Special Issue

Public Health Preparedness for and Response to Nuclear Disasters

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

A nuclear disaster is not a simple matter of radiation-induced health risks. Past and ongoing experiences from the 1945 atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the 1979 Three Mile Island accident, the 1986 Chernobyl disaster, and the 2011 Fukushima disaster teach us that nuclear disasters cause complex harms to public health, including non-radiological physical and psychological effects. Societal effects include decline of wellbeing, trauma, and stigma. Both science and society need to understand the multiple health risks in order to inform both current measures and future emergency preparedness. This Special Issue will cover both specific and interdisciplinary sciences, including radiological protection, public health, psychology, social science, environmental science, safety engineering, and economics. Field, clinical, epidemiological, and experimental studies related to any risk issue (e.g., risk assessment, management, or communication) are welcome. Considering lessons learned from past experiences, we also welcome papers on risk communication narratives and education on nuclear disaster.

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