

## Natali Cecilia Palomino Figueroa

Medical Physicist Specialist in Ionizing Radiation Metrology Peruvian Institute of Nuclear Energy (IPEN)

Natali joined the Secondary Standard Dosimetry Laboratory of the Peruvian Institute of Nuclear Energy (IPEN PERU SSDL) in 2019. Currently, Natali is on maternity leave, and her colleagues at the IPEN PERU SSDL commented on her work:

Natali obtained her undergraduate degree in Physics from the National University of Trujillo and her Master of Science (MSc)'s degree in Medical Physics from the National University of Engineering. At the IPEN PERU SSDL, she works as a Specialist in Ionizing Radiation Metrology, calibrating equipment for radiotherapy and activimeters used in nuclear medicine. She is also the alternate responsible for the IAEA TSA-3 project "Radiological Protection in Patients."

Her work at the IPEN PERU SSDL is of utmost importance as she is responsible for the conservation and stability control of secondary standards in ionizing radiation metrology, calibration of ionization chambers used in radiotherapy and radiodiagnostics, participation in performance tests in radioprotection, radiotherapy, radiodiagnostics, implementation of calibration procedures based on reference methods of IAEA, ISO, and other international regulations and rules .

Dosimetric calibration ensures the validity of results from equipment used in radioprotection, radiotherapy, radiodiagnostics, and nuclear medicine, allowing users to have certainty about the dose received in practices involving the use of ionizing radiation.

The IPEN PERU SSDL, a member of the IAEA/WHO network, is the only one in the country with this recognition. In 2022, the IPEN PERU SSDL obtained its accreditation from the National Institute of Quality (INACAL), becoming the first IPEN laboratory to receive this recognition. Not only does it provide high-quality metrological services, but it also develops and transfers scientific knowledge in the field of ionizing radiation, being the bridge between the primary laboratory and the users. All these challenges have been very interesting, and Natali has had a very active participation, so together with the entire team working at the IPEN PERU SSDL, she has received important recognitions.

