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ID 15292

Q1: Describe the role of radiation protection officer in radiology department.

### Role of radiation protection officer.

A Radiation protection officer is an individual who has relevant to the type of practice:

= A working knowledge of the legislation, guidelines, codes of practice and standards.

= Knowledge and skills in measuring and monitoring radiation and interpreting radiation measurement.

= Knowledge and skills in applying radiation safety and protection principals

= Knowledge of biological effects of radiations.

= The competency to perform the function of a radiation safety officer.

(2)

A radiation safety protection officer either holds or have specific functions in radiation safety and protection plan.

• Radiation protection officers & I are responsible for ensuring the safe use of producing ionizing radiation equipments.

• They are responsible for x-ray equipment that is under their administrative control, and must ensure that the radiation protection quality assurance program.

• They are responsible for the day to day operations of the radiation safety protection assurance program.

• They receive must RSO specific training and has additional responsibilities.

• They provided sufficient time and commitment from the registrant to stop operations that he or she considered un protected, ensure x-ray equipment is used safely. and

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- Preparing periodic status reports on radiation protection.
- Managing environment
- Auditing holdings and usage records
- Auditing waste accumulation in stores.
- Performing measurement to check radiation doses, dose rate and activity.
- Arranging of disposable disposal of radioactive waste to authorised contractors
- Managing the security of radioactive sources according to current national requirements.
- Managing facility
- Managing a system for the provision of personal dosimetry
- Managing an inventory of equipment capable for emitting x-rays.
- Advising on training in radiation safety.

Q2. Elaborate the radiation protection measures in a safe radiology department.

• Measure your radiation dose  
Dosimeters.

• Use to measure the occupational dose equivalent from x-ray, gamma and high energy beta emitters.

• Always practice ALARA (as low as reasonably achievable)

Three effective strategies

Time : Minimize the time and you will minimize the dose.

pre-plan the procedure to minimize exposure time

Distance :

Doubling the distance from the source can reduce your exposure intensity by 25% (inverse square law)

• Know the radiation intensity where you perform most of your work, and move to lower dose areas during work delays.

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## Shielding:

Position shielding between yourself and the source of radiation at all permissible times. Take advantage of permanent shielding.

Select appropriate shielding material during the planning stages of the procedure.

Q3: What are radiation Hazards that one should beware of.

Radiation Hazards:

Ionizing radiation can damage living tissue in the human body. It strips away electrons from atoms breaks some chemical bonds.

Spontaneous decay of radioactive material produces radiation and non-ionizing. Alpha and beta, gamma and x-rays particles are the most common forms of ionizing radiations.

Radio active iodine is a particle released during nuclear plant accident. The amount of energy the radiation can deposit in a given space varies with each type.

Radiation also differ in the power to penetrate. In side the body the alpha particles will deposit all his energy in a very small volume of tissue while gamma radiation will spread energy over a much larger volume.

The allowed exposure from specific radioactive sources to the public are limited to 100 mrem. Medical x-rays generally deliver less than 10 mrem.

All kinds of ionizing radiation produce health effect. The damage incurred by different kinds of tissue vary with the type of radiation to which the person is exposed and the means of exposure.

Direct exposure to radiation and radiation emitters can affect the whole body while inhalation or ingestion affects tissue inside the body. The body attempts to repair the damage caused by radiation.

The thyroid gland is one of the most radiation sensitive parts of the body especially in babies and children.

Most nuclear accident release radioactive iodine into the atmosphere. This is absorbed by the body. Absorption of too much radioactive iodine can cause thyroid cancer.

to develop several years after exposure.

Exposure to radiation is a safe in small amounts and when it is strictly controlled during a medical exam. such as x-ray.

However long term exposure to small amounts of radiations can lead to gene mutations and increase the risk of cancer and exposure to a large amount over a brief period can lead to radiation sickness. examples or

- = DNA fragmentation
- = Hazards to biological systems
- = Electric hazards
- = Fire Hazards

High energy electromagnetic radiations are particle radiations are capable to producing ions in their passage through matter.

indirect effect:-

- = Since 80% of the biological tissue is water
- = Most of the incident radiations



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Q4: How can a radiation technologist protect himself / herself from radiation, what is the annual occupational dose.

Ans: Radiologic technicians (also called x-ray techs) prepare patient and equipment for imaging procedures and help doctors examine the resulting image.

- x-ray rooms have barrier walls and windows that keep exposure inside the room.

- During these imaging procedures, radiologic technicians leave the room; or stand behind a protective shield, such as a curtain that is design to keep out radiation.

- In most circumstance, you will only be close to the equipment before the procedure and afterwards.

- There is a few exceptions, however, such as interventional radiology, during which radiologists and technologist technicians may be present in the room to treat the patient using x-rays and other imaging techniques as guidance.

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Technicians also wear shielding devices, such as lead aprons, gloves, goggles and masks for radiation protection whenever necessary.

Technicians wear badges that measure their exposure to radiation, and detailed records keep track of this in order to prevent it from exceeding the recommended lifetime limits.

X-ray technicians observe the principal ALARA (as low as reasonably achievable).

Female technicians should inform their employers if they think they are pregnant to avoid any risk to the baby.

There is no consensus on whether a pregnant woman can continue working in radiation areas, but it depends on the circumstances. Some workers are exposed at very low levels and do not have to change their work responsibilities, but a pregnant employee should discuss the risks with her employer as soon as possible.

## Annual occupational dose:

In addition to the annual dose limits, the licensee shall limit the soluble uranium intake by an individual to 10 milligrams in a week in consideration of chemical toxicity.

**Definition**  
A dose of ionizing radiation received by a person at work, where assigned duties involve exposure to ionizing radiation in and radioactive material.

Activity	Typical dose
① Smoking	280 millirem/year
② Radioactive material use in a UM lab	<10 millirem/year
③ Dental x-ray	10 millirem per x-ray.
④ Chest x-ray	8 millirem per x-ray
⑤ Drinking water	5 millirem/year
⑥ Cross country round trip by air	5 millirem/trip
⑦ Coal Burning power plant	0.165 millirem/year.