

16 September 2022

Sources, Effects and Risks of Ionizing Radiation: United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation 2012 Report to the General Assembly, with Scientific Annexes

Corrigendum

1. Glossary, pages 311–312

Confounding factor or confounder

The definition *should read*

A confounding factor is a variable that is correlated with both the exposure (e.g. radiation exposure or dose) and the outcome variable (e.g. risk of lung cancer) and, if not controlled for analytically, may distort the conclusions. For example, occupation may be a confounding factor in a study of the relation between lung cancer incidence among non-smokers (dependent variable) and medical radiation exposure (independent variable). For instance, air crew are exposed to higher levels of radiation due to their employment (correlation with radiation exposure) while staff working in certain recreation industries are often occupationally exposed to cigarette smoke (correlation with outcome lung cancer). This confounding might be controlled by introducing into the analysis an indicator for the occupational group.

2. Glossary, page 315

Low dose rate

The definition *should read*

The Committee has defined “low dose rate” as 0.1 mGy per minute or less, averaged over about one hour, for radiations such as external X-rays and gamma rays.

