

The mandate and work of ICRP Committee 3 on Radiological Protection in Medicine

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Abstract—Committee 3 is concerned with the protection of persons and unborn children when ionising radiation is used in medical diagnosis, therapy, and biomedical research, as well as protection in veterinary medicine. The Committee develops recommendations and guidance in these areas. The most recent documents published by the Commission that relate to radiological protection (RP) in medicine are “RP in Cone Beam Computed Tomography” [Publication 129], “RP in Ion Beam Radiotherapy” [Publication 127], “RP in Paediatric Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology” [Publication 121], and “RP in Cardiology” [Publication 120]. A document in cooperation with Committee 2 entitled “Radiation dose to patients from radiopharmaceuticals: A compendium of current information related to frequently used substances” [Publication 128] has also been published. “Diagnostic Reference Levels in Medical Imaging” has been approved for publication by the Main Commission and is expected to be published before the end of 2017 [Publication 135]. It will provide specific advice for interventional radiology, digital imaging, CT, nuclear medicine, paediatrics and multimodality procedures. “Occupational RP in Interventional Procedures” was made available for public consultation in early 2017. The comments received are currently being considered. There is work in progress on several other topics. Other documents in preparation deal with guidance for occupational RP in brachytherapy, justification in medical imaging, RP in therapy with radiopharmaceuticals (an update to Publication 128), RP in medicine related to individual radiosusceptibility, and appropriate use of effective dose.