. Ilo jinoun iiō ne FY 2023, 71 armij raar maroñ bōk kunaer ilo Soecial medical Care Program eo. Jāān ko ilo program in raar bareinwōt jermal ñan wāwen makūtkūt ko ikijien kōmadmōd in taktō im wāwen bōbrae nañinmej ko kobalok ial jen jikin ñan jikin, jikin jokwe, im perdiem ñan ro rej bōk kunaer ilo program in im escort ro aer.

Special Medical Care Program examination and treatment services were conducted at clinics, hospitals, and other medical facilities in the RMI (located on Majuro and Ebeye Islands), Hawaii, and the Continental United States, including for patients living in the United States. In addition, program physicians traveled to the homes of patients who reside on Woja (Ailinglaplap Atoll), Utrik (Utrik Atoll), Majuro (Majuro Atoll), Mejatto and Ebeye (Kwajalein Atoll) Islands in the RMI and who were unable to travel. Twenty-seven individuals who were eligible for participation in the Special Medical Care Program at the beginning of FY 2023 were not examined for the following reasons: six eligible individuals refused the examination; seven individuals died (from causes not related to cancer) before receiving their examination; seven individuals could not be contacted because they moved without providing a forwarding address or updated contact number; and seven individuals rescheduled their appointments due to personal reasons.

Kōmadmōd in taktō ko im wāwen jermal ko ikijien bōbrae raar kōmman ilo mon taktō ko, hospital ko, im mon tako ko jet ilo RMI (ijoko ilo Majuro ak Ebeye), Hawaii, im ilo aolepen United States, kobalok rinañinmej ro rej jokwe ilo United States. Ñan kakkobaba, taktō ro ilo program in rej etal wōnān jikin jokwe ko an rinañinmej ro rej bed iloWoja (Ailinlaplap), Utrik (Aelōñ in Utrik), majuro (Aelōñ in Majuro), Mejatto im Ebeye (Aelōñ in Kwajalein) ilo RMI ñan ro rejjab maroñ itotak. Roñoul jiljimjuōn ian ro remaroñ bōk kunaer ilo Special Medical care program eo ilo FY 2023 raar jab maroñ taktō kin un kein: Jiljino iaan armij rein raar jab kōnaan taktō; jiljimjuōn ian armij rein raar mij (raar jab mij kin cancer) mokta jen aer etal im taktō; jiljimjuōn raar emakūt ak raar jab kwalok address im numba ñan tōbar er; im jiljimjuōn raar ukōt iien aer taktō bwe eor aer make utamwe.

Annual medical screening examinations were initiated and/or completed for 62 percent of eligible individuals in FY 2023. There were no medical referrals in FY2023. Total expended costs for the Special Medical Care Program were \$890,739 in FY 2023. The costs in FY 2023 were slightly higher than the previous fiscal year due to increased cost of medical services, supplies, and logistical support but remained low overall due to there being no medical referrals. FY 2024 costs are projected to increase to \$1,632,203 as medical costs continue to rise overall and as the likelihood of medical referrals increases due to the aging population.

Kōmadmōd in taktō ko ilo juōn iio raar jinoe im/ ak dredrelok ñan 62 percent in armij ro raar maroñ bōk kunaer ilo FY 2023. Ear ejjelok referral ilo FY 2023. Jonan jān ko raar jermal ñan Special Medical care Program rej \$890,739 ilo FY 2023. Jonan eo ilo FY 2023 ear laplok jen iio eo moktalok itok wōt jen an laplok wōnān service in taktō ko, supliy ko, im jermal in lolorjake, bōtaap ear jab kanuij lap itok wōt jen an ejjelok referral. Ilo remaanlok ñan FY 2024, kōtmene eo in ke enaj laplok ñan \$1,632,203 itok wōt jen an wōnmaanlok an waliñlok wōnān jermal ko ikijien taktō, im emaroñ naj lōñlok referral itok wōt jen an rittolok armij rein.

As of the beginning of FY 2024, there are 64 individuals eligible to participate in the Special Medical Care Program.

Ilo jinoen FY 2024, ear wor 64 armij ro remaroñ bōk kunaer ilo Special Medical care Program eo.



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS SPECIAL MEDICAL CARE AND LOGISTICS PROGRAM

Table of Contents

I.	Legislative Language	1
II.	Introduction	1
III.	Medical Services	2
IV.	Logistics Services.....	4
V.	Program Expenditures	5
VI.	Conclusion.....	6

I. Legislative Language

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is directed by Title 48 U.S. Code (U.S.C.) Section 1933(k) to:

[P]rovide the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate with a report by December 1 of each fiscal year detailing how funds were spent during the previous fiscal year for the special medical care and logistical support program for Rongelap and Utrik ... referenced in Section 103(h) of Public Law 99- 239 [48 U.S.C. 1903(h)]. The report shall also specify the anticipated needs during the current and following fiscal years in order to meet the radiological health care and logistical support program for Rongelap and Utrik....

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) ej loore Title 48 U.S. Code (U.S.C.) eon 1933(k) ñan: Lelok ñan Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate kin juōn ripoot mokta jen December 1 in kajojo iiō im tibdiki ewi wāwen an kar jāān ko jermal ilo iiō eo ej jemlok ikijien special medical care im logistic program ko ñan Ronglap im Utrik...einwōt an kemlet ilo Section 103(h) in Public Law 99-239 (48 U.S.C. 1903(h)). Rippot in ej aikuj kailkar ta aikuj ko ilo iiō in im iiō eo bedo tok bwe en maroñ tōbar radiological health care im logistical program eo ñan Ronglap im Utrik....

Title 48 U.S.C. 1903(h)(1) states:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the request of the Government of the Marshall Islands, the President (either through an appropriate department or agency of the United States or by contract with a United States firm) shall continue to provide special medical care and logistical support thereto for the remaining 174 members of the population of Rongelap and Utrik who were exposed to radiation resulting from the 1954 United States thermonuclear "Bravo" test, pursuant to Public Laws 95–134 and 96–205. Such medical care and its accompanying logistical support shall total \$22,500,000 over the first 11 years of the Compact.

Jekdron ñe emōj an walok ilo kakien ko, ne Kien eo an Marshall Islands enaj kajjitōk, President eo (emaroñ jen juōn ra ak droluul an Kien eo an United States, ak juōn jikin jermal in United States emōj contract e) ej aikuij wōnmaanlok wōt im kōmmene special medical care im jermal in logistic, einwōt an alikar, ñan armij rein 174 mōttan ro uwaan armij in Ronglap im Utrik im raar bōk jermatmat ko jen radiation itok wōt jen kōmālmel in kein tarinae (nuclear weapons) ko rekajoor ilo 1954 naetan "Bravo", ekkar ñan Public Law 95-134 im 96-205. Wāwen medical care in im jermal in logistic ko ñan lolorjake enaj tōbar joñane 22,500,000 iumin iiō kane 11 jinoin compact in.

II. Introduction

In fiscal year (FY) 2023, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Special Medical Care and Logistics Program (Special Medical Care Program), administered through the DOE Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security, provided medical screening examinations and cancer treatment to the inhabitants of the Rongelap and Utrik Atolls who were exposed to radiation from the March 1, 1954, U.S. thermonuclear weapons test, named “Castle Bravo.” There were 253 people on the Rongelap and Utrik Atolls during the Castle Bravo test. At the beginning of FY 2023, 71 individuals were eligible for participation in the Special Medical Care Program. Funding within this program also provided for logistical support associated with medical examination and treatment services. The Special Medical Care Program is administered by EHSS via a cooperative agreement between DOE and International Outreach Services, a Hawaii-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Ilo iiō ne (FY) 2023, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Republic eo an Marshall Islands (RMI) Special Medical Care (Special Medical Care Program) im Logidtic Program, iumin lolorjake eo jen DOE Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security, ej lelok services ko ñan armij in Ronglap im Utrik, ro im raar bōk jermatmat in radiation ko jen kōmālmel in kein tarinae in nuclear ko an U.S ilo 1954, naetan “Castle Brovo”. Ear wor 253 armij ilo aelōñ in Ronglap im Utrik ilo iien eo ear kōmman kōmālmel in kein tarinae eo, Castle Bravo. Ilo jinoun iiō ne FY 2023, 71 armij raar maroñ bōk kunaer ilo Special medical Care Program eo. Jāān ko ilo program in raar bareinwōt jermal ñan wāwen makutkut ko ikijien kōmadmōd in taktō im wāwen bōbrae nañinmej ko. Special Medical care Program eo ej bed iumin lolorjake eo an EHSS ekkar ñan juōn kon eo kōtaan DOE im International Outreach Services, juōn non-profit organization 501©(3) eo ej bed ilo Hawaii.

The Special Medical Care Program funding was used to provide for:

Jāān eo an Special Medical Care Program in ear jermal ñan:

1) Medical services which include:

1) *Jermal in lolorjake ejmour ekoba:*

- Annual medical screening examinations, including salaries for Special Medical Care Program healthcare professionals and administrative staff; pharmaceuticals; medical supplies and equipment; laboratory, imaging, and physician services; aircraft and charter vessels for patient transportation inside the RMI; travel, lodging, and per diem expenses for patients and their escorts¹ traveling to clinics in the RMI, Hawaii, or Continental United States (CONUS); medical personnel travel in support of annual screening exams; and medical malpractice insurance; and

¹ A family member or companion who speaks English typically escorts the patients who are referred to medical facilities outside the RMI or to specific examination sites within the RMI to help with language and cultural barriers and provide personal assistance and monitoring of the patient.

- *Kakōlkōl enbwin ej kōmman kajojo iio, ekoba oneen taktō ro retijemlok im rijerbal ro aer; uno ko; aikuij im kein jerbal ko; jikin kakōlkōl, kein pija enbwin, oneen jerbal ko an taktō; paluun im tima ko kōjerbali ñan bōkto bōktak rinañinmej ro ilowaan RMI; ekāke, jikin jokwe, im kōllā ko an rinañinmej kab rikejbarok ro aer ilo aer itoitak lowan RMI, Hawaii, ak U.S; rijerbal ro jet rej itoitak im jibañ kōmmani kakōlkōl ko ñan enbwin kajojo iio²; im oneen insurance ñan jatiljōk in jerbal ilo jikin taktō; im*
 - Referral, treatment, and follow-up services, including testing and laboratory services; examinations by applicable specialists; treatment of identified cancer; follow-up care; travel, lodging, and per diem expenses for patients and their escorts; and other travel-related costs; and
 - *Jerbal ko einwōt referral (jilkinlok ñan taktō ak jikin taktō eo ekkar), treatment (kamo mo/kemourur jen nañinmej), im ekoba jerbal in etale im jikin etale ko; kakōlkōl ko an specialist ro; wāwen kejmour ko an cancer eo emōj loe; jerbal in kejbarok ko tokelik; itoitak, jikin jokwe, im oneen rinañinmej im rikau ro; im oneen ko jet ilo ien aer itoitak; im*
- 2) Logistical services and infrastructure necessary to support the operation of the Special Medical Care Program, including lease expenses and utilities for the Majuro Atoll clinic; facility maintenance and repair services; vehicle maintenance and repair services; supplies and equipment; medical and management personnel travel not directly related to medical screening examinations (e.g., program oversight, meetings, etc.); and continuing medical education.
- 2) *Jerbal ko ñan kepooj/lolorjaake kein jerbal im jerbal ko remining aikuij ñan jibañ makūtkūt ko an Special Medical Care Program in, ekoba oneen lease im menin aikuj (jarom/den) ñan clinic eo Majuro; jerbal in kejbarok jikin jerbal eo; kejbarok im jerbal I jorreen ko ilo waan jerbal eo; tool/kein jerbal ko reaurōk, taktō im rilolorjaake ro rej itoitak kin jerbal ko reinjuōn jen kakōlkōl ko ekkā kōmmani (e.g., program oversight, meetings, etc.); im kōlaplok jelālokjen/kapeel ikkijeen ejmour.*

Although the scope of the DOE Special Medical Care Program is confined to cancer related diagnoses and treatment, program physicians provided basic supportive care and referrals to other non-DOE medical care programs including the Section 177 Healthcare Program (also known as the Four Atoll Healthcare Program) and the RMI National Healthcare Program. This report provides a description of the services provided to program participants; numbers and general results of the examinations performed; a general description of treatment provided; an overview of the logistics involved in administering the Special Medical Care Program; and a summary of program expenditures for FY 2023 and projected costs for FY 2024.

Mekarta kōttōbar eo an DOE Special Medical Care Program ear ioklok wōt kakōlkōl in im

² Juōn uaan baamle ak eo ej etal ibbenlok im ejelā konono kajin pālle ekkā an itoitak ibben rinañinmej eo rej jilkinlok ñan jikin taktō ko ilikin Majōl ak ñan jikin kakōlkōl ko ilowan wōt Majōl ñan jibañ ikkijien oktak in kajin im manit im lelok jibañ kan lolorjaake ñan rinañinmej eo.

kejbarok ko ñan cancer, taktō ro retijemlok ilo program in rar bar jibañ im lolok ro jet rejjab uwaan DOE medical care program eo ekobalok Section 177 Healthcare Program (et eo juōn ej Four Atoll Healthcare Program) im RMI National Healthcare Program. Ripoot in ej letok tibdik in jermal ko emōj lilok ñan rein uwaan program in; bōnbōn ko im tōbrak in kakōlkōl ko kōmmani; kemlele ko kin wāwen kejbarok ko jaar lilok; wāwen jermal in kōbelaak/lolorjake ko ekkeijeltok wōt ilo jermal ko an Special Medical Care Program in; im kōmlele ko kin joñan jāān ear jermal ñan FY 2023 im joñan jāān naaj kōjerbale ñan FY 2024.

III. Medical Services

The Special Medical Care Program provides annual medical screening examinations for potential radiation-related cancers, referrals to specialists for further testing, cancer treatment, and follow-up examinations by specialists.

Special Medical Care Program eo ej lelak/kōmmane medical screening examinations ko aolep iiō ñan nañinmej in cancer ko remaroñ waļok jen radiation, lelak ñan specialists ro ñan etale ko reļļapļok, unokan cancer, im etale ko tokalik jen specialists ro.

Special Medical Care Program examination and treatment services were conducted at clinics, hospitals, and other medical facilities in the RMI (located on Majuro and Ebeye Islands), Hawaii, and the CONUS, including for patients living in the United States. In addition, program physicians traveled to the homes of patients who reside on Woja (Ailinglaplap Atoll), Utrik (Utrik Atoll), Majuro (Majuro Atoll), Mejatto and Ebeye (Kwajalein Atoll) Islands in the RMI and were unable to travel. In FY 2023, medical staff in the Marshall Islands conducted 151 home patient care visits. Additionally, they made 90 deliveries of personal care supplies and 215 prescription refill deliveries to patients at their homes.

Jerbal in kakōlkōl im bōk unokan joļok nañinmej eo an Special Medical Care Program eo eaar kōmman ilo clinics ko, jikin taktō eo elap im jikin taktō ko jet ilo RMI (rej ped ilo Majuro im Ebeye), Hawaii, im ijoko jet ilo US (CONUS), ekoba ñan rinañinmej ro rej jokwe ilo ioon United States. Kobaļok wōt, Doctor im nurses ro an program eo raar itotak ñan imoko mwōn rinañinmej ro rej jokwe ilo Woja (Aelōñlaplap Atoll), Utrik (Utrik Atoll), Majuro (Majuro Atoll), Mejatto and Ebeye (Kwajalein Atoll) āne ko ilo RMI im raar jab maroñ kelak. Ilo FY 2023, rijerbal ro an medical ilo Marhsall Islands raar loeļok 151 rinañinmej ñan imoko mweer. Kobaļok wōt, raar 90 alen aer kar bōkļok menin aikuj ko im 215 alen aer bōkļok uno ko raar bar kanni im leļok ñan rinañinmej ro ilo moko mweer.

Twenty-seven individuals who were eligible for participation in the Special Medical Care Program at the beginning of FY 2023 were not examined. Of the twenty-seven individuals who did not initiate or complete annual medical screening examinations, six refused the examination, seven individuals died before completion of the exam, seven individuals could not be contacted because they moved and did not provide a forwarding address, and seven individuals rescheduled their appointments due to personal reasons.

Rōñoul-jiljilimjuōn rinañinmej raar maroñ bōk konaer ilo Special Medical Care Program eo ilo jinoun FY 2023 raar jab bōk kakōlkōl ko aer. Iaan rōñoul-jiljilimjuōn rinañinmej ro im raar jab ijino ak kadedeikļok kakōlkōl ko aer lakin juōn iiō, jiljilno raar makoko in kōmmane kakōlkōl ko aer, jiljilimjuōn emōj aer jako jen mour in mokta jen an dedeļok kakōlkōl ko aer, jiljilimjuōn raar jab maroñ tōbar er konke raar emmakut jen ijoko rokar jokwe ie mokta im raar jab leļok address in ijo rej emmakūt ñan e, im jiljilimjuōn iaer raar kajjitōk in ukot raan in taktō ko aer kin jet un ko.

Annual Medical Screening Examinations (Kakōlkōl ko ñan Ejmour Kajojo iiō)

The annual medical screening examinations generally consist of a physical examination, including a thyroid palpation; gender-specific examinations, such as mammogram; and laboratory tests, which include, but are not limited to, complete blood count, comprehensive metabolic panel, hemoglobin A1c, urinalysis, baseline electrocardiogram, liver cancer screening, chest x-ray/computerized tomography lung cancer screening, thyroid ultrasound, and periodic colonoscopy. In addition, each patient's medical records and personal history are reviewed as part of the annual exam.

Kakōlkōl in enbwin ko kajojo iiō rej ilo wāwen etale kajoor in enbwin, ekoba kakōlkōl in thyroid; kakōlkōl ko rejenlok an emman/kōra make lok, einwōt mammogram (kakōlkōl eo ilo ittin kōrā ñan lale ewōr ke cancer jekdoon ejjelok kōkkalle ko ak nañinmej); im kakōlkōl ko jen etale ko ilo Laboratory, im ekoba ak ejjab bōjrak ñan, likio in bōnbōn in bōtōktōk, etale eo ilo bōtōktōk ñan 14 substance ko ilo bōtōktōk eo kar bōke im etale, hemoglobin A1c (etale eo ñan bōtōktōk im ej kwalok dettan tōñal eo ilo allōñ ko ruo ak jilu remootlok), etale eo ñan denin kepojak (unialysis), baseline electrocardiogram (etale eo ej kwalok wāwen an menono eo jermal ilo aer likit to (wire) ko rej kaddep ilo enbwinnid), etale eo ñan kapok cancer ilo tudōk, pija in ob jen x-ray im ej etale ewōr ke cancer ilo ār, thyroid ultrasound (kilen etale thyroid eo ej pija ilo an kōjermal soundwave), im etale eo ñan aolepen lowan mōjñal eo ekilep naetan colonoscopy kajojo ien. Ñan kakobabalok, melele ko an kajojo rinañinmej im ien ko melele ko rekar jeje rej bar etali ejja mōttan wōt etale ko kajojo ien kakōlkōl ko.

Abnormal exam or test results are discussed with the patients and the Special Medical Care Program physician will make referrals for further evaluation and treatment. Referrals for abnormal results that are not indicative of cancer are made to other, non-DOE medical care programs, such as the Section 177 Healthcare Program and the RMI National Healthcare Program. For abnormal results that are potentially indicative of cancer, patients receive additional examinations and treatment by applicable specialists and other physicians involved in the diagnosis and treatment process. In addition, patients are fully engaged in the development and implementation of their treatment plans and provided with access to additional services, including survivorship counseling. Cancer treatment is provided by the Special Medical Care Program until patients are in remission or have reached end of care.

Etale ko rejjab jejjat ak tōbrak in etale ko rej kenono kaki ibben rinañinmej ro im taktō eo an Special Medical Care Program in enaj kōmman referrals (lelok ñan taktō ro jet ñan kōmman etale ko relet lok) bōk kilen keejmour ko. Lelok rinañinmej ro kin tōbrak in etale ko rejjab jejjat rejjab kalikkar ke cancer ej ñan jet, program in ejmour ko rejjab jen DOE, einwōt 177 HealthCare Program eo im RNI National Healthcare Program eo. Ñan tōbrak in etale ko rejjab jejjat ko im remarōñ walok ak kallikkar ke enej wōr cancer, rinañinmej ro renej bareinwōt bōk etale ko jet im wāwen keejmour ko jen taktō ro rekkar im physician ro jet rej rejelā kilen im wāwen kōmadmōd jekjek rōt kein. Ñan kakobaba, rinañinmej ro rej lukkun bōk kunaer ilo eddōklokin im wāwen kilen kōmadmōd kein im būki ialan jibañ ko ñan jermal in keejmour ko, ekoba kabilōk in mour maanlok. Kōmadmōd in cancer ko lilok jen Special Medical Care Program rej ñan ien eo rinañinmej ro rej mour jen cancer ak tōbar jemlokin jibañ in.

Some imaging services, e.g., thyroid ultrasound, mammogram, and colonoscopy are not always available in the RMI due to equipment maintenance or scarcity of medical specialists, and therefore, these services were not able to be provided to all eligible participants in FY 2023. In those cases, participants were offered partial annual medical screening examinations. In FY 2023, 71 individuals were eligible for Special Medical Care Program annual medical screening examinations, and the following examinations were performed:

- 38 individuals received complete annual medical screening examinations, and
- 6 individuals received partial annual medical screening examinations.
- 27 individuals were not examined for the following reasons:
 - 6 individuals refused the examination.
 - 7 individuals died (from causes not related to cancer) before receiving their examination.
 - 7 individuals could not be contacted because of no forwarding address or updated contact number.
 - 7 individuals rescheduled their appointments due to personal reasons.

Jet jermal in pija ko, ilo waanjoñak, thyroid ultrasound, mammogram, im colonoscopy ejjab aolep ien rej kōmman ilo RMI kin wōt an kein jermal kein jorreen ak jabwe ro rej jembali, im kin menin, jermal kein rejjab maroñ etal ñan aolep rein rekka im rej bōk kunaer ilo FY 2023. Ilo jekjek kein rewalo, ro rej bōk kunaer rej etal ñan er jet ian kakōlkōl in enbwin kein. Ilo FY 2023, 71 ian rein ilo Special Medical Care Program in im rekka bwe ren bōk kakōlkōl in enbwin ilo juōn iiō, im laajrak in kakōlkōl ko kar kōmmani rej:

- 38 ian rein rekar kadedelok kakōlkōl in enbwin ko an kajojo iiō, im
- 6 ian rein rekar bōk jet wōt ian kakōlkōl in enbwin kein.
- 27 ian rein rekar jab kōmman kakōlkōl kein kin un kein relaajrak:
 - 6 ian rein remakoko in bōk kakōlkōl.
 - 7 ian rein remej/jako (ejjab jen cancer) mokta jen aer bōk kakōlkōl.
 - 7 ian rein rejjab maroñ tōbar er kinke ejjelok jikin rekar kalikka ke rej pād ie ak likit nōmba kāāl ñan tōbar er ie.
 - 7 ian rein rekar ukōt ien lolok ko aer kin un ko aer make.

Referrals and Treatment Services (Lolok/Kabilōk jen ro jet im Jibañ ko jet ñan ejmour)

No referrals for suspected cancer evaluation were made in FY 2023.

Ejjelok referrals (ijjilōklok/emmakūtlok) ñan jermal in etale ko an cancer ear kōmman ilo FY 2023.

Follow-up Medical Examinations (Etale ko ālikin kakōlkōl ko)

No follow-up medical examinations for previous referrals were required in FY2023.

Ejjelok etale ko ālikin kakōlkōl ko ñan ro rekar lolok/bōk kabilōk rar aikuj kōmman ilo FY 2023.

Additional Services – Medical Support (Jermal ko jet- Wāwen jibañ ñan Ejmour)

DOE has provided the RMI Ministry of Health and Human Services (MOHHS) with medical support in addition to that which is required to attend to program participants at the Majuro clinic. In prior years, the process was informal, but in May 2023 a more formal scheduling agreement was made with MOHHS, and the provided hours were captured on official timesheets. These hours provide MOHHS with the services of a physician and a nurse that can be utilized where the MOHHS has the greatest need, such as clinical support at dispensaries or hospital wards. In the last five months of FY 2023, DOE provided a total of 263 hours of additional clinical support. Clinical hour support prior to May 2023 was not captured.

DOE ear lelok ñan RMI Ministry of Health and Human Services (MOHHS) kin kein jibañ kōkmanmanlok ejmour im ekobalok ibben ta aikuij ko ñan an ro ilo program in ren bōk jibañ ilo jikin ejmour eo ilo Majuro. Ilo iiō ko maantak, wāwen in ear jab jimwe an bōk jikin, bōtaab ilo may in 2023 juōn kwōn in schedule ear kōmman ibben MOHHS, innem awa ko rekar likit ilo timesheet ko opij kein rej erra kaki. Awa kein ej lelok ñan MOHHS ibbenlok taktō eo im jermal ko an im nurse eo bwe ren kōjermal er ijo MOHHS eaikuj jibañ ie elaptata, einwōt jermal im jibañ ko aikuij ilo jikin taktō ko reddik ak ilo ward ko ilo jikin taktō eo elap. Ilo kar allōñ ko lalem jemlokin FY 2023, DOE ear lelok joñan in 263 awa ko ñan jibañ ilo jikin taktō. Awa ko rekar jibañ jermal ko ilo clinic mokta jen May 2023 rekar jab alikkar.

IV. Logistics Services

The logistics services element of the Special Medical Care Program provides the necessary infrastructure and support needed for the program to operate, including lease expenses and utilities for the Majuro clinic, facility maintenance and repair services, vehicle maintenance and repair services, supplies and equipment, medical and management personnel travel not directly related to medical screening examinations (e.g., program oversight, meetings, etc.), and continuing medical education.

Jerbal ko an Logitics Services eo an Special Medical Care Program eo ej ṅawāwein jerbal ko rekkar im jipan ko ṅan an program eo kōmṅman, ekoba oneen ko ṅan kojrebal jikin eo im utilities (jarom, den, im internet) ṅan Majuro clinic, jerbal in kejparok im karben jikin jerbal, jebal in kejparok im kōkṅmanṅman wa ko, kein jerbal ko, an rijerbal ro an medical im management team eo keto ketak ṅan kōmṅmane jerbal ko jet im rejjab ped iumwin check naṅinmej (āinwōt, lale tobrak ko program eo, kweilōk, im ko jet.), im kōmṅman an wōnṅmanlōk medical education.

The Special Medical Care Program conducts medical operations in the RMI from two clinical facilities. The Special Medical Care Program clinic in Majuro is located in a commercial center in Uliga Village, within a five-minute drive to the island’s hospital. A small office space dedicated to the Special Medical Care Program is leased inside Ebeye Hospital on the Kwajalein Atoll, pursuant to an agreement with MOHHS. The Kwajalein location is used as a staging area, with office space for program staff and storage of necessary supplies and equipment, for logistical support to the Special Medical Care Program.

Special Medical Care Program eo ej kōmṅmane jerbal in taktō ko an ilo RMI jen 2 jikin taktō. Special Medical Care Program eo ilo Majuro ej ped ilo commercial center eo ilo Uliga, tarin ḷalem minute in ettōr ṅan hospital eo. Juōn obij jidik eṅōj kajenolok ṅan Special Medical Care Program eo im ej ped ilowaan Hospital eo ilo Ebeye ioon aeloṅ in Kwajalein, ekkar ṅan koṅ ko ippen MOHHS. Jikin eo ilo Kwajalein ej jerbal āinwōt juōn staging area, ipen jikin jerbal ṅan rijerbal ro ilo program eo im jikin kakwōn kein jerbal ko, ṅan jipan ko an Logistic ṅan Special Medical Care Program eo.

V. Program Expenditures

The actual Special Medical Care Program costs for FY 2023 and FY 2024 projected costs are summarized in the following table.

Joñan jāñ eo kar waate ñan Special Medical Care Program eo ñan iiō kani 2023 im 2024 rej laajerak ilo tebōl in.

Special Medical Care Program Costs

Program Element		
Annual Medical Screening Examinations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salaries for program healthcare professionals and administrative staff, Laboratory, imaging, and physician services, Medical supplies and equipment, Pharmaceuticals, Aircraft and charter vessels for transportation for individuals inside the RMI, Travel, lodging, and per diem expenses for patients and their escorts traveling to clinics in the RMI, Hawaii, and CONUS, Program staff travel, Medical malpractice insurance. 	\$676,007	\$1,158,545
Referral, Treatment and Follow-up Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Testing and laboratory services, Examinations by applicable specialists, Treatment of identified cancer, Follow-up care, Travel, lodging, and per diem for patients and their escorts, Other travel-related costs. 	\$0	\$205,751
Logistics Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lease/Rent for the Majuro clinic, Utilities for the Majuro clinic, Facility maintenance and repair services, Vehicle maintenance and repair services, Supplies and equipment (office, cleaning, electronic, personal protective equipment, shipping and packing, vehicle fuel, healthy snacks and drinking water for patients), Program staff travel not directly related to medical screening examinations (e.g., program oversight, meetings, etc.), and Continuing medical education for program staff, e.g., conferences and seminars. 	\$214,732	\$267,907
Total	\$890,739	\$1,632,203

Program Element	FY 2023 Actual Cost	FY 2024 Projected Costs
Annual Medical Screening Examinations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oneen healthcare professionals ro im rijerbal ro jet • Laboratory, imaging, and physician services, • Medical supplies and equipment, • Uno ko • Jata baluun im tima ñan bōkto-bōktak ro ilowaan RMI • Kelak, jikin jokwe, im jāān in jipan ñan rinañinmej ro im rikau ro ilo aer e, makitkit ñan clinics ko ilo RMI, Hawaii, im CONUS • Rijerbal ro ilo program eo kelak • Medical malpractice insurance 	\$676,007	\$1,158,545
Referral, Treatment and Follow-up Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kakōlkōl im jermal in etale ilo ilo laboratory eo • Kakōlkōl jen specialists, • Unokan cancer ko emoj aer loi, • Follow-up care, • Kelak, jikin jokwe, im jāān in jipan ñan rinañinmej ro im rikau ro • Oneen ko jet ikijjeen ekake 	\$0	\$205,751
Logistics Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oneen kojerbal ijo clinic eo Majuro ej ped ie, • Jermal ko jet (jarom, den, internet) ñan clinic eo Majuro • Jermal ko ñan kejarok im kokmanman facility eo • Jermal ko ñan kejarok im kokmanman wa eo • Kein jermal (office, kareo, electronic, personal protective equipment, shipping and packing, gas ñan wa ko, mōñā ko reūnā im denin daak nan rinañinmej ro), • Rijerbal ro rej kelak ejjab ñan kakōlkōl nañinmej (program oversight, kweilak, etc.) • Kōmman an wōnmaan!ok jikuul in tatko ñan rijerbal ro ilo program eo āinwōt kweilak ko 	\$214,732	\$267,907
Total	\$890,739	\$1,632,203

In FY 2023, the program’s medical referral and treatment costs were lower than the previous year because there were no referral patients. Costs incurred reflect billings for services rendered in FY 2022 but invoiced in FY 2023.

Ilo FY 2023, program eo ñan ijilōk!ok rinañinmej ñan jikin taktō ko im oneen aer taktō raar dik!ok jen iio eo mokta!ok kōnke eaar ejjelak riñaninmej raar aiku in jilkin!oker ñan taktō. Oneen ko raar bōki rej jen jermal ko raar kōmman ilo FY 2022 ak raar kōmman bwe ren kōlla ilo FY 2023.

In FY 2022, DOE conducted an analyses of medical treatment costs for the Special Medical Care Program going back several years and existing patient comorbidities to assess trends related to the treatment of cancers among the current patient population. An epidemiologist also evaluated the expected future cancer experience for the DOE program patient population, based upon National Cancer Institute estimates and the program's past cancer experience. The evaluation projected that up to nine new cancer cases of varying types could arise in the period from FY 2023 to FY 2028. DOE expects the costs to increase significantly over the next several years because of increasing treatment complexity due to patient age and other comorbidities, as well as the impact of inflation and other economic factors.

Ilo FY 2022, DOE eaar kōm̄mane juōn jermal in etale oneen taktō ko ñan Special Medical Care Program eo jejo iiō remootlōk im lale nañinmej ko repād ipen rinañinmej ro ñan etale wāwein jipañ ko reinlok wāwein kejmour nañinmej in cancer ipen rinañinmej ro. Juōn epidemiologist eaar barainwōt etale nañinmej in cancer ko rej kōtmen ke rōnaaj waļok iliju im jōklaj ñan rinañinmej ro ilo program eo an DOE, pedped ioon antōqneļok ko an National Cancer Institute eo im nañinmej in cancer ko emōj aer loi. Jermal in etale eo eaar antōqneļok ruatimjuōn nañinmej in cancer kaal ko rekajjo im remarōñ waļok ilo FY 2023 ñan FY 2028. DOE ej katmān an laļok oneen ko ilo iiō kani rej pedo tok kōn an penļok wawein jipan rinañinmej ro kōn joñan iiō ko aer im nañinmej ko jet reped ipaer, im barainwōt wawein ko rej waļok jen laļok in oneen ko (mweik im mour) im economic factors ko jet.

The annual medical screening examination costs for FY 2024 are anticipated to increase because of the effects of an aging participant population and increases in costs for medical expenses. Logistics services costs are projected to increase in FY 2024 due to rising costs of travel and labor. Additionally, it is anticipated that the number of program participants traveling to Hawaii for medical referrals will also rise.

Oneen ko ñan kakōlkōl nañinmej ko rej kōm̄man aolep iiō ñan FY 2024 rej katmān an laļok kōn joñan iiō ko an ro rej bōk konaer im an laļok oneen taktō. Oneen ko ñan jermal ko an Logistics rej katmān an laļok ilo FY 2024 kōn an laļok oneen ekake im jermal. Kōbaļok wōt, rej katmān ke enaj laļok oran rinaninemj ro renaaj bōklak er bwe ren taktō ilo Hawaii.

VI. Conclusion

In FY 2023, the DOE Special Medical Care Program continued to provide medical examinations and cancer treatment, and logistical support associated with providing those services, to the inhabitants of the Rongelap and Utrik Atolls who were exposed to radiation from the 1954 U.S. thermonuclear weapons test named “Castle Bravo.”

- Annual medical screening examinations were initiated and/or completed for 62 percent of eligible individuals in FY 2023.

Ilo FY 2023, DOE Special Medical Care Program ear wōnmaanlok wōt im kōmmani kakōlkōl ko im treat cancer, im jibañ ilo leto letak jermal ko ñan kakōlkōl kein, ñan armej in Rongelap im Utrik ro im rekar jerdmatmat ñan radiation ilo iiō ne 1954 U.S ear kōmālmele kein tarinae eo jen thermonuclear naetan “Castle Bravo.”

- *Kakōlkōl ko kajjojo iiō rej ijino im/ak dedelok ñan 62 bōjjāān in armej ro emōj kabbeik er ilo iiō in jermal eo FY 2023.*

Reasons for not initiating or completing annual medical screening examinations in FY 2023 included:

- Refusal of the examination by six eligible individuals.
- Death of seven eligible individuals before completing their exams.
- Not being able to contact seven individuals who moved without providing a forwarding address or updated contact number.
- Seven individuals requested their exams be rescheduled.

Un ko ñan an jab ijino ak jab dedelok kakōlkōl in enbwin ko ilo iiō in jermal FY 2023 rej eindein:

- *Jiljino ro rekkar ñan bōk kakōlkōl kein remakoko in būki.*
- *Jiljilimjuōn ro rekkar ñan bōk kakōlkōl remej jen aer kadedeiklok kakōlkōl kein.*
- *Jiljilimjuōn jekar jab maroñ tōbar er bwe remmakūt ilo aer jab letok address in ijoko repād ie ak nōmba ko rekāāl ñan tōbar er ie.*
- *Jiljilimjuōn uwaeir rekar kajjitōk ñan ukōt ien kakōlkōl ko aer.*

Actual costs for the Special Medical Care Program were \$890,739 in FY 2023. Costs were lower in FY 2023 compared to prior years because no patients were identified as having suspected cancers requiring referral for further evaluation. FY 2024 costs are projected to increase to \$1,632,203 due to increased medical costs and anticipated medical referrals as the patient population ages.

Joñan eo ear jermal ñan Special Medical Care Program eo ej \$890,739 ilo FY 2023. Joñan eo ediklok ilo FY 2023 keidi ibben iiō ko moktalok kinke ejjelok rinañinmej rekar lo eke emaroñ wōr aer cancer im rej aikuij jibadōklok ijoko jet ñan etale ko jet. Ilo iiō FY 2024 wōnāān eo antoone ke enaj laplok ñan \$1,632,203 kin an laplok wōneen etal ñan jikin taktō im emōj bar antoone lok ke enej lōñlok ro jenaj lelok er ñan kakōlkōl ko jet itok wōt jen an rinañinmej rein tōbar iiō kein im reritto.

As of the beginning of FY 2024, there are 64 remaining individuals eligible to participate in the Special Medical Care Program.

Jen jinoin FY 2024, ewōr kiō 64 wōt armej ro repād ñan bōk kunaer ilo Special Medical Care Program in.