

# ABSORBED DOSE ESTIMATION OF GONADS RESULTING FROM FAULT WORK OF STAFF DURING INJECTION OF RADIO-PHARMACEUTICALS TO THE PATIENTS

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## Abstract

Radiopharmaceuticals are used in nuclear medicine in a variety of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and generally delivered to the patient via intravenous injection. <sup>201</sup>Tl and <sup>99m</sup>Tc are the two most used radiopharmaceuticals in nuclear medicine. The maximum activity injected to the patient in nuclear medicine for <sup>201</sup>Tl and <sup>99m</sup>Tc is 5 and 20-25 mCi respectively. In this research by using Monte Carlo method and MCNPX code the absorbed dose to Gonads due to drop of Radiopharmaceutical on foot thigh during injection to the patient has been calculated. The activity of <sup>201</sup>Tl and <sup>99m</sup>Tc has been considered 1 and 5 mCi respectively. The amount of absorbed dose in gonads for <sup>99m</sup>Tc for male and female during 8 hours of work has been measured 0.37 and 0.055  $\mu$ Sv respectively. Also the amount of absorbed dose for <sup>201</sup>Tl during working hours at first day, second day and third day after work fault for male has been measured 0.387, 0.308 and 0.246  $\mu$ Sv and for female 0.06, 0.048 and 0.038  $\mu$ Sv respectively. The total dose in these three working days for male and female has been 0.941 and 0.146  $\mu$ Sv respectively. Since absorbed dose of gonads was far enough from the limits of ICRP, so it can be concluded that if a fault work occurs and even staff does not be aware there is no need to treat him.

## Introduction

Radio-pharmaceutics are used in nuclear medicine in a variety of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and generally delivered to the patient via intravenous injection. Nuclear medicine continues to employ radio-nuclides such as <sup>99m</sup>Tc, <sup>18</sup>F, <sup>111</sup>In, <sup>123</sup>I, <sup>131</sup>I, <sup>201</sup>Tl, etc. in diagnostic procedures. Such procedures are used to scan bone, cardiovascular, thyroid, liver and etc. [1].

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In this research  $^{201}\text{Tl}$  and  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$  were used.  $^{201}\text{Tl}$  and  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$  are two favorite gamma emitter radioisotopes in nuclear medicine which are widely used as approved radioimaging drugs in nuclear medicine imaging procedures [2]. The maximum injected activity to the patient in Nuclear medicine for  $^{201}\text{Tl}$  and  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$  is 5 and 20-25 mCi respectively. In this study, by using Monte Carlo method and MCNPX code, absorbed dose of the gonads for male and female due to drop of radiopharmaceutical on foot thigh during injection to the patient has been calculated.

## Materials and Methods

### 1) Monte Carlo simulation

In this study, to simulate the gonads and estimation of absorbed dose, MCNPX method was used. MCNP is a general purpose Monte Carlo radiation transport code designed to track many particle types over broad range of energies [3].

#### Stimulation of source

Source as a disc with a size of 1 cm in diameter was considered one time coated by  $^{201}\text{Tl}$  and the second time by  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ .  $^{201}\text{Tl}$  is a produced cyclotron radioisotope by the reaction of  $^{203}\text{Tl}$  ( $p,3n$ )  $^{201}\text{Pb}$ .  $^{201}\text{Pb}$  decays by a 9.4 h physical half-life to  $^{201}\text{Tl}$  by electron capture and  $\beta^+$  emission [4].  $^{201}\text{Tl}$  decays by electron capture to  $^{201}\text{Hg}$ , which emits x-rays primarily at 68-80 keV but also gamma-rays at 137 and 167 keV with a mean percentage per disintegration of 94.5%, 3%, and 10%, respectively.  $^{201}\text{Tl}$  has a half-life of 73.1 h.

Table 1. Principal Radiation Emission Data [5]

Radiation	Mean %/Disintegration	Mean Energy (KeV)
Gamma	3	137
Gamma	10	167
Mercury X-rays	94.5	68-80

$^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$  with a half-life of 6.02 h and gamma-ray spectrum with an energy peak at 140.5 keV has a vast application in nuclear medicine [6,7]. More than 85% of administered radiopharmaceuticals are produced from  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$  [6].

#### Stimulation of body

In simulation of body phantom three important parts means head, trunk and legs were considered. To view these parts, cylinders made of Plexiglas with a thickness of 0.5 cm, filled of water were considered. A cylinder with a radius of 9.36 cm and height of 24 cm for head, a cylinder with a radius of 15.86 cm and height of 70 cm for trunk and a cylinder with a radius of 15.86 cm

and height of 80 cm for legs were used (Figure 1).

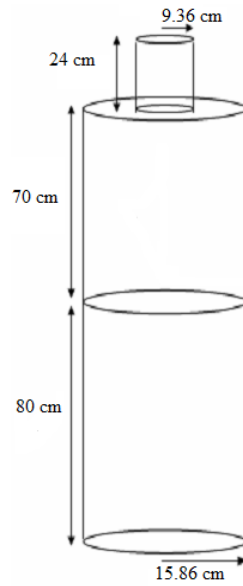


Figure 1. Phantom of the adult human body made of Plexiglas and water

### Simulation of ovaries

Due to more similarity of body with cylindrical shape, female's ovaries were considered as cylinder. Ovaries with radius of 0.8 cm and height of 4.5 cm were simulated [8].



Figure 2. Ovaries with radius of 0.8 cm, height of 4.5 and density of  $1\text{g/cm}^3$  (Due to proximity of soft tissue density to water density) [8].

### Simulation of testes

In simulation of testes the recommended sizes by MIRD-Phantom were used.

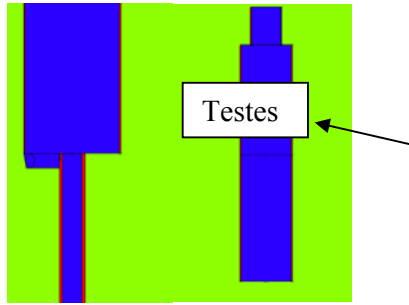


Figure 3. Views from front and side

## 2-Dose calculations

The principal quantity of interest in internal dosimetry is the absorbed dose, or the dose equivalent. Absorbed dose,  $D$ , is defined as :

$$D = d\varepsilon/dm$$

Where  $d\varepsilon$  is the mean energy imparted by ionizing radiation to matter of mass  $dm$ . The units of absorbed dose are typically  $\text{erg/g}$  or  $\text{J/kg}$ . The special units are  $\text{rad}$  ( $100 \text{ erg/g}$ ) or  $\text{gray (Gy)}$  ( $1\text{J/Kg} = 100 \text{ rad} = 10^4 \text{ erg/g}$ ). the dose equivalent,  $H$ , is the absorbed dose multiplied by a quality factor,  $Q$ , the later account for the effectiveness of different types of radiation in causing biological effects:

$$H = DQ$$

Because the quality factor is in principle dimensionless, the pure units of this quantity are the same as absorbed dose (i.e.  $\text{erg/g}$  or  $\text{J/kg}$ ). However the special units have unique names, specifically the  $\text{rem}$  and  $\text{sievert (Sv)}$ . Values for the quality factor have changed as new information about radiation effectiveness has become available. Current values, recommended by ICRP (30), are given in Table 2.

Table 2. Quality factors recommended in ICRP 30 [1].

Radiation type	Quality factor, $Q$
Alpha particle	20
Beta particles	1
Gamma rays	1
X-rays	1

Both the F6 and \*F8 tallies of MCNP code can be used for determination of absorbed dose by MCNP method. In this study F6 tally was used to calculate absorbed dose [7]. Following formula to calculate the absorbed dose have been used.

$$D_{\gamma i} = D_{Ei-F6} \times 1.602 \times 10^{-10}$$

Where  $D_{\gamma i}$  is photon dose in the cell  $i$  ( $J\ kg^{-1}$  or gray) and  $D_{Ei-F6}$  is deposited energy of photons in the cell  $i$  which was estimated by the F6-tally. Because absorbed dose obtained in the MCNP code is for one particle this value was multiplied in the activity. Following formula to calculate the cumulated activity at during 8 hours of work has been used.

$$A = \int_0^8 A_0 e^{-\lambda t} dt$$

Where  $A$  is the cumulated activity and  $A_0$  is the activity at time  $t_0$  [9].

Table 3. Activity  $^{99m}Tc$  and  $^{201}Tl$  at the different times

	$^{99m}Tc$	$^{201}Tl$
t=0	$18.5 \times 10^7$	$3.7 \times 10^7$
t=24h	-	$2.952 \times 10^7$
t=48h	-	$2.35 \times 10^7$

## Results

The amount of absorbed dose in gonads for  $^{99m}Tc$  for male and female during 8 hours of work has been measured 0.37 and 0.055  $\mu Sv$  respectively. Also the amount of absorbed dose for  $^{201}Tl$  during working hours of first day, second day and third day after work fault for male 0.387, 0.308 and 0.246  $\mu Sv$  and for female 0.06, 0.048 and 0.038  $\mu Sv$  has been measured respectively. The total dose in these three working days for male and female has been 0.941 and 0.146  $\mu Sv$  respectively.

## Discussion & Conclusion

Since absorbed dose of gonads was far enough from the limits of ICRP, so it can be concluded that if a fault work occurs and even staff does not be aware, there is no need to treat him.

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