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# Facts versus Myth:

# HEALTH EFFECTS OF RADIATION

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There are two types of ***biological effects*** of radiation;

1. **deterministic** effects,
2. **stochastic** effects.

## **DETERMINISTIC EFFECTS:**

Will happen with certainty,

\*if a dose ***threshold level*** is exceeded,

\*will occur **“immediately”**.

**2 Sv** (2,000 mSv)

Threshold level for possibility of ***death*** due to immediate effects.

**1 Sv** (1,000 mSv)

For *physical effects* to be ***felt***, i.e. nausea, headache, vomiting, etc.

**0.1 Sv** (100 mSv)

visible *physical effects* at ***cellular level***, e.g. low sperm count for a year, lower lymphocyte count, etc.



## Very low probability of the incidents happening,

- ❖ if radiation protection measures and regulations are observed and implemented.
- ❖ Will only happen during *nuclear war* and very serious *accident* or *negligence*.

**FACT:**      **The effects are real.**

**MYTH:**     **Common effects of radiation.**



*PHOTO 13. Re-epithelialization from the edges of the chest lesion on Day 35.*



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*PHOTO 3. Necrosis of the epidermis on Day 15 (the white spots refer to silver ointment).*