

CATARACTS IN RETIRED ACTINIDE-EXPOSED RADIATION WORKERS

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Abstract

Radiation-induced cataracts are predominantly of the posterior subcapsular (PSC) type, whereas about 90% of age-related cataracts are of other types. Retired workers with transuranic body burdens from three DOE-supported installations were questioned regarding their eye care history and asked for permission to contact their eye care providers regarding cataracts. In this group, 16% of 113 cases were reported to have PSC cataracts. However, of 24 individuals with recorded lifetime doses of 200mSv or more, nine (37.5%) had PSC cataracts, compared with 12% of 89 cases with doses of less than 200mSv

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