

Special Issue

Risk Assessment for Workplace Exposure to Natural Radioactivity

Message from the Guest Editor

We know that people are continuously being exposed to natural sources of ionizing radiation. Natural radiation may have numerous sources, including naturally occurring radioactive materials found in all environments. Every day, people inhale and ingest naturally occurring radionuclides from air, food, and water, which sums up 80% of the annual dose of background radiation that a person receives.

Background radiation levels can vary widely due to geological differences. Radon, a naturally occurring gas emanating from rocks and soil is classified as the main source of natural radiation. Exposure to ionizing radiation, such as radon, which can occur under different circumstances, at home, at workplaces or in public places is considered existing exposure, and a decision on prevention and control should be taken. If the radiation dose is low and/or is delivered over a long period of time (low dose rate), the risk is substantially lower because there is a greater likelihood of repairing the damage. Although exposure to low doses is associated with low risk, there is still a risk of long-term effects such as cancer.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Environmental issues are quickly becoming central political, economic and academic topics of the twenty-first century. A large number of modern challenges are directly or indirectly caused by complex interactions between environmental issues. Such issues require interdisciplinary research, knowledge and insights to understand and, ultimately, for solutions to be found. Through the journal *Environments*, we strive to create a platform for meaningful discourse by accepting contributions from a wide range of fields. We sincerely hope you will consider publishing your distinguished work in this highly-accessible, peer-reviewed journal.

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