UNSCEAR’s surveys on medical exposures:
How to assess global levels and trends and interpret the risks?

UNSCEAR breakout session
4 December 2012
12.10-13.40

International Conference on Radiation Protection in Medicine - Setting the Scene for the Next Decade
World Conference Center - Bonn, Platz der Vereinten Nationen 2, 53113-Bonn, Germany

Organizing Committee
Malcolm Crick, Ferid Shannoun, Wolfgang Weiss (UNSCEAR)

Introduction
The General Assembly of the United Nations established in 1955 the Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) to assess and report levels, effects and risks of exposure to ionizing radiation from all sources including the medical usages. UNSCEAR issues detailed reports for the General Assembly, which are regarded by the scientific community as authoritative and balanced reviews and are used by national and international organizations as sources of valuable information to establish radiation protection policies. Over the last 30 years UNSCEAR assessed regularly the levels and trends of medical exposures worldwide and has carried out regular surveys to collect the required information from UN Member States.

Scope
UNSCEAR envisages to increase awareness and to improve the dissemination of its findings with regard to levels of ionizing radiation in medicine and the associated health risks. This breakout session would help to deepen understanding among health authorities, regulators and the medical radiation protection community on how to interpret medical exposure data scientifically. UNSCEAR’s new Medical Exposure Surveys and the UNSCEAR 2012 Report will build the scientific basis for the presentations and discussions.

1. UNSCEAR’s medical exposure surveys: Findings and the way forward (15 min.)
   Ferid Shannoun (UNSCEAR)
2. Uncertainties of cancer risks estimates for applications of ionizing radiation in medicine (10 min.)
   Peter Jacob (Germany)
3. Can we attribute health effects to medical radiation exposure? (20 min.)
   Wolfgang Müller (Germany)
4. Panel discussion on risk estimations from medical exposures (45 min.)
   Chair: Wolfgang Weiss (Germany / Chair of UNSCEAR)
   Members: Abel González (Argentina), William Hendee (USA), Peter Jacob (Germany), Wolfgang Müller (Germany), Michael Waligórski (Poland), Yoshiharu Yonekura (Japan)
   Rapporteur: Ferid Shannoun (UNSCEAR)

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