Principles of Radiological Protection Protection Protection



Principles of Radiological Protection

United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR)

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Source: Prepared based on the Fact Sheet in the UNSCEAR 2020/2021 Report, "UNSCEAR 2020 Report on Radiological Consequences from the Fukushima Accident – 10 years later –" (2022) (https://www.unscear.org/unscear/en/areas-of-work/fukushima.html)

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Objective: To promote peaceful use of nuclear energy and prevent nuclear energy for peaceful purposes from being used for military purposes

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Collection of Safety Guides

Source: Prepared based on "Outline of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)" on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and "GSR Part 3 Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards" on the website of International Atomic Energy Agency

Principles of Radiological Protection Protection (ICRP)

International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP)

The Commission aims to make recommendations concerning basic frameworks for radiological protection and protection standards. The Commission consists of the Main Commission and four standing Committees (radiation effects, doses from radiation exposures, protection in medicine, and application of the Commission's recommendations).

(Reference) Dose limits excerpted from ICRP Recommendations

	1977	1990	2007	2007
	Recommendations	Recommendations	Recommendations	Recommendations
Dose limits	50 mSv/year	100 mSv/5	100 mSv/5	1990
(occupational		years and 50	years and 50	Recommen-
exposure)		mSv/year	mSv/year	dations
Dose limits (public exposure)	5 mSv/year	1 mSv/year	1 mSv/year	1977 Recommendations

Aims of the Recommendations

Aims of the Recommendations (2007 Recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP))

 ${f 1}$) To protect human health

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- Manage and control radiation exposure, thereby preventing deterministic effects (tissue reactions) and reducing risks of stochastic effects as low as reasonably achievable
- **2**) To protect the environment
- Prevent or reduce the occurrence of harmful radiation effects

Exposure Situations and Protection Measures

People's exposure to radiation

Planned exposure situations

Situations where protection measures can be planned in advance and the level and range of exposure can be reasonably forecast

Dose limits

(Public exposure) 1 mSv/year (Occupational exposure) 100 mSv/5 years and 50mSv/year

Measures

Manage disposal of radioactive waste and long-lived radioactive waste

Existing exposure situations

Situations where exposure has already occurred as of the time when a decision on control is made

Reference level

A lower dose range within 1 to 20 mSv/year, with a long-term goal of 1 mSv/year

Measures

Ensure voluntary efforts for radiological protection and cultivate a culture for radiological protection

Emergency exposure situations

Contingency situations where urgent and long-term protection measures may be required

Reference level

Within 20 to 100 mSv/year

Measures

Evacuate, shelter indoors, analyze and ascertain radiological situations, prepare monitoring, conduct health examinations, manage foods, etc.

Biological Aspect

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Health effects of radiation have deterministic effects (tissue reactions) and stochastic effects.

- Absorbed doses up to approx. 100 mGy are not judged to cause any clinically significant dysfunction in any tissues.
- In the range below approx. 100 mSv, the occurrence of stochastic effects is assumed to increase in proportion to increases in equivalent doses in organs and tissues. (Adoption of the linear non-threshold (LNT) model)
- The dose and dose-rate effectiveness factor for solid cancer is 2.
- Assuming a linear reaction at low doses, the fatality risks due to cancer and heritable effects increase by approx. 5% per sievert.

Disputes over the LNT Model

 Affirmative positions: National Academy of Sciences (2006) There is no specific safety dose for radiation exposure.

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 Critical positions: Académie de Médecine; Académie de Science (2005)
Exposure to radiation below a certain dose does not actually cause cancer, leukemia, etc. and therefore, the LNT model represents overestimation not suited to the reality.



⇒The International Commission on Radiological
Protection (ICRP) adopts the linear non-threshold
(LNT) model as a simple and reasonable assumption
for the purpose of radiological protection.

Principles of Radiological Protection Three Fundamental Principles of Radiological Protection Protection

ICRP's three fundamental principles of radiological protection

Justification

Optimization



Application of dose limits



Source: Prepared based on the ICRP Publication 103, "The 2007 Recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection" (ICRP, 2007)

Optimization of Radiological Protection

In consideration of economic and social factors, strive to reduce individuals' exposure doses and the number of exposed people as low as reasonably achievable (the ALARA principle).



Dose constraints

ublication

Reference levels

Source: Prepared based on the ICRP Publication 103, "The 2007 Recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection" (ICRP, 2007)

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Flow of optimization using reference levels



Source: Prepared based on the ICRP Publication 103, "The 2007 Recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection" (ICRP, 2007)

Application of Dose Limits

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Dose limits are applied under planned exposure situations.

Occupational exposure (effective dose)
50 mSv per year and 100 mSv per five years
Public exposure (effective dose)
1 mSv per year

(Exception) Dose limits are not applied to medical exposure.

- Justification on a case-by-case basis
- Optimization of radiological protection is important.