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Medical Follow-up of Persons Accidentally Exposed to ^{60}Co in Bulgaria

A severe radiation accident occurred on 14 June 2011, in an industrial irradiation facilities for medical equipment sterilization with very high-activity gamma sources. Five people were exposed for 5 to 10 minutes to ^{60}Co source (137 TBq). We put into practice the plans for medical care provision in radiation accidents and the developed procedures for injury severity assessment, the decision-making algorithm regarding subsequent treatment and therapy of persons affected [4]. The aim of this report is to present the results of one year follow-up of the victims. After acute exposure to radiation, the recovery to normal content of peripheral blood cells was observed in all victims. Nevertheless, there were observed cases of thrombocytopenia, granulocytopenia and leucocytopenia at various times after exposure and also morphological changes in red blood cells such as anisomicrocitosis, mégalocytes and polychromatic erythrocytes were demonstrated. All victims showed slight hypocellularity of bone marrow.

Country or International Organization

Bulgaria

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