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CHECKLIST

Detector calibration checklist

- [ ] Note your detector's model, current settings and range before beginning.
- [ ] Record the check source's isotope, original activity, calibration date and today's location.
- [ ] Calculate the check source's current activity using decay correction and the half-life of the isotope.
- [ ] Place the detector at the fixed distance specified in the source manual—usually 10 centimetres.
- [ ] Record the detector reading and take a second reading to confirm stability.
- [ ] Compare the reading to the expected value and check whether it falls within your detector's acceptable tolerance.
- [ ] Log the result, date and any notes on conditions or detector settings.
- [ ] If the reading is outside tolerance, inspect the detector for obvious damage and battery level before withdrawing it from use.