

U.S. Million Person Study of Low-Level and Low-Dose-Rate Health Effects

Human Health Radiation Risk Assessment in the
Nuclear Power and Industrial Radiographer Worker Cohorts



Lawrence T. Dauer



Disclosure, L. Dauer



2 y, Indian Point 3 NPP, Radiological Engineer/Supervisor.

20y, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

ational Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements

Council Member

.S. Million Person Study of Low-Level and Low-Dose-Rate Health
ffects

The NCRP currently holds several grants/contracts that provide funding for the M
from: DOE, NASA, CDC, US Navy

L. Dauer - Scientific Director – voluntary role assisting John Boice, PI

MPS: Human Health Radiation Risk Assessment in the Nuclear Power and Industrial Radiographer Worker Cohorts



ics

Boice, et al. A Million Persons, a Million Dreams... IJRB, 2022

Million Person Study

RC Cohorts

Nuclear Power Plant Workers

Industrial Radiographers

Dosimetry is key.

Selected Results



John D. Boice, Jr., ScD
MPS Principal Investigator
Vanderbilt University Medical Center,
National Council on Radiation Protection
and Measurements.



Lawrence T. Dauer, PhD, DAB
MPS Scientific Director
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center,
National Council on Radiation Protection and
Measurements.



Who? - Million Person Study Population



Oppenheimer, General Leslie
Enrico Fermi, Hans Bethe,
the Hall



Sub-Cohort	Number
Manhattan Project and other DOE Sites	300,000
Atomic Veterans (DOD)	113,806
Nuclear Power Plant Workers (NRC)	135,193
Industrial Radiographers (NRC)	123,401
Medical Radiation Workers (Landauer®)	109,019
Nuclear Submariners and others (US Navy)	210,000
Radium Dial Workers (DOE)	3,200

> 25%



Boice et al. *The Million Person Study, Whence it Came and Why.* IJRB April 2022

How are the NRC Cohorts Different from the other MPS Cohorts?



Dosimetry is Exceptional

REIRS Recorded Personal Dose Equivalents

Annual organ doses able to be estimated (NRCP Dosimetry Guidance)

Follow-up is Exceptional (>99%) for nearly 260,000 Workers

Nuclear Power Plant Workers

Industrial Radiographers

Career Doses from other work/industries obtained from DOE REMS, Navy, Landauer, and other data sources.

Broad Dose Distribution with maximum organ doses ~1 Gy or more.

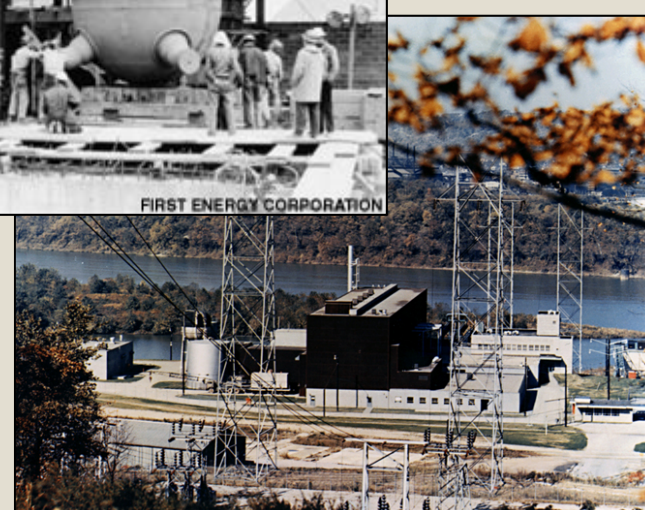
Up to 30 mSv/quarter, considering 5 x (N-18) limits at the time



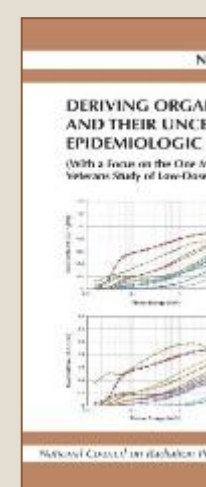
Nuclear Power Plant Workers (1957-1985)



Refine Study Cohort
Population Tracing & Vitals
EIRS/Landauer[®] Dose Data
Available
Badge Result to D_T
Exposure Source Term
Exposure Conditions
30,000 Nuclear Utility Workers
Hired prior to 1985



Shippingport Atomic Power Station, 1957



Nuclear Power Plant Exposure Sources



Source Term

Reactor Core & System

Emission Products

Cesium

Iodine

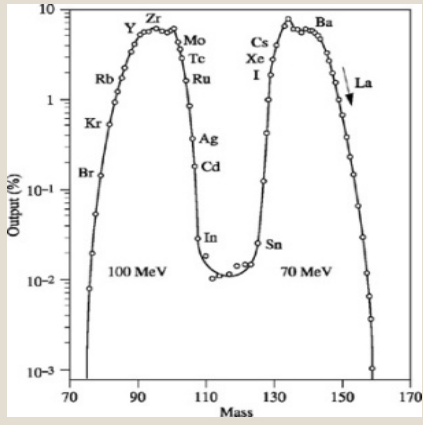
Krypton/Xenon

Activation Products

Corrosion “Crud”

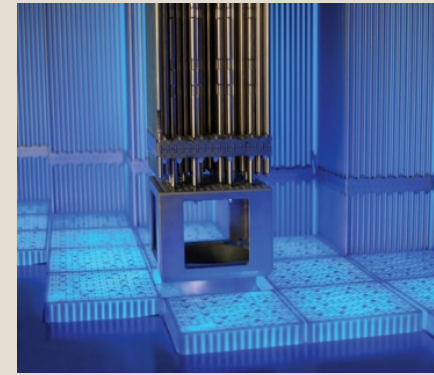
Cobalt-60, Cobalt-58

80%+ exposures in outage



Source Term Parameters

- System Design
- Operational History
- Operational Mode
- Coolant Chemistry
- Construction Materials
- Fuel Integrity
- ~0.6-1.5 MeV
- ~0.7 MeV, Activity weighted



Nuclear Power Plant Exposure Conditions



Mostly external photon
Neutron and Internal (low)
Engineering controls & PPE
used frequently

- HEPA
- Respiratory Protection
- Gloves/boots
- Coveralls
- Eye shields

Most dose during outages

Primarily AP

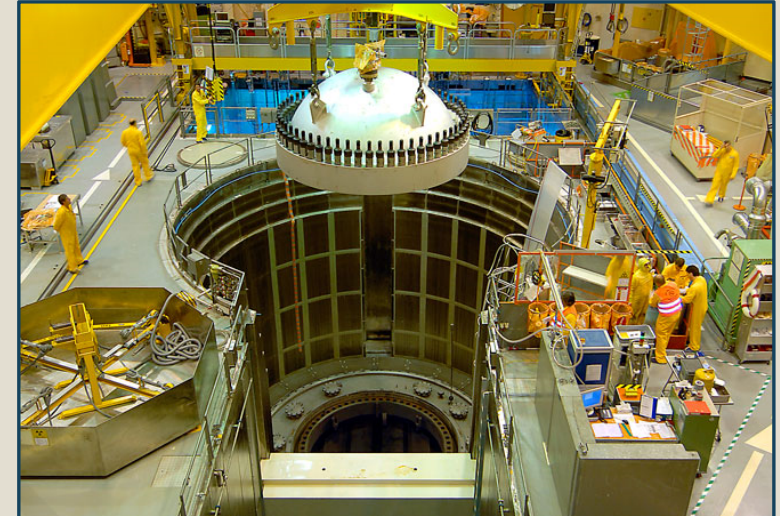
- With some CC, LAT, PA

Work Function	% Collective Dose (1975-1985)
Reactor Operations and Surveillance	9-13%
Routine Maintenance	27-53%
Inservice Inspection	3-9%
Special Maintenance	19-47%
Waste Processing	3-7%
Refueling	4-8%

NPP Plethora of “Higher Dose” Outage Tasks



- Inspections
- Decontamination
- Health Physics
- Valve Maintenance
- Insulation
- Control Rod Drives
- Refueling
 - Rx Vessel, Rx Cavity
- Steam Generators
 - Nozzle Dams, eddy current, tube plugging, girth welds
- Drywell work
- Diving
- Scaffolding / Shielding
- Rx Thermocouples
- Transfer Canal Modifications



Industrial Radiographer Exposure Sources



External gamma

typical

Ir-192/Co-60 , ~ 200/1

Much less typical

Se-75

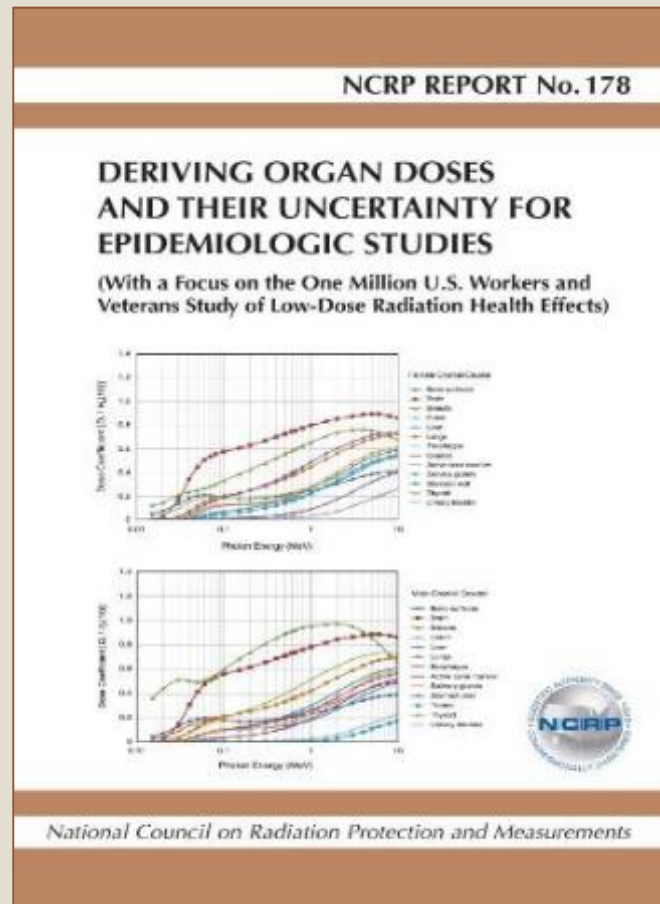
X-ray tubes

Neutron (very low)

AP geometry

~0.3 MeV

10 CFR Part 34 ('65)



Personal Dose Equivalent, $H_p(10)$ Distribution Nuclear Power Plant Workers (1957-1985)



REIRS



Dose Category	N	%
< 10 mSv*	94,454	73.8
10 - <50 mSv*	20,303	15.9
50 - <100 mSv	6,804	5.3
100 - <500 mSv	6,278	4.9
500 - <1000 mSv	141	0.1
>1000 mSv	20	0.02
Study Population	135,193	-

Distributions are based on information available in 2018 and slightly during the course of the epidemiologic study.

*Sampled < 50 mSv

Personal Dose Equivalent, $H_p(10)$ Distribution Industrial Radiographers (1939-2011)



REIRS
Landauer®



Dose Category	N	%
< 10 mSv*	30,764	20.7
10 - <50 mSv*	77,383	52.0
50 - <100 mSv	21,578	14.5
100 - <500 mSv	18,846	12.7
500 - <1000 mSv	322	0.2
>1000 mSv	22	0.01
Study Population	123, 401	-

Distributions are based on information available in 2018 and slightly during the course of the epidemiologic study.

*Sampled < 50 mSv

Dose Estimation in Epidemiology



Estimation of Absorbed Doses (**Gy**) for the organ or tissue of interest (e.g., bone marrow, lung, breast, brain, etc.)

External – for the year of exposure.

Internal – for the year of exposure and for each of the following 49 years.

- Using the latest biokinetic models available (in some cases updating the models based on MPS data, e.g. brain, autopsy and science-donated organs, uranium/plutonium USTUR).

Addition of External + Internal components of the absorbed dose to the organ or tissue of interest.

Differences with regulatory method:

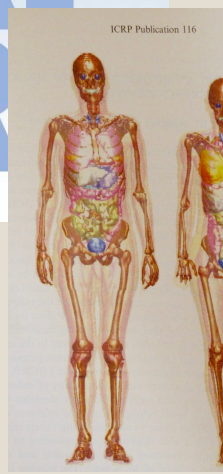
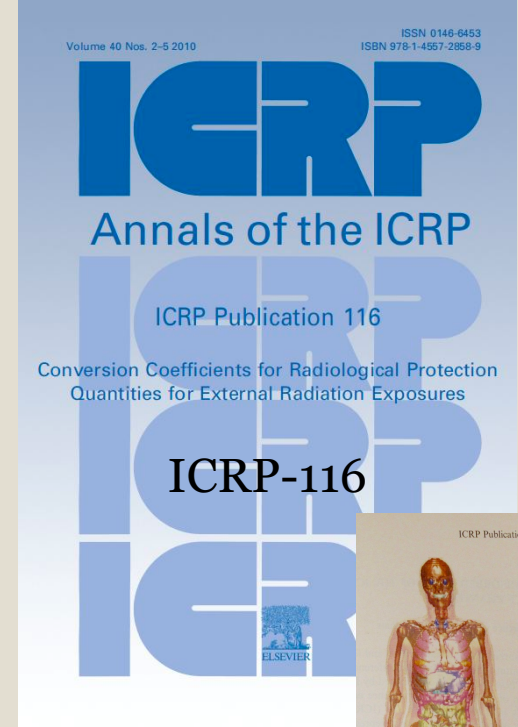
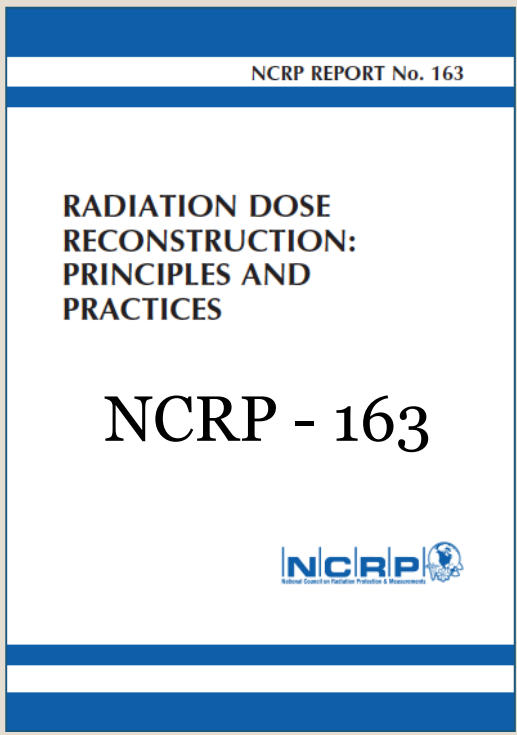
Aim for realistic dose estimates, not 'lower than limits'.

Direct - no use of weighting factors (W_R and W_T).

Annual absorbed doses to all organs/tissues.



Dose Reconstruction: Getting to D_T



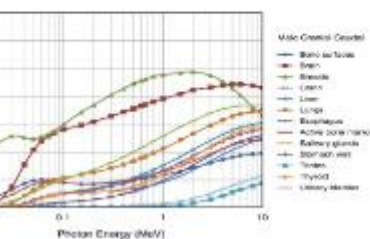
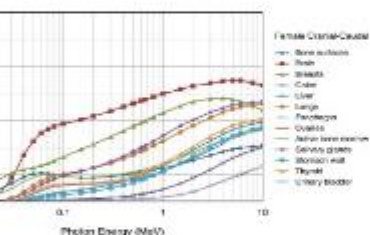
MPS: NCRP Dosimetry Guidance



NCRP REPORT No. 178

ESTIMATING ORGAN DOSES AND THEIR UNCERTAINTY FOR EPIDEMIOLOGIC STUDIES

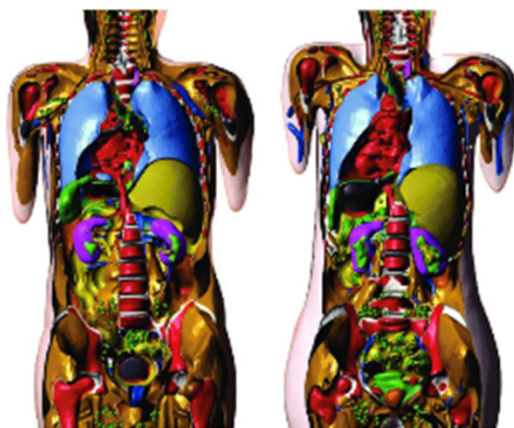
Focus on the One Million U.S. Workers and a Study of Low-Dose Radiation Health Effects



National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements

NCRP COMMENTARY No. 30

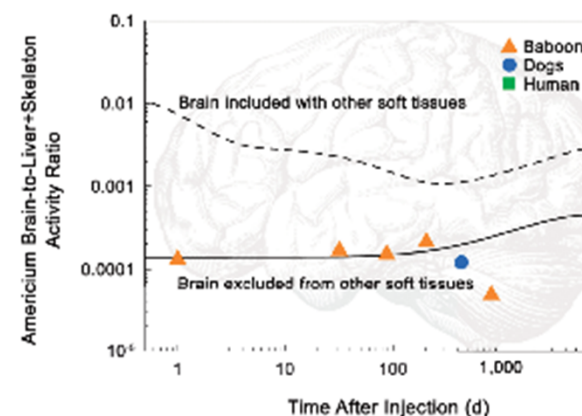
USING PERSONAL MONITORING DATA TO DERIVE ORGAN DOSES FOR MEDICAL RADIATION WORKERS, WITH A FOCUS ON LUNG



National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements

NCRP COMMENTARY No. 31

DEVELOPMENT OF KINETIC AND ANATOMICAL MODELS FOR BRAIN DOSIMETRY FOR INTERNALLY DEPOSITED RADIONUCLIDES



National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements

PS: Nuclear Power Plant Cohort – IJRB, April 2022



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF RADIATION BIOLOGY
2022, VOL. 98, NO. 4, 657–678
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09553002.2021.1967507>









Taylor & Francis
Taylor & Francis Group

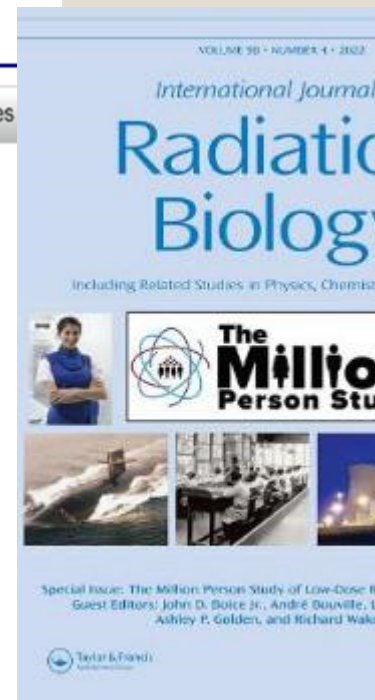


ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Mortality from leukemia, cancer and heart disease among U.S. nuclear power workers, 1957–2011

John D. Boice Jr.^{a,b} , Sarah S. Cohen^c , Michael T. Mumma^{d,e} , Derek A. Hagemeyer^f, Heidi Chen^e,
P. Golden^f , R. Craig Yoder^g , and Lawrence T. Dauer^h 

^aUS Nuclear Energy Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements, Bethesda, MD, USA; ^bDivision of Epidemiology, Department of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, USA; ^cDepartment of Epidemiology Center and Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, USA; ^eEpidStrategies, Cary, NC, USA; ^dInternational Epidemiology Institute, Rockville, MD, USA; ^eVanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN, USA; ^fOak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN, USA; ^gLandauer Inc (Retired), Glenwood, IL, USA; ^hDepartment of Medical Physics, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, USA



MPS: Industrial Radiographers



Boice, Jr., J. D., Cohen, S. S., Mumma, M. T., Walsh, L.,
Wagemeyer, D., Yoder, R. C. and Dauer, L. T.

**Mortality among Industrial Radiographers Exposed
to Ionizing Radiation, 1969-2019.**

Radiat. Res. ...to be submitted

Radiation Research



Standard Mortality Ratio (SMR) ANALYSES

Nuclear Power Plant Workers (N=135,193)

1957-2011 (mean 30.2 y follow-up)

Cause	No. Deaths	SMR	95% CI
All Causes	29,076	0.89*	0.88-0.90
All Cancer	9,329	1.03*	1.01-1.05
All Solid Cancer	8,445	1.04*	1.01-1.06
Leukemia (non-CLL)	296	1.06	0.94-1.19
Lung	3,382	1.10*	1.07-1.14
Ischemic Heart Disease	5,410	0.80*	0.78-0.82
Parkinson's Disease	140	0.90	0.76-1.06
Pleura, Mesothelioma	251	5.66*	4.98-6.40
Asbestosis	87	9.15*	7.33-11.3

* p<0.05

Comparisons with the General Population can be informative but must be viewed cautiously because healthy workers are different from the entire population.

Mumma MT et al. Int J Radiat Biol 2022

Boice et al. Nuclear Power Plant Workers, I.



SMR ANALYSES

Industrial Radiographers (N=123,401)

1939-2011 and followed through 2019 (mean 27.7 y follow-up)

Cause	No. Deaths	SMR	95% CI
All Causes	30,537	0.92*	0.91-0.93
All Cancer	8,515	1.00	0.98-1.02
All Solid Cancer	7,734	1.01	0.99-1.03
Leukemia (non-CLL)	241	0.92	0.81-1.04
Lung	2,772	1.04*	1.00-1.08
Ischemic Heart Disease	5,820	0.83*	0.81-0.85
Parkinson's Disease	235	0.96	0.84-1.09
Pleura, Mesothelioma	248	6.08*	5.35-6.89
Asbestosis	134	13.4*	11.2-15.9



Insulat

Comparisons with the General Population can be informative but must be viewed
cautiously because healthy workers are different from the entire population.

* p<0.05

Mumma MT et al. Int J Radiat Biol 2022

Boice et al. Ind Radiog. Rad Res to be submit

MPS – NRC Cohorts - Select Results



Selected Outcomes (ERR per 100 mGy)

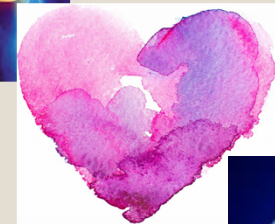
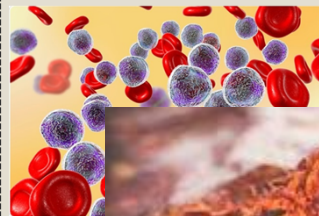
Non-CLL Leukemia

Solid Cancers

Lung Cancer

Ischemic Heart Disease

Parkinson's Disease



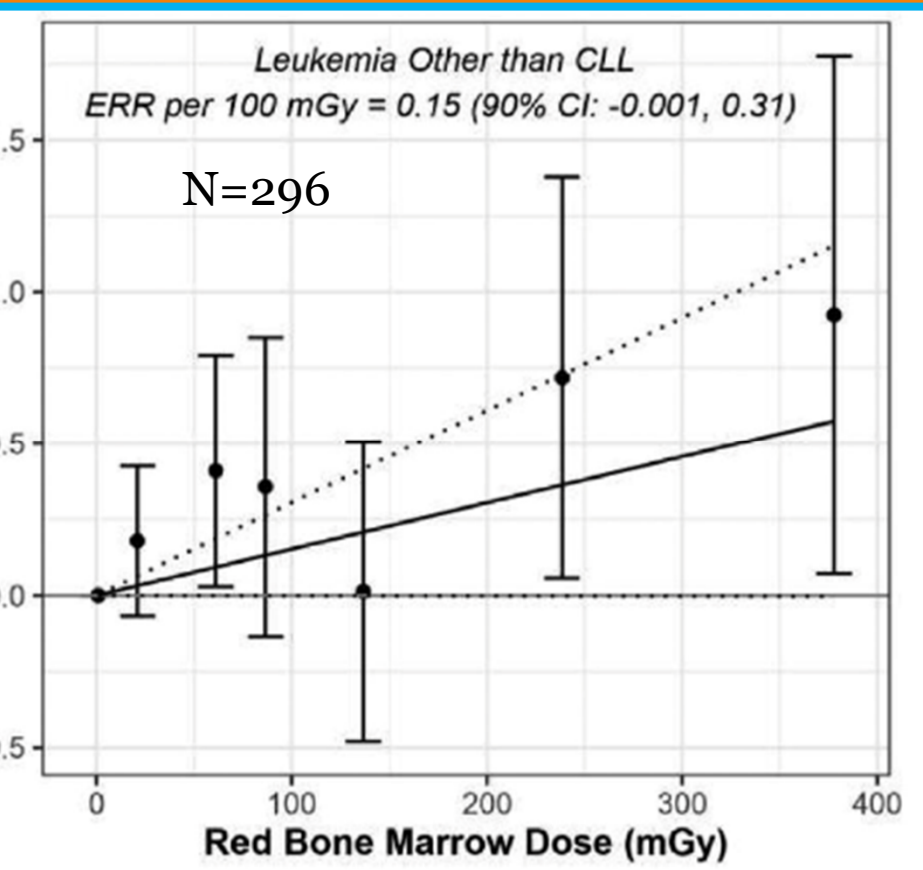
– Excess Relative Risk = Relative Risk-1

5: NRC Cohort Results – Dose-Response for Non-CLL Leukemia



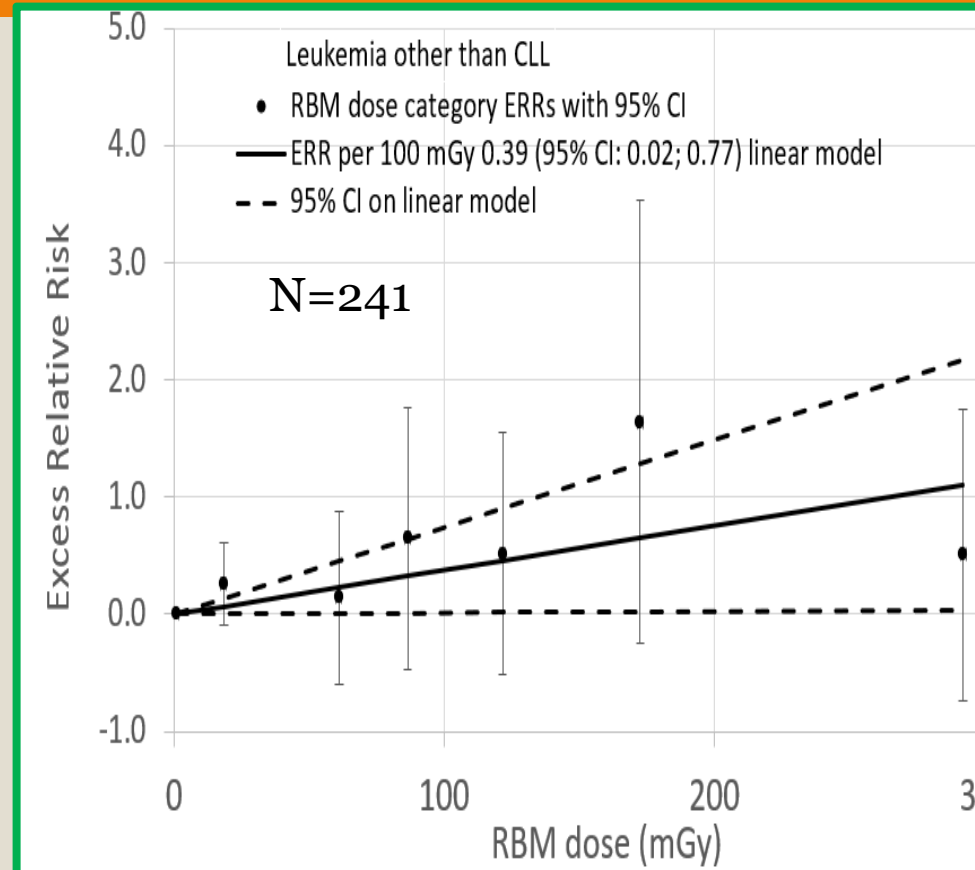
Nuclear Power Workers

Mean 37.9 mGy, Max 953 mGy



Industrial Radiographers

Mean 15.2 mGy, Max 1,243 mGy

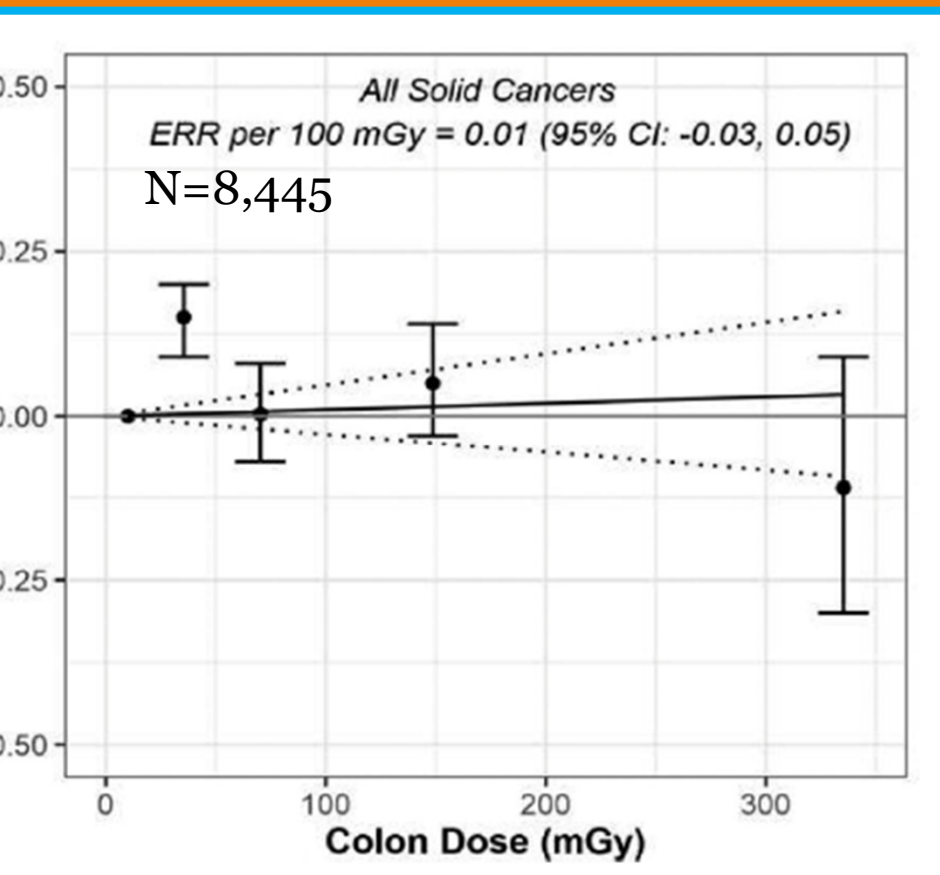




NRC Cohort Results – Dose-Response for All Solid Cancers

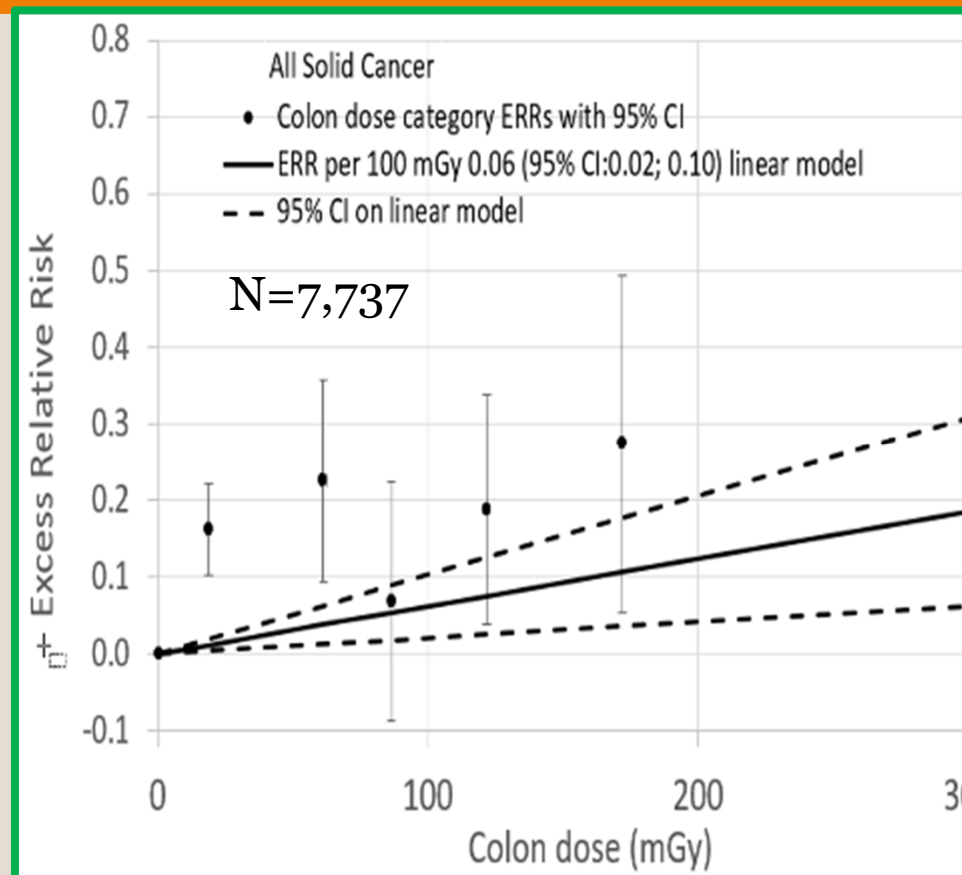
Nuclear Power Workers

Mean 43.7 mGy, Max 1,099 mGy



Industrial Radiographers

Mean 18.1 mGy, Max 1,478 mGy

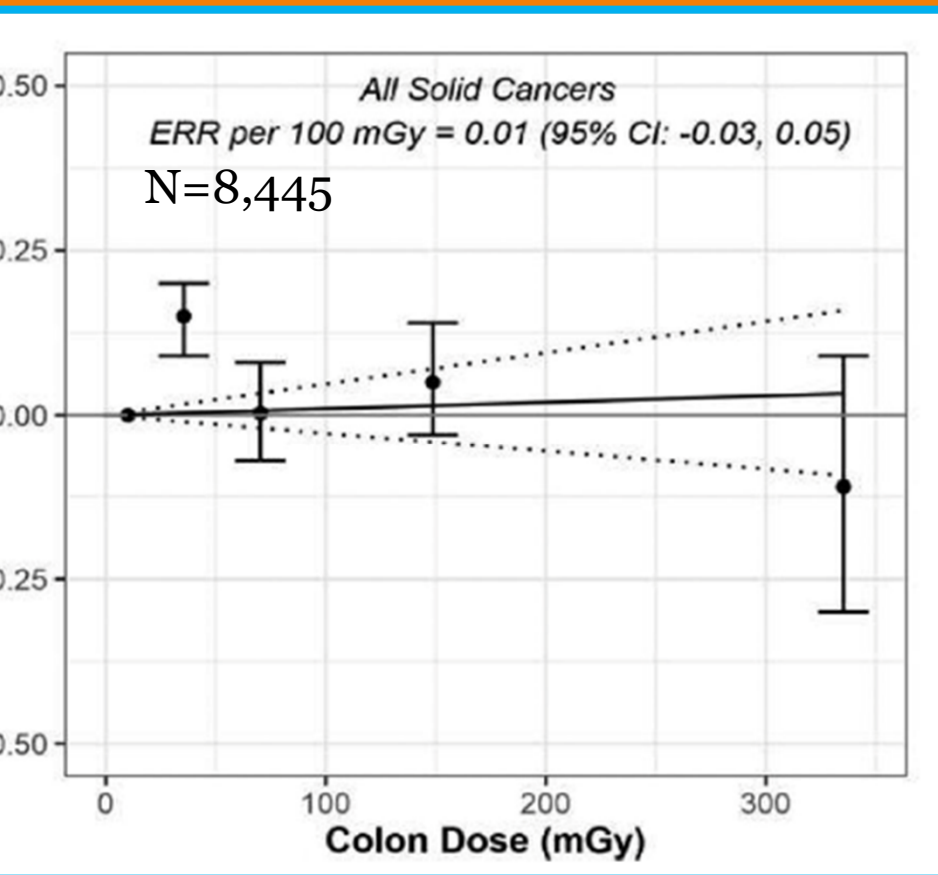


S: NRC Cohort Results – Dose-Response for All Solid Cancers



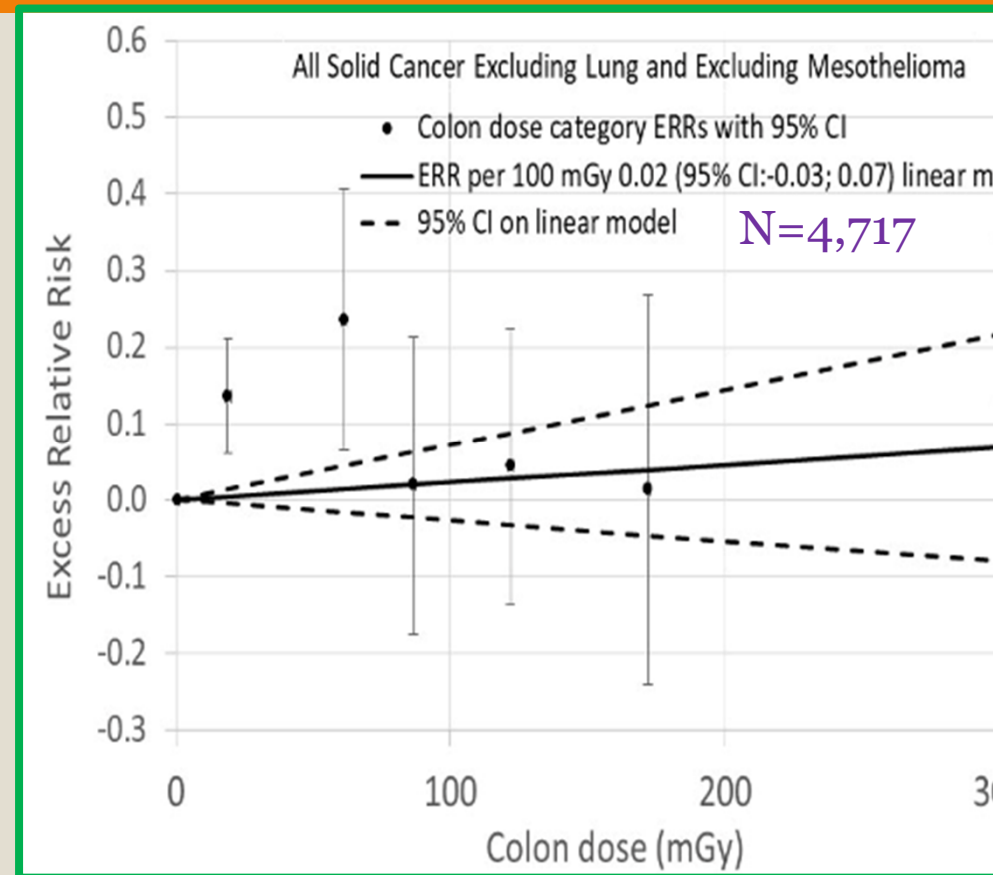
Nuclear Power Workers

Mean 43.7 mGy, Max 1,099 mGy



Industrial Radiographers

(Excluding Lung and Mesothelioma)

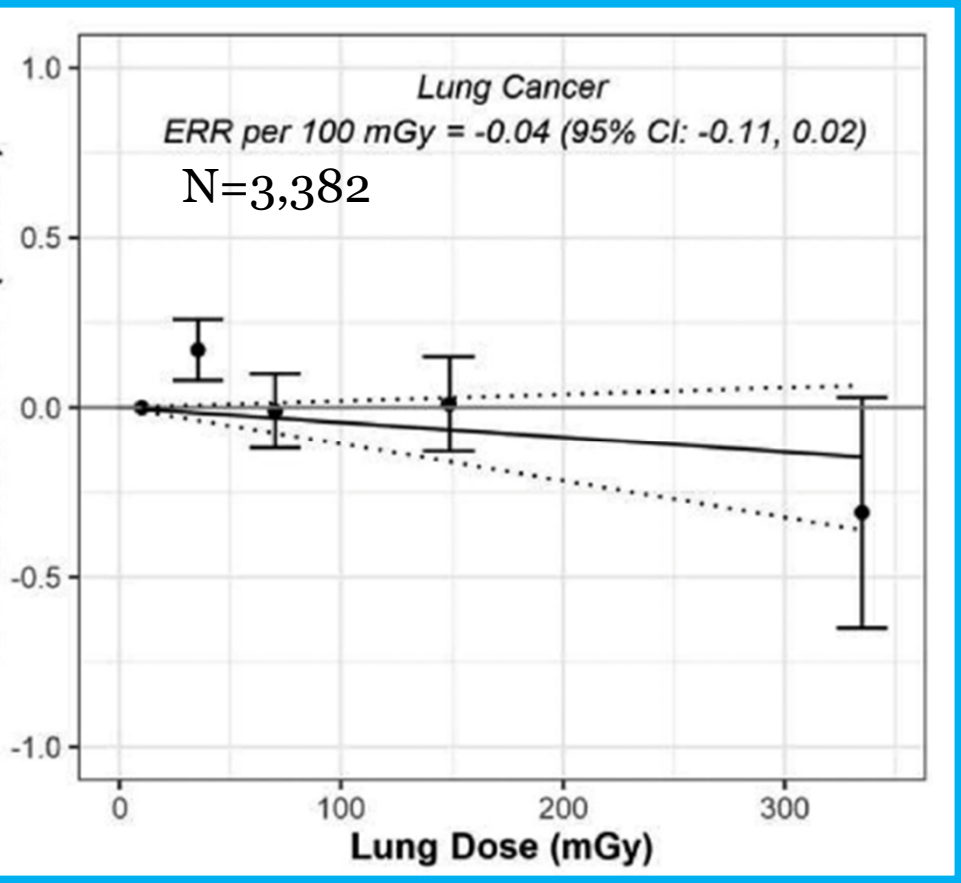




NRC Cohort Results – Dose-Response for Lung Cancer

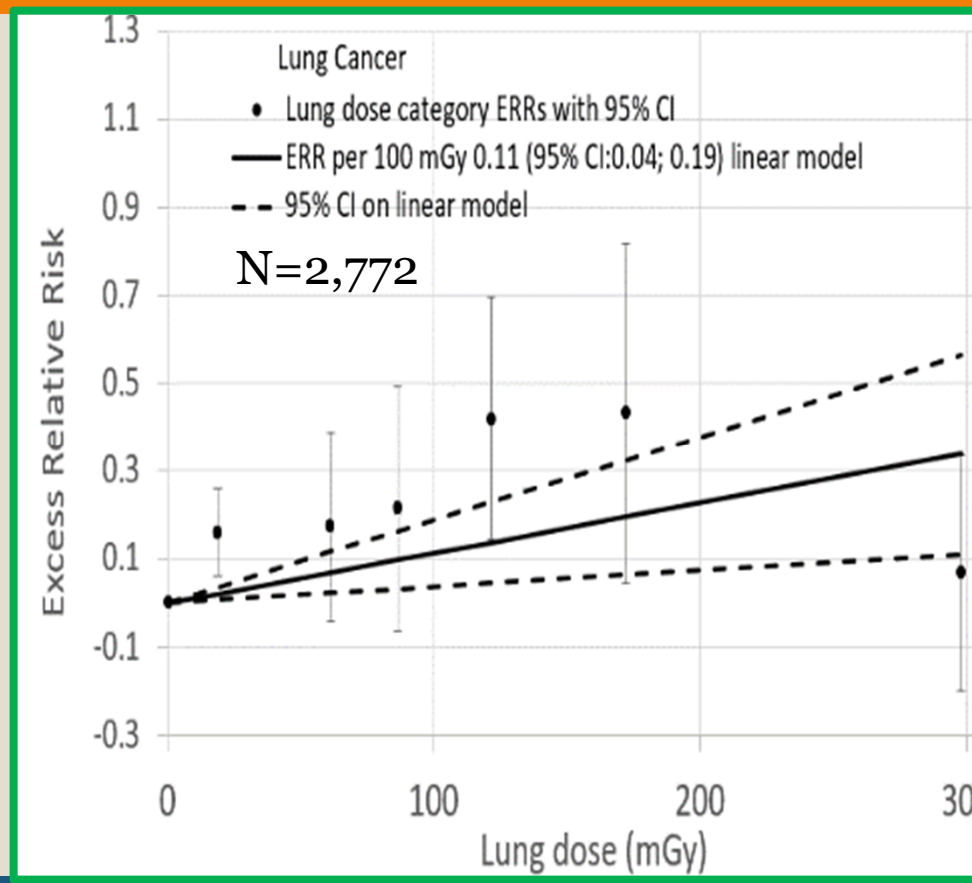
Nuclear Power Workers

Mean 43.2 mGy, Max 1,085 mGy



Industrial Radiographers

Mean 17.2 mGy, Max 1,411 mGy



S: NRC Cohort Results – Dose-Response for Lung Cancer



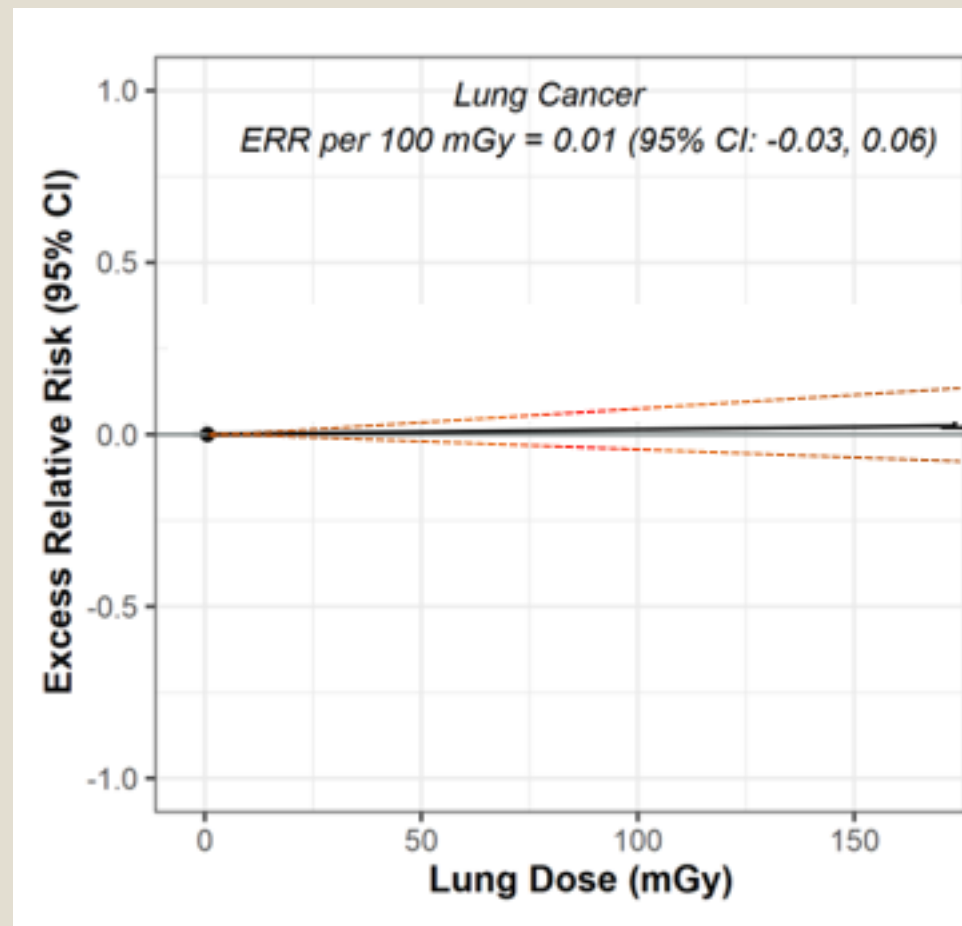
Early Preliminary Pooling

- Nuclear Power Workers + Industrial Radiographers

Mean Lung dose

- ~30 mGy, Max ~1,200 mGy

N > 5,500



PS Cohort Results – Dose-Response for Lung Ca



Cohort	Ref	Workers	Absorbed Dose mGy, Mean (Max)	ERR at 100 mGy (95% CI)
Nuclear Power Plant	Boice et al 2022	135,193	43.2 (1,085)	-0.04 (-0.11, 0.02)
Industrial Radiographers	Boice et al 2023 (to be submitted)	123,401	17.2 (1,411)	0.11 (0.04, 0.19)
US Medical Workers	Boice et al 2022	109,019	13.0 (1,272)	0.15 (0.02, 0.27)
NP + IR + MW	Boice et al 2021	367,722	-	0.02 (-0.03, 0.07)
Atomic Veterans	Boice et al 2022	114,270	6.2 (972)	0.04 (-0.11, 0.19)
Foundry	Boice et al 2014	4,954	98.7 (17,478)	0.00 (-0.03, 0.04)
Illinckrodt	Golden et al 2022	2,514	69.9 (885)	-0.06 (-0.18, 0.06)
Lockheed	Boice et al 2011	5,801	19.0 (3,560)	-0.02 (-0.18, 0.17)
Los Alamos National Lab	Boice et al 2022	26,328	28.6 (16,811)	0.01 (-0.15, 0.17)
ORNL	Boice et al 2022	26,650	478 (18,500)	-0.09 (-0.19, 0.02)

3 - Sex-specific Lung Ca Risks at 100 mGy Excess Relative Risk (ERR at 100 mGy)

Preliminary Evaluations for:	FEMALES	MALES
Coort	ERR at 100 mGy (95% CI)	ERR at 100 mGy (95% CI)
Oriskany (U Processing) (~2.5K)	na	-0.003 (-0.02, 0.02)
Atomic Veterans (~114K)	na	0.08 (-0.06, 0.22)
Rocky Flats (polonium - Be) (~5K)	-0.01 (-0.07, 0.07)	0.01 (-0.02, 0.04)
Y-12 (cesium - Sr) (~27K)	0.01 (-0.10, 0.12)	-0.14 (-0.32, 0.08)
Near Power Plant (NPP) (~135K)	0.63 (-0.91, 2.17)	-0.06 (-0.11, 0.01)
Industrial Radiographers (IR) (~123K)	0.73 (-1.06, 2.52)	0.11 (0.04, 0.19)
Medical Worker (~109K)	0.09 (-0.19, 0.36)	0.16 (0.01, 0.32)
Combined NPP, IR, Med, and Canadian endoscopy cohorts (>400K)	-0.007 (-0.015, 0.002)	0.002 (-0.003, 0.008)

Little evidence for a significant difference for chronic occupational exposures

EVALUATION OF A SEX-SPECIFIC
 DIFFERENCE IN LUNG CANCER
 RADIATION RISK AND APPROACHES FOR
 IMPROVING LUNG CANCER RADIATION
 RISK PROJECTION (WITH A FOCUS ON
 APPLICATION TO SPACE ACTIVITIES)



Commentary 32



National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements



NPP 3% / 97%

IR 10% / 90%

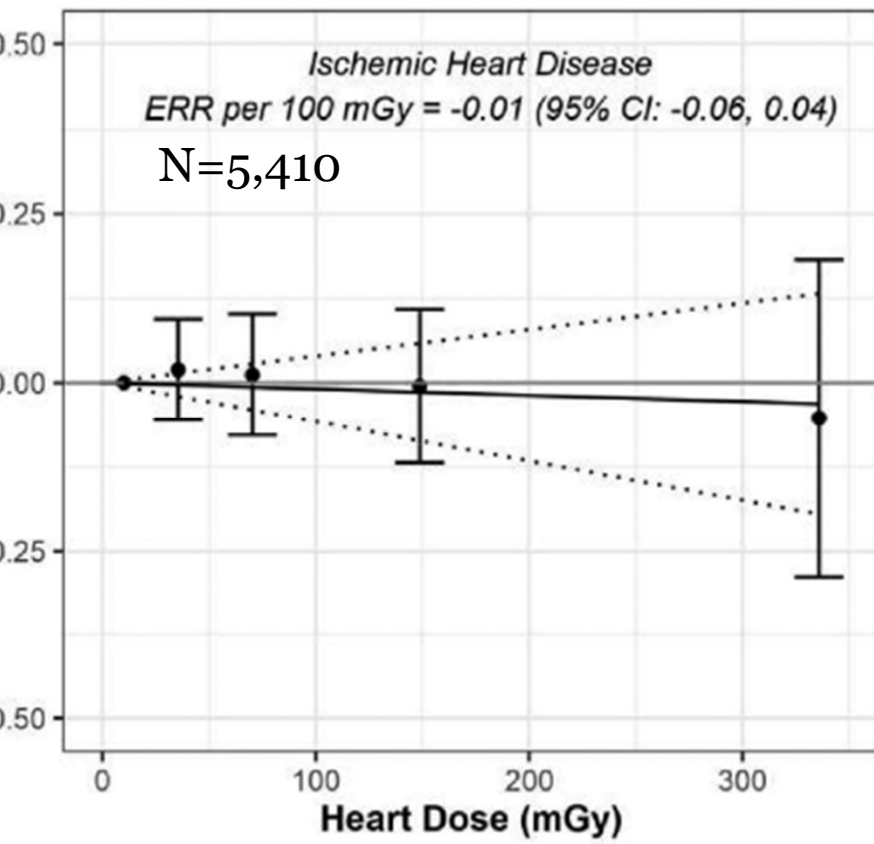
Also see Boice *et al.*
 Sex-specific lung cancer risk. *IJR*

U.S. NRC Cohort Results – Dose-Response for Ischemic Heart Disease



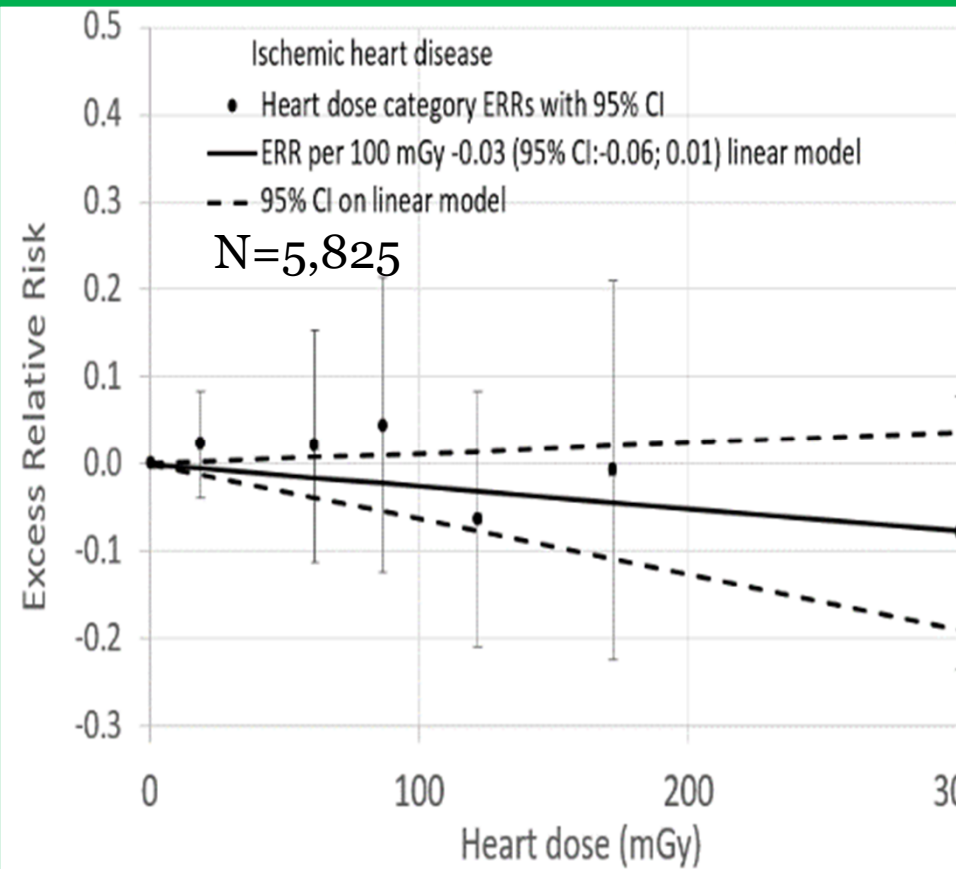
Nuclear Power Workers

Mean 43.9 mGy, Max 1,105 mGy



Industrial Radiographers

Mean 18.1 mGy, Max 1,480 mGy



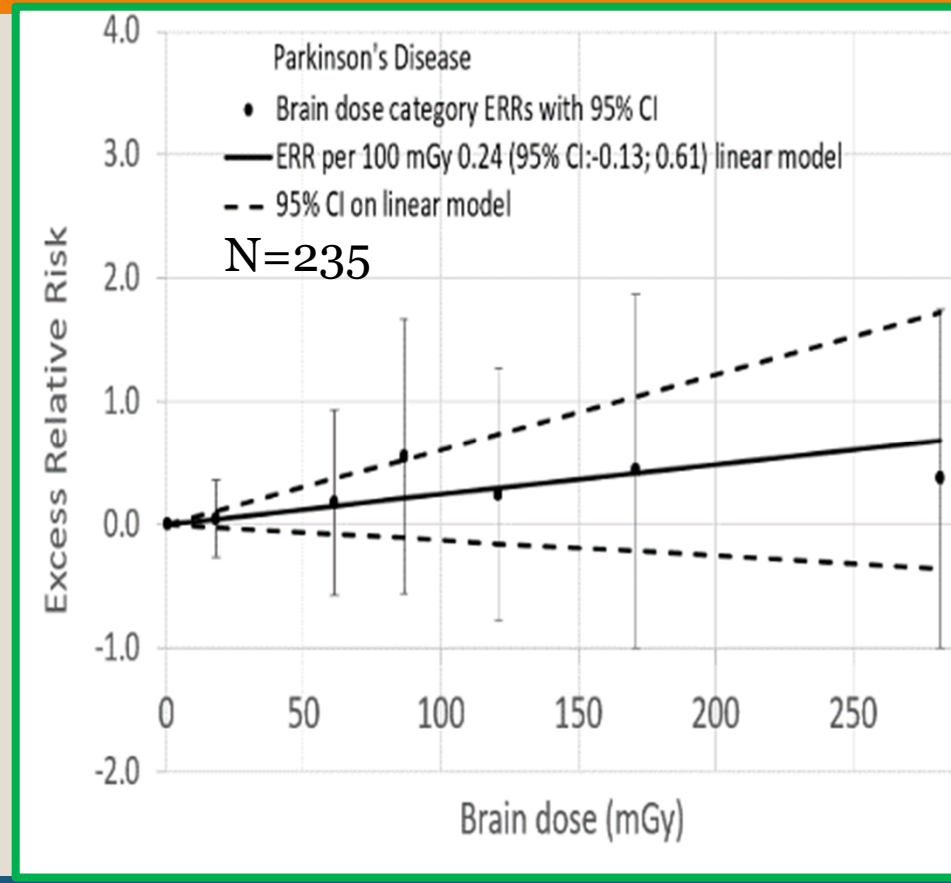
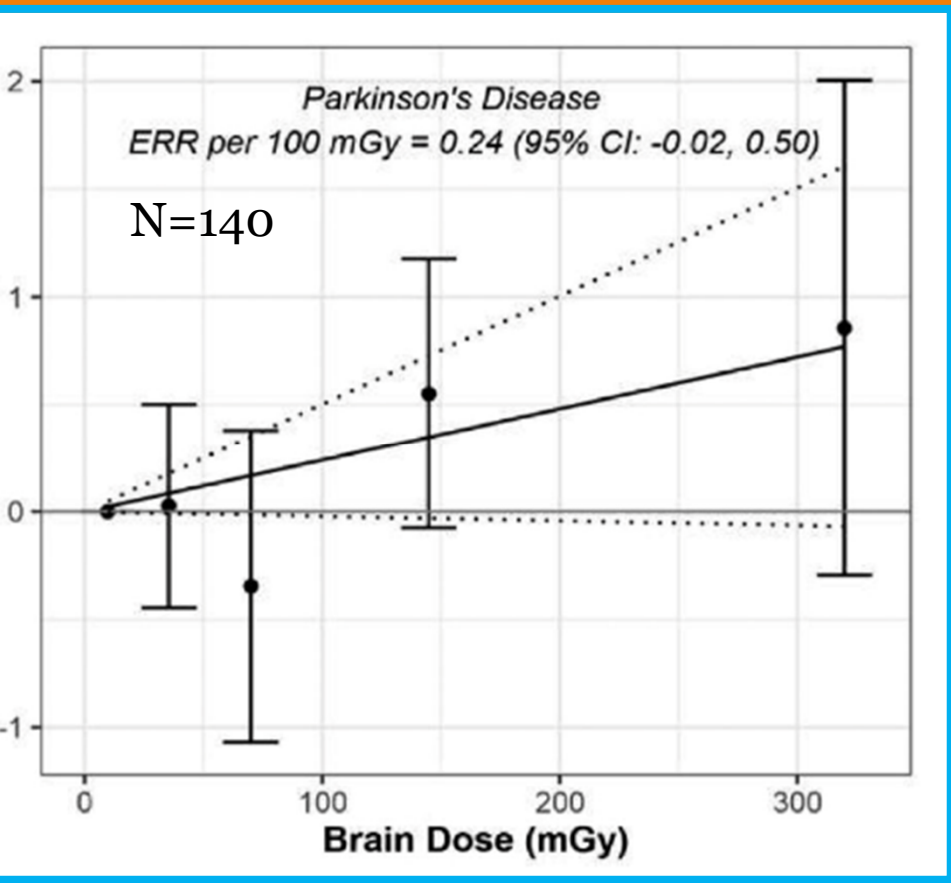


S: NRC Cohort Results – Dose-Response for Parkinson’s Disease



Nuclear Power Workers
Mean 33.2 mGy, Max 834 mGy

Industrial Radiographers
Mean 11.9 mGy, Max 977 mGy



MPS – Summary of NRC Cohorts to date



Except for heart (IHD), most risk coefficients are positive

No significant difference between females and males (Lung Ca)

Further follow-up & pooling with other low-LET and high-LET MPS cohort studies will provide improved estimates of radiation risk following prolonged exposures

Parkinson's disease a new finding, warrants additional study

Cancer incidence, smoking, and chronic conditions information soon to come from MEDICARE linkages

Future - Development of Models for Heart Dosimetry for Internally Deposited Radionuclides and External Exposures ?

Proposed - SC 6-14??

Currently Sponsored by NCRP PAC 6/1/4

PS and Broad Application

National and International Interest

Internal/External

High-LET/Low-LET

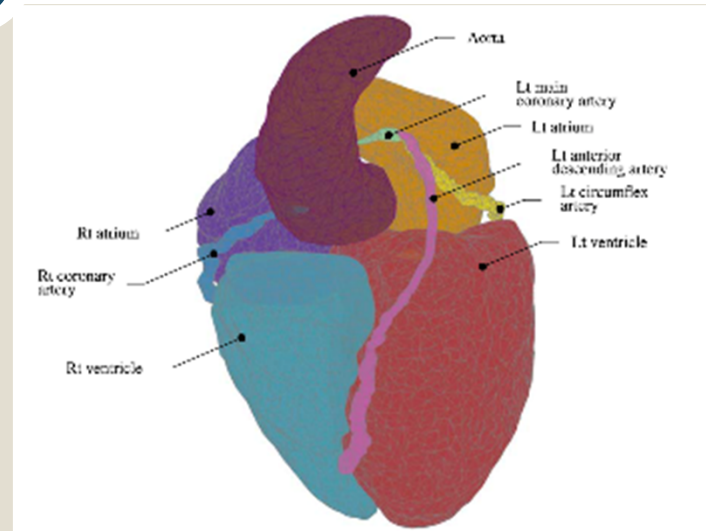
Dosimetry expertise

PAC-1 – important tissues

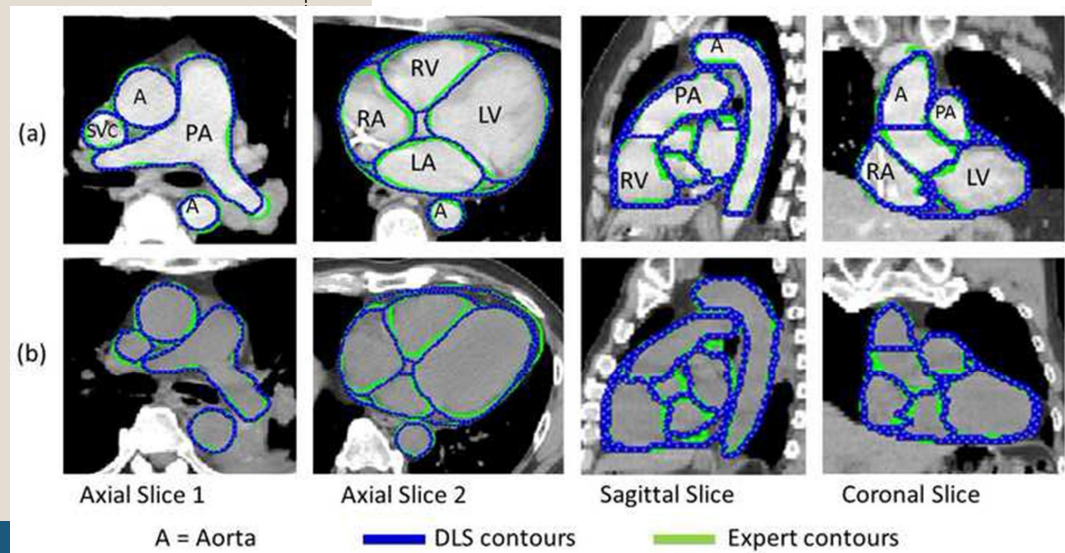
PAC-4 – clinical input, RT

contouring...

Sub Organ / Flow modeling?



Borrego et al. J. Rad
39(2019):950-
TB Fluoroscopy Patien
Dose Modelin



Axial Slice 1

Axial Slice 2

Sagittal Slice

Coronal Slice

A = Aorta

— DLS contours

— Expert contours

Cardio-pulmonary s
segmentation of ra
computed tomography
convolutional neural
clinical outcomes analy
Alexandra Hotca, A
Andreas Rimner, Jose
Maria Thor. Physics a
Radiation Oncolo

Acknowledgments



John D. Boice, Jr. NCRP,
Vanderbilt University
Medical Center

Sarah Cohen,
EpidStrategies

Mike Mumma,
Vanderbilt University
Medical Center

ORNL (CRPK - Rich
Leggett, Keith
Eckerman, Caleigh
Samuels, Derek Jokisch,
Nicole Martinez, Nolan
Hertel)

ORAU (Ashley Golden,
Sara Howard, Betsy Ellis,
Dave Girardi)

MSKCC (Lawrence
Sauer, Michael Bellamy,
David Bierman)

USTUR (Sergei
Tolmachev, Maia
Avtandilashvili)

VUMC (Laura Keohane,
Loren Lippworth, Ben
French, Cato Milder)

Linda Walsh,
Epidemiology and
Modeling

KSU (Amir Bahadori,
Dan Andresen, Eric
Giunta)

National Council on
Radiation Protection and
Measurements
(Kathy Held, Laura
Atwell)

Risk Assessment
Corporation (John Till)

Landauer (Craig Yoder)



Funding from
DOE, NRC,
U.S. Navy,
EPA, CDC,
NASA



THANK YOU!

Lawrence T. Dauer
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Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center
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**The
Million
Person Study**