

BIG PROBLEMS WITH LOW DOSES OF IONIZING RADIATION

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It is rather common to think that ionizing radiation is dangerous. However, in the low dose range the situation is far from being obvious. The opinions range from low harmfulness to radiation hormesis. In both cases the problem needs strong experimental evidence which is largely lacking. The lecture will try to summarize experimental and theoretical results obtained so far, and point out sources of fear against any radiation dose, called radiophobia. It will also indicate some socio-economic aspects of this fear.