

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
- Reference levels

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

The second principle is the optimization of radiological protection. When merits of an act of using radiation outweigh radiation risks, it is decided to use radiation by taking measures to reduce exposure doses as low as reasonably achievable. This is called the ALARA principle. The optimization of radiological protection means to strive to reduce exposure doses as low as possible, while taking into consideration social and economic balances, and does not necessarily mean to minimize exposure doses.

In order to promote the optimization of radiological protection, dose constraints and reference levels are utilized. Reference levels are adopted as indicators to limit individuals' doses from specific radiation sources in decontamination work, for example.

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