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Linear No-Threshold Model and Standards for Protection Against Radiation

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Linear No-Threshold Model and Standards for Protection Against Radiation; Notice of Docketing and Request for Comment

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Submitter Information

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General Comment

I am strongly supportive of changing the NRC standards from the LNT model to the hormesis model. Based on all my research on the topic, hormesis is the model that best fits the data.

In addition, as a former member of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM), I am aware that the AAPM rejects the idea of using the LNT model to project radiation-induced health effects. Further, based on personal anecdotal evidence, I am concerned that the NRC acceptance of LNT -- and resultant media publicity of radiation-induced health effect projections based on this -- are causing unnecessary concerns among patients who require CT scans and other diagnostic radiology procedures.

Moreover, I am also aware that the UNSCEAR report following the Fukushima incident similarly rejects LNT as a viable method for radiation-induced health effects projections. In fact, based on published information, it appears that LNT-based projections are inducing an unnecessary level of fear among the Japanese population.

It is my understanding that LNT was originally accepted because it was the most aggressive standard, and therefore the "safest." However, with today's modern life-saving procedures using radiation, I believe continued use of LNT is not only inconsistent with the data, but also something which unnecessarily frightens the public.

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