^{197}Hg

^{197}Hg was first identified in 1941 by Sherr et al. in "Transmutation of Mercury by Fast Neutrons" (1941Sh08). A mercury target was bombarded with fast neutrons from the Li + d reaction. The deuterons were produced by the Harvard cyclotron. Referring to a private communication by G.E. Valley the paper states: "The assignment of the 25-hour period to Hg^{197} is consistent with the present investigations." This half-life corresponds to an isomeric state and the ground state half-life of 64 h was measured 2 years later by Friedlander and Wu (1943Fr01). Previously a $\sim$ 45-m half-life first observed by Heyn (1937He04) was incorrectly assigned to ^{197}Hg (1938Al02).

Adapted from reference (2011Me01)

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