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Robert Whitcomb joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in June 1993. He is the Chief of the Radiation Studies Branch, Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects, National Center for Environmental Health. In this position, he serves as Radiation Subject Matter Expert and CDC Spokesperson for technical and public health issues related to environmental radiation and nuclear/radiological emergency response.

Previously, Dr. Whitcomb worked with the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety. His primary area of expertise is the assessment of radionuclides released to the environment and the impact on public health. He has authored or coauthored numerous journal articles and has lectured nationally and internationally about the public health response in nuclear/radiological emergencies.

Dr. Whitcomb is a member of National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements, and the Health Physics Society. He is certified in comprehensive practice by the American Board of Health Physics, and served on the Board of Directors of the Health Physics Society (2004 – 2007). Dr. Whitcomb holds a BS in Biology from Florida Southern College, an MS and a PhD in Environmental Engineering Sciences from the University of Florida.