

"We will promote the health of the children in Fukushima for the long term."

[Purpose]

Health effects of radiation due to the accident at Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO)'s Fukushima Daiichi NPS are considered to be extremely small, taking into consideration the expected internal and external exposure doses.

On the other hand, it has been reported that cases of thyroid cancer increased among children after the Chernobyl accident due to internal exposure to radioactive iodine. Therefore, the Thyroid Examination targeting children has been conducted since October 2011 with the aim of ascertaining their thyroid status and promoting their health for the long term.

[Coverage]

All people of Fukushima Prefecture who were aged zero to 18 as of March 11, 2011 (those born from April 2, 1992, to April 1, 2011) (approx. 368,000 people)

* The Full-scale Screening expanded coverage to include those born from April 2, 2011, to April 1, 2012 (approx. 382,000 people in total).

Prepared based on the website of the Radiation Medical Science Center for the Fukushima Health Management Survey, Fukushima Medical University, "Information on the Thyroid Examination"

It has been reported that cases of thyroid cancer increased among children after the Chernobyl accident due to internal exposure to radioactive iodine. Compared with the Chernobyl accident, the amount of radioactive materials discharged into the environment after the accident in Fukushima was much smaller and estimated internal and external doses of the residents were even smaller. Therefore, it is predicted that there would be no epidemiologically detectable thyroid health risks. However, as concerns remain about effects of radiation due to the accident on children's thyroid glands, the Thyroid Examination has been continued under the framework of the Fukushima Health Management Survey with the aim of ascertaining children's current thyroid status and promoting their health into the future.

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