This study was undertaken to investigate cancer incidence and mortality in connection with enhanced radiation exposures after the Chernobyl accident in the most contaminated regions of Russia (Bryansk province).

A study was carried out in six western districts of the Bryansk province (total population 265,000) which are located close to the most contaminated regions of Belorussia and the Ukraine — the border of Bryansk province is 150 km from Chernobyl (density of radioactive fallouts was up to $4 \times 10^{12}$ Bq/km$^2$).

Conclusions: 1. There was no evidence of increased overall cancer rates due to radiation in the contaminated regions of the Bryansk province. 2. Before the accident in the regions corresponding to the "high cancer" zone, there was a sufficiently high quality of diagnostics — here the cancer rate after the accident did not change. In the "low cancer" zone, where the medical service probably was not so good, the enhancement of cancer rates was due to mass clinical examination of the population of the whole western Bryansk regions after the accident.