Thyroid Ultrasound Examination

Thyroid Ultrasound Examination: Outline of the Evaluations of the First Full-scale Survey (Second-round Survey) Results

In June 2019, the Thyroid Ultrasound Examination Evaluation Subcommittee, which was established under the Prefectural Oversight Committee for the Fukushima Health Management Survey, concluded that "at present, there are no indication of radiation effect on thyroid cancers found in the first Full-scale Survey," in consideration of the points described below. The Subcommittee reported this conclusion at the Prefectural Oversight Committee Meeting held in July 2019, and the Committee approved this report.

Thyroid

Ultrasound

Examination

- As a result of the analysis of association between estimated absorbed thyroid doses and thyroid cancer detection rates published by the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR), no constant correlation (doses and effects), such as an increase in detection rates associated with an increase in doses, was found.
- The detection rates of suspected thyroid cancer through ultrasound examinations, etc. are higher among people who were older at the time of the accident, and the age group in which thyroid cancer was detected more frequently is different from that after the Chornobyl NPS Accident (mainly young children).

Prepared based on material for the 35th Prefectural Oversight Committee Meeting for Fukushima Health Management Survey

In June 2019, the Thyroid Ultrasound Examination Evaluation Subcommittee, which was established under the Prefectural Oversight Committee for the Fukushima Health Management Survey, published the "Report on the Results of the first Full-scale Survey of the Fukushima Thyroid Ultrasound Examination." In the Report, the Subcommittee states that no correlation is found between thyroid cancer cases detected through the first Full-scale Survey (second-round survey) and radiation exposure due to Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO)'s Fukushima Daiichi NPS Accident. Additionally, the Subcommittee points out the necessity to review evaluations of the Thyroid Ultrasound Examination and examination results from the following perspectives:

- It is necessary to analyze accumulated results of the second and third Full-scale Surveys.
- It is necessary to conduct analyses by properly ascertaining the status of developing cancer among the subjects of Thyroid Ultrasound Examination using regional and national cancer registries.
- It is necessary to study correlation between doses and incidence rates of thyroid cancer in the future by using more detailed data on estimated thyroid exposure doses as a casecontrol study with adjusted confounding factors or as a prospective study.

Included in this reference material on March 31, 2020 Updated on March 31, 2024