

WHAT IS IN THE BLACK BOX KNOWN AS EMERGENCY DOSE ASSESSMENT?

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Summary -

A fundamental need in a radiological emergency is an ability to assess the magnitude and downwind consequences of the very physical characteristic that makes a radiological emergency response plan necessary—radioactivity—and its consequence, radiation dose.

In this training workshop, the methods, principles, and assumptions of dose assessment were presented and discussed. After a brief discussion of the role of dose assessments in emergency response, the dose assessment process was divided into its three major components: (1) assessing the magnitude and composition of the radioactive material available to be released, and the rate of that release; (2) assessing how the released material is dispersed and transported from the release point to the downwind receptors; and (3) assessing the radiation exposure to the receptors from that material.
