

Activities of Committee 3 on Protection in Medicine

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The International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) Committee 3 develops recommendations and guidance for protection of patients, staff, and the public against radiation exposure when ionising radiation is used for medical diagnosis, therapy, or biomedical research. This paper presents a summary of the work that Committee 3 has accomplished in the past few years, and also describes its current work. The most recent documents published by the Commission that relate to radiological protection (RP) in medicine are: *Publication 129 Radiological Protection in Cone-Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT)*; *Publication 127 Radiological Protection in Ion Beam Radiotherapy*; *Publication 121 Radiological Protection in Paediatric Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology*; *Publication 120 Radiological Protection in Cardiology*; and, *Publication 117 Radiological Protection in Fluoroscopically Guided Procedures Outside the Imaging Department*. In addition, the Committee 3 worked with Committee 2 to produce *Publication 128 Radiation dose to patients from radiopharmaceuticals: A compendium of current information related to frequently used substances*. A new document on diagnostic reference levels in medical imaging will provide specific advice for interventional radiology, digital imaging, CT, nuclear medicine, paediatrics and multimodality procedures. The Committee 3 is also working on guidance for occupational RP in brachytherapy and on guidance for occupational protection issues in interventional procedures, with particular attention to the 2011 recommendations on occupational dose limit to the lens of the eye. Other currently prepared documents deal with justification, RP in therapy with radiopharmaceuticals, RP in medicine related to individual radiosusceptibility, appropriate use of effective dose, and guidance for health care practitioners on radiation and patient protection. Committee 3 has also suggested specific priorities for research on RP in medicine to the Main Commission.