^{173}Ta

Faler and Rasmussen described the observation of ^{173}Ta in "New neutron-deficient isotopes of tantalum" in 1960 (1960Fa03). ^{14}N beams between 35 and 95 MeV from the Berkeley heavy-ion linear accelerator bombarded Ho_2O_3 powder targets and (xn) fusion evaporation reactions produced tungsten which subsequently decayed to tantalum isotopes. Decay curves and γ-ray spectra were measured with an end-window G-M counter and a Na(Tl) detector following chemical separation. "Bombardment of Ho_2O_4 with N^{14} ions in the Berkeley heavy-ion linear accelerator has resulted in the discovery of new isotopes of tantalum which have been assigned as Ta^{173} and Ta^{174}. They have half-lives of 3.7 hr and 1.3 hr, respectively."

Adapted from reference (2012Ro36)

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