# $^{203}$Hg

$^{203}$Hg was first identified by Friedlander et al. in 1943 in "Radioactive Isotopes of Mercury" (1943Fr01). The isotope was formed by irradiating stable mercury isotopes with neutrons produced by the bombardment of lithium with 14 MeV deuterons from the 60-inch cyclotron at the University of California, Berkeley. "Since both slow and fast neutrons produce the activity, the best assignment is $Hg^{203}$ which can be produced by $n$-$\gamma$ reaction from $Hg^{202}$, and by $n$-2$n$ reaction from $Hg^{204}$." In 1937, a ∼45 m half-life had been incorrectly assigned to $^{203}$Hg (1937Mc04). A half-life of ∼50 d had been previously observed, but no mass assignment was made (1941Sh08).

Adapted from reference (2011Me01)


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