

# International Commission on Radiological Protection: Present & Future

Presentation to the National Institute of Advanced  
Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)

13 November, 2023

No COI; many slides courtesy of ICRP office

**Kimberly Applegate, MD,MS**

ICRP Main Commission

Chair Committee 3 on Medicine

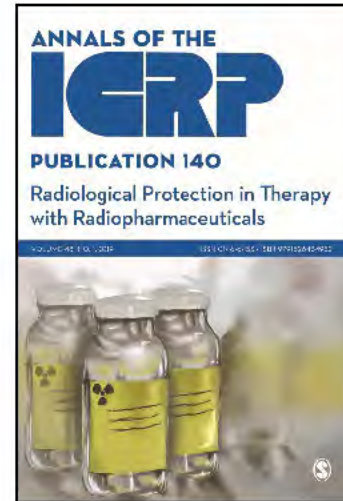
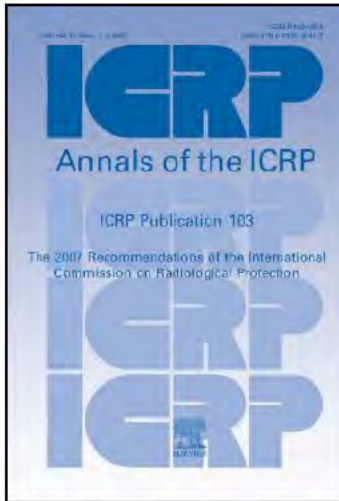
# Outline



- **Introduction to ICRP**
- **Current Activities**
- **The Future of Radiological Protection**

# ICRP Mission

Advance for the public benefit the science of radiological protection, in particular by providing recommendations and guidance on all aspects of protection against ionising radiation





# International Commission on Radiological Protection

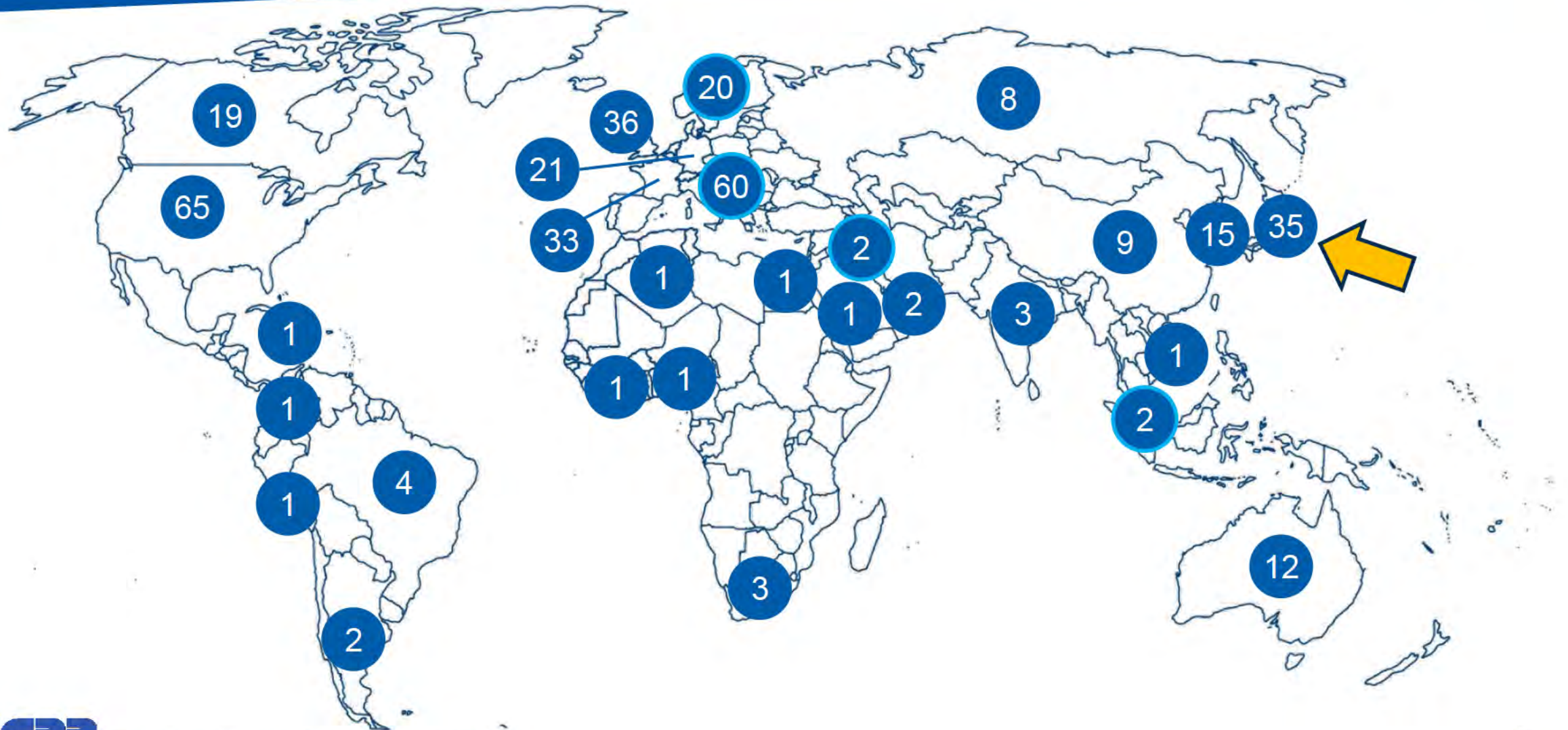
- Underpins all ionising RP standards, legislation, and practice world-wide
- Independent international organisation working for the public benefit
- Charity relying on voluntary contributions
- ~350 experts from ~50 countries volunteering their time
- Established in 1928 (Stockholm)

Registered with the Charity  
Commission for England  
and Wales, #1166304

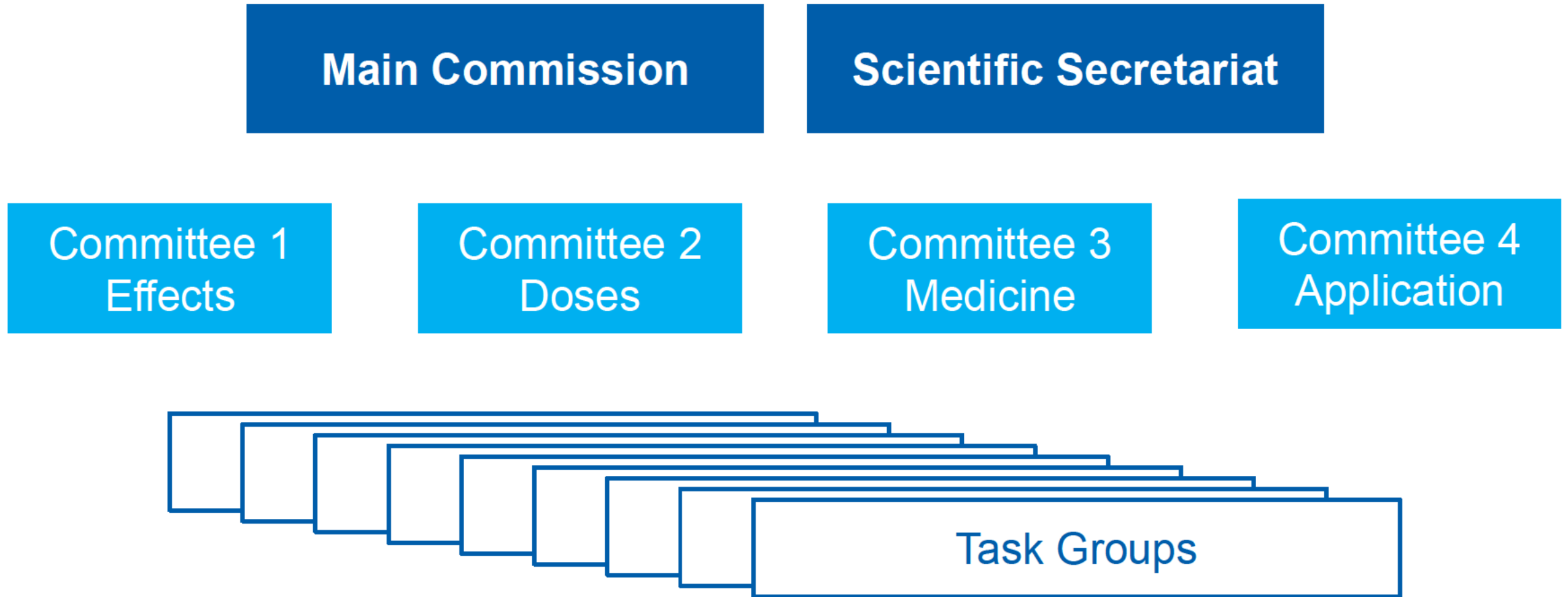


# 360 Members from 49 Countries

as of 04 February 2023



# ICRP Structure



# ICRP Members from China, Japan & Korea



**11 members** including: Main Commission (Senlin Liu), Committees 1, 2, 3, and 4, and 3 mentees



**34 members** including: Main Commission (Michiaki Kai), Scientific Secretariat (Takashi Yasumune), Committees 1, 2, 3, and 4, and 2 mentees



**16 members** including: Main Commission (Kunwoo Cho), Scientific Secretariat (Hyungjoon Yu), Committees 2, 3, and 4, and 1 mentee

# ICRP Main Commission (11 countries)



**The Main Commission is ICRP's governing body, providing oversight, setting policy, and giving general direction**

**Werner Rühm (Chair), Germany**

**Simon Bouffler (Vice-Chair), UK**

**Christopher H. Clement (Scientific Secretary), ICRP, Canada \***

Kimberly Applegate, University of Kentucky COM (retired), USA

François Bochud, IRA CHUV, Switzerland

Kun-Woo Cho, Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety, Korea

Gillian Hirth, ARPANSA, Australia

Michiaki Kai, Nippon Bunri University (NBU), Japan

Dominique Laurier, French Institute for Radiological Protection and Nuclear Safety (IRSN), France

Senlin Liu, China Institute of Atomic Energy, China

Sergey Romanov, Southern Ural Biophysics Institute, Russian Federation

Thierry Schneider, CEPN, France

Andrzej Wojcik, Centre for Radiation Protection Research, Stockholm University, Sweden

*Roger H. Clarke (Member emeritus), United Kingdom*

*Fred A. Mettler (Member emeritus), University of New Mexico, USA*

*R. Jan Pentreath (Member emeritus), United Kingdom*

*R. Julian Preston (Member emeritus), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), USA*

*Christian Streffer (Member emeritus), University-Clinics Essen, Germany*

*Eliseo Vañó (Member emeritus), Complutense University, Spain*

\* Formally not a MC member but integral to the work of the MC and part of the ICRP executive consisting of the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Scientific Secretary



# ICRP Scientific Secretariat



**The  
Scientific  
Secretariat**  
located in  
**Ottawa, Canada,**  
manages the  
**daily business of  
ICRP**

**Christopher Clement (Scientific Secretary & CEO), Canada**

**Lynn Lemaire (Executive Administrator), Canada**

**Kelsey Cloutier (Head of Stakeholder Engagement and Communications), Canada**

**Charlotte White (Brand and Digital Media Specialist), Canada**

**Takashi Yasumune (Assistant Scientific Secretary), Japan**

**Hyungjoon Yu (Assistant Scientific Secretary), Korea**

Suryakanta Acharya (Technical Writer), India

Abdulkadir Alaydarous (Technical Secretary), USA

Barrington Brevitt (Technical Writer), Jamaica

Anna Denisnova (Technical Secretary), Russian Federation

Adrienne Ethier (Technical Secretary), Canada

Franklin Eze (Technical Secretary), Nigeria

***Luana Hafner (Intern), Switzerland***

***Toshihiro Higuchi (Historian), USA***

Boniface Kouamé Yao (Technical Secretary), Cote d'Ivoire

Camille Pacher (Technical Secretary), Canada

Constantinos Zervides (Technical Secretary), Cyprus

# ICRP Committees

## Committee 1 Effects

considers the effects of radiation action from the subcellular to population and ecosystem levels, including the induction of cancer, heritable, and other diseases, impairment of tissue/organ function and developmental defects, and assesses implications for protection of people and the environment

*Chair: Dominique Laurier, France*



## Committee 3 Medicine

addresses protection of persons and unborn children when ionising radiation is used in medical diagnosis, therapy, and biomedical research, as well as protection in veterinary medicine

*Chair: Kimberly Applegate, USA*



## Committee 2 Doses

develops dosimetric methodology for the assessment of internal and external radiation exposures, including reference biokinetic and dosimetric models and reference data and dose coefficients, for use in the protection of people and the environment

*Chair: François Bochud, Switzerland*



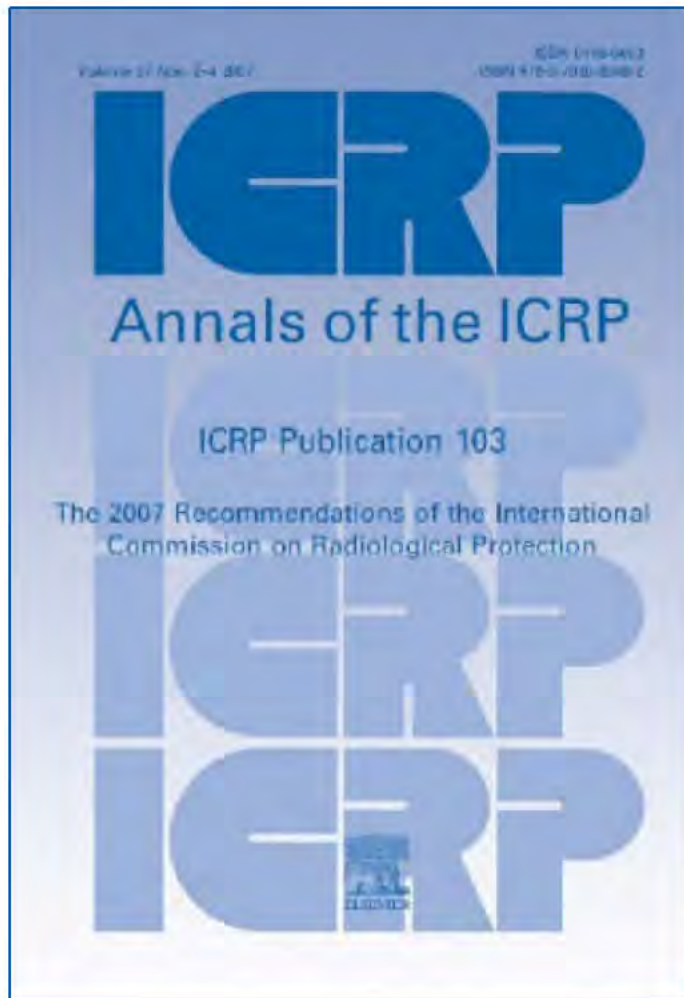
## Committee 4 Application

provides advice on the application of the Commission's recommendations for the protection of people and the environment in an integrated manner for all exposure situations

*Chair: Thierry Schneider, France*



# ICRP Publications



- **General Recommendations** (most recent 2007)
- **Publications on specific aspects of radiological protection**, e.g., deep geological disposal
- **Publications providing tools needed to implement radiological protection**, e.g., dose coefficients
- **Publications that assess impacts of new scientific findings**, e.g., cancer risks from uranium



# ICRP Publications

Annals of the ICRP is the authoritative source of recommendations and guidance of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP). It is published by [SAGE UK](#) on behalf of ICRP.

邦訳版ICRP刊行物  
Japanese Translations

한국어 번역본  
Korean Translations

中文翻译  
Chinese Translations

## Latest Publications

Publication	Title
ICRP Publication 153	<a href="#">Radiological Protection in Veterinary Practice</a>
ICRP Publication 152	<a href="#">Radiation Detriment Calculation Methodology</a>
ICRP Publication 151	<a href="#">Occupational Intakes of Radionuclides: Part 5</a>
ICRP Recovery Conference Proceedings	<b>FREE!</b> <a href="#">Proceedings of the International Conference on Recovery after Nuclear Accidents: Radiological Protection Lessons from Fukushima and Beyond</a>
ICRP Publication 150	<a href="#">Cancer Risk from Exposure to Plutonium and Uranium</a>

# General Recommendations



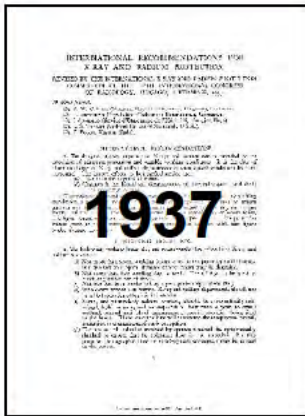
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3y



3y



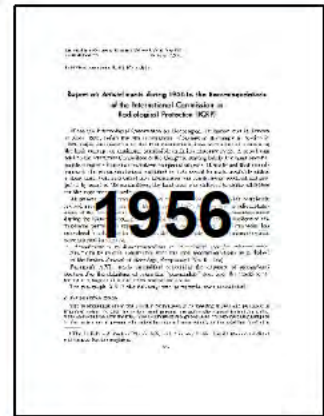
World War II  
13y



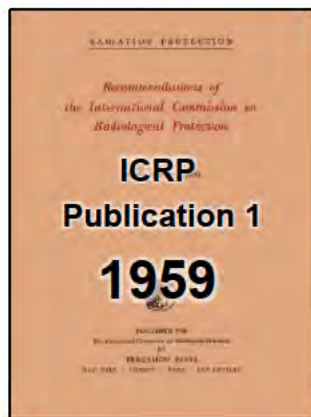
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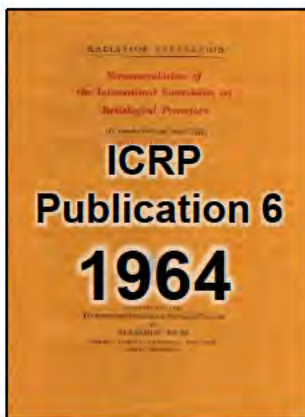
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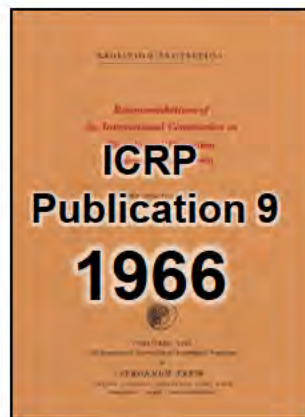
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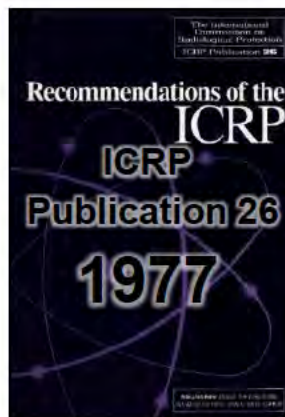
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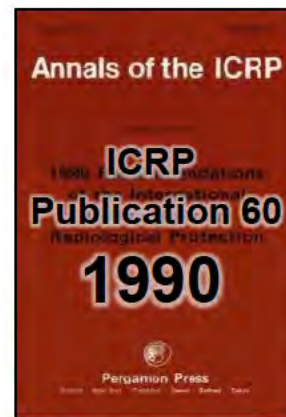
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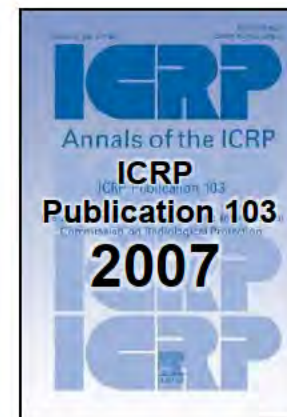
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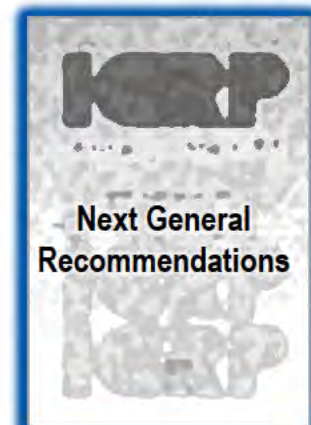
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17y



>20y



# 30 Active ICRP Task Groups

## **TG36 Radiopharmaceutical Doses**

TG91 Low-dose and Low-dose Rate Exposure

TG95 Internal Dose Coefficients

TG96 Computational Phantoms and Radiation Transport

TG97 Surface and Near Surface Disposal

TG98 Contaminated Sites

TG99 Reference Animals and Plants Monographs

TG103 Mesh-type Computational Phantoms

TG105 The Environment in the System of RP

TG106 Mobile High Activity Sources

**TG108 Optimisation in Medical Imaging**

**TG109 Ethics in RP in Medicine**

**TG111 Individual Response to Radiation**

TG112 Emergency Dosimetry

**TG113 Dose Coefficients for X-ray Imaging**

TG114 Reasonableness and Tolerability

TG115 Risk and Dose for Astronauts

**TG116 Imaging for Radiotherapy**

**TG117 PET and PET/CT**

TG118 RBE, Q, and  $w_R$

TG119 Diseases of the Circulatory System

TG120 Radiation Emergencies and Malicious Events

TG121 Offspring and Next Generations

TG122 Detriment Calculation for Cancer

TG123 Classification Radiation-induced Effects

TG124 The Principle of Justification

TG125 Ecosystem Services

**TG126 Human Biomedical Research**

TG127 Exposure Situations and Categories

TG128 Individualisation & Stratification

# Public Consultations/MC Vote in Tokyo

**TG109** Ethics in RP for Medical Diagnosis and Treatment (MC vote Tokyo)

**TG117** Radiological Protection in PET and PET/CT (public comments until Dec 29)

Possibly late 2023 / early 2024:

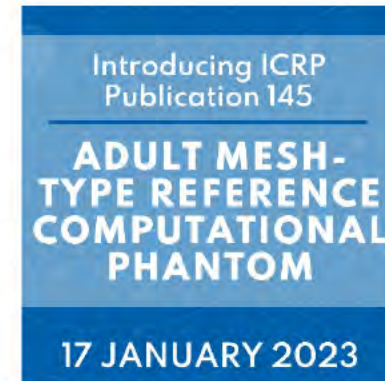
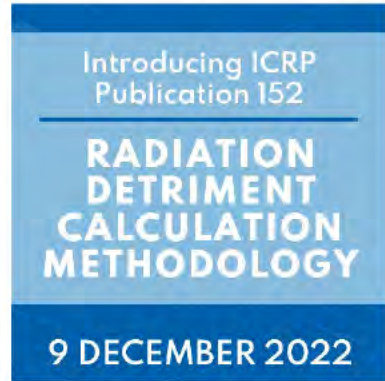
**TG36** Radiation Dose to Patients in Diagnostic Nuclear Medicine (revision of P128, March 2024 MC vote for public consultation)

**TG91** Radiation Risk Inference at Low-dose and Low-dose Rate Exposure for RP Purposes

**TG96** Paediatric Specific Absorbed Fractions

**TG113** Reference Organ and Effective Dose Coefficients for Common Diagnostic X-ray Imaging Examinations – Radiography (March 2024, MC vote for public consultation)

# ICRP Online Events: Workshops, Webinars, etc. Includes all C3 task group reports during open consultation



Many  
more to  
come...

[www.icrp.org/events](http://www.icrp.org/events)



# The Future of Radiological Protection:

## What's Next?

- Consider evolution in ethics, experience, and science
- Societal expectations in shared decision-making, especially in medicine  
Set systems for bidirectional feedback, learning. QA

# Fit for Purpose

**The System of Radiological Protection is  
robust and has performed well**

however

**it must adapt to address changes in science  
and society to remain fit for purpose**

# A Key Consideration: 'Simplification' And 'Clarification'

**The System of Radiological Protection must be:**

- **Easier to understand**
- **Easier to communicate**
- **Easier to use**

Nonetheless, the underlying basis of the system must be **robust**, to handle **complex problems** and consider **complex scientific, ethical, and practical issues**

# The Next Generation

ICRP has initiated a review and revision of the System of Radiological Protection, laying the groundwork for new General Recommendations to supersede the 2007 Recommendations

- This will be the foundation of RP standards, regulations, guidance, and practice world-wide for **the next generation**
- Cooperation and collaboration is essential, across borders and generations; involvement of **the next generation** of RP professionals is crucial



# Review & Revision of the System of RP

**Identify topics ('building blocks') for review**

**Develop building blocks through ICRP Task Groups**

**Prepare the next General Recommendations using the building blocks**



about a decade

# Guiding Principles

In the review and revision of the System, ICRP is guided by a code of ethics, and further emphasises:

Solid **science & ethical values**

**Inclusiveness & accessibility** so everyone who wants to contribute can, and to benefit from a wide variety of perspectives

**Transparency** in the process

## ICRP Code of Ethics

**Commitment to public benefit** – Act to protect humans and the environment from the harmful effects of Radiation

**Independence** – Act independently of governments and organisations, including industry and other users of radiation

**Impartiality** – Act impartially in its development of recommendations and guidance

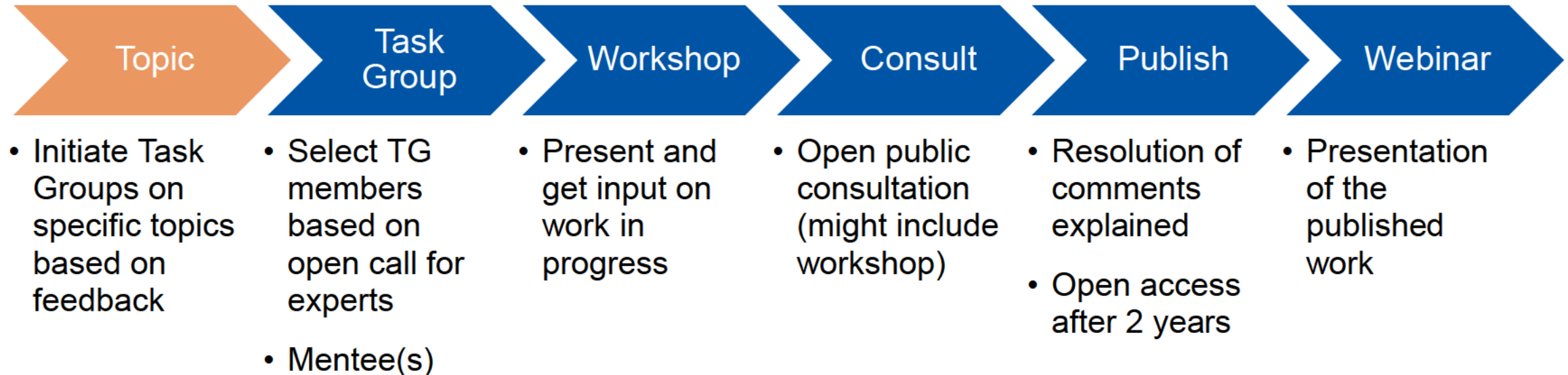
**Transparency** – Engage stakeholders and strive to be transparent in actions and judgements

**Accountability** – Be accountable to the framework that governs the activities of a charity

# Guiding Principles → Open Process

## Inclusiveness • Accessibility • Transparency

- Ensure everyone who wants to contribute can do so
- Benefit from a wide variety of perspectives



# The Future of



**14 OCT - 3 NOV 2021**

**On-Demand Presentations**

**19 - 20 OCT 2021**

**Live Presentations**

# **ICRP** **Digital** **Workshop**

UK Registered Charity 1166304

## **Purpose**

**Feedback & discussion** on the review and revision of the System of Radiological Protection

## **Programme**

**63 presentations**, live & on-demand, covering the full spectrum of topics on the System of Radiological Protection

## **Participation**

~1500 registered from ~100 countries  
~10,000 live & on-demand views  
Opportunities for Q&A and chat

## **Results**

All materials available on ICRP.org  
➤ Summary paper ([www.doi.org/10.1088/1361-6498/ac670e](http://www.doi.org/10.1088/1361-6498/ac670e))

**Direct impact on priorities for review & revision**



# Key Milestones (open access papers)

## Keeping the ICRP recommendations fit for purpose

Clement et al 2021 J. Radiol. Prot. 41 1390  
[www.doi.org/10.1088/1361-6498/ac1611](http://www.doi.org/10.1088/1361-6498/ac1611)

Thoughts from ICRP &  
invitation to contribute



## Areas of research to support the system of radiological protection

Laurier et al 2021 Radiat Environ Biophys 60, 519–530  
[www.doi.org/10.1007/s00411-021-00947-1](http://www.doi.org/10.1007/s00411-021-00947-1)

Thoughts from ICRP &  
invitation to contribute



## Summary of the 2021 ICRP workshop on the future of radiological protection

Rühm et al 2022 J. Radiol. Prot. 42 023002  
[www.doi.org/10.1088/1361-6498/ac670e](http://www.doi.org/10.1088/1361-6498/ac670e)



# Key Milestones

## ICRP Workshop on the Future of Radiological Protection (Estoril, Portugal, October 2022)

- Focus on research priorities



## ICRP 2021<sup>+1</sup>: ICRP Symposium on the System of Radiological Protection (Vancouver, November 2022)

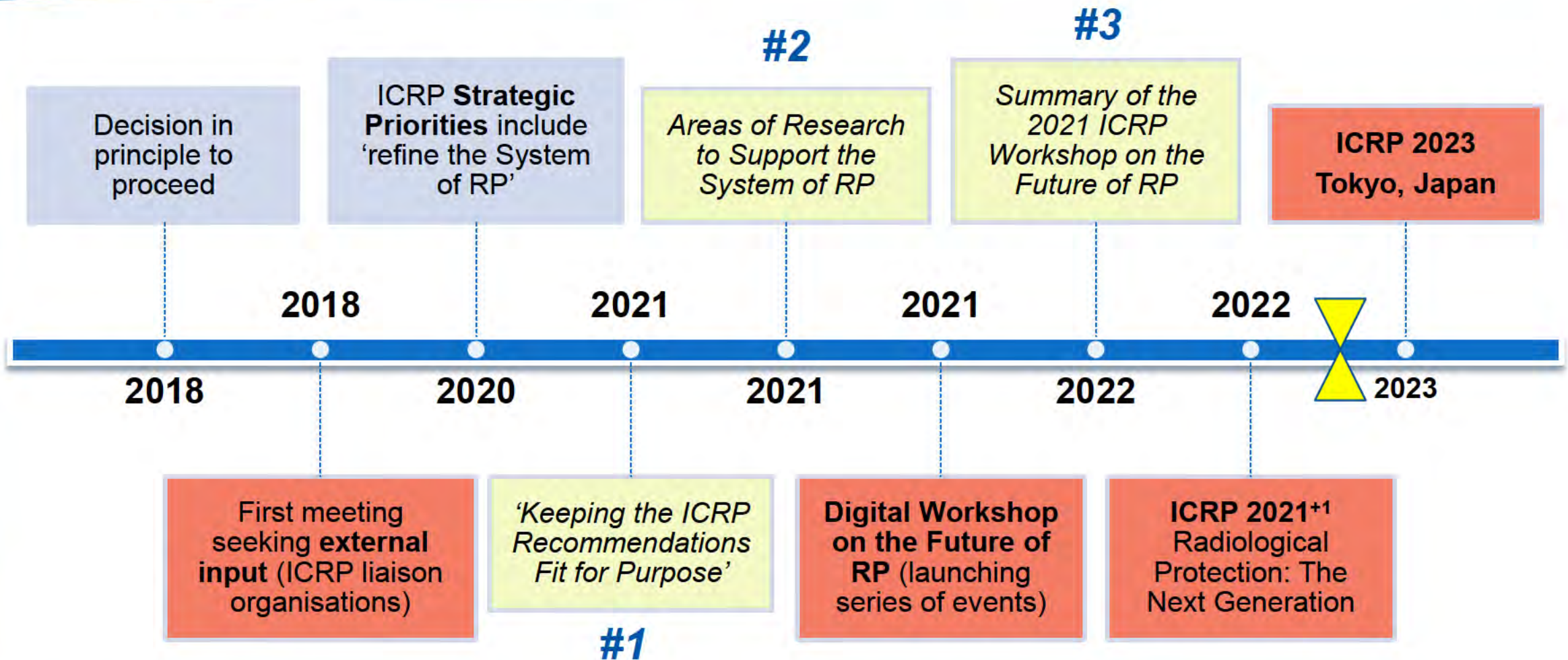
- Broad review of work in progress and work to be completed in the review & revision of the System



## NEXT: ICRP 2023 (Tokyo, November 2023)



# Outline: So Far...



# Review & Revision of the System of RP

✓ Identify topics ('building blocks') for review

→ Develop building blocks through ICRP Task Groups

Prepare the next General Recommendations using the building blocks

about a decade

# 30 Active ICRP Task Groups

- TG36 Radiopharmaceutical Doses
- TG91 Low-dose and Low-dose Rate Exposure
- TG95 Internal Dose Coefficients
- TG96 Computational Phantoms and Radiation Transport
- TG97 Surface and Near Surface Disposal
- TG98 Contaminated Sites
- TG99 Reference Animals and Plants Monographs
- TG103 Mesh-type Computational Phantoms
- TG105 The Environment in the System of RP
- TG106 Mobile High Activity Sources
- TG108 Optimisation in Medical Imaging
- TG109 Ethics in RP in Medicine
- TG111 Individual Response to Radiation
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- TG113 Dose Coefficients for X-ray Imaging
- TG114 Reasonableness and Tolerability
- TG115 Risk and Dose for Astronauts
- TG116 Imaging for Radiotherapy
- TG117 PET and PET/CT
- TG118 RBE, Q, and  $w_R$
- TG119 Diseases of the Circulatory System
- TG120 Radiation Emergencies and Malicious Events
- TG121 Offspring and Next Generations
- TG122 Detriment Calculation for Cancer
- TG123 Classification Radiation-induced Effects
- TG124 The Principle of Justification
- TG125 Ecosystem Services
- TG126 Human Biomedical Research
- TG127 Exposure Situations and Categories
- TG128 Individualisation & Stratification

# Fundamental: Effects & Risk

Selected examples only

Many cover multiple areas, but are not repeated on each page

**TG91 Low-dose and Low-dose Rate Exposure**

**TG99 Reference Animals and Plants Monographs**

**TG111 Individual Response to Radiation**

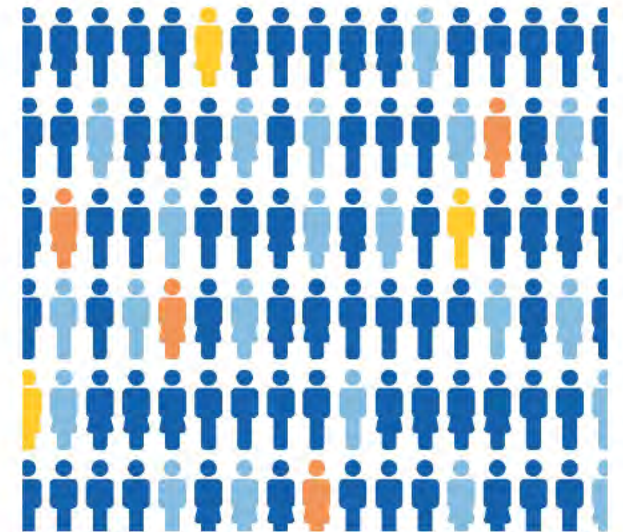
**TG115 Risk and Dose for Astronauts**

**TG119 Diseases of the Circulatory System**

**TG121 Offspring and Next Generations**

**TG122 Detriment Calculation for Cancer**

**TG123 Classification Radiation-induced Effects**



# Fundamental: Dosimetry

Selected examples only

Many cover multiple areas, but are not repeated on each page

**TG36 Radiopharmaceutical Doses**

**TG95 Internal Dose Coefficients**

**TG96 Computational Phantoms and Radiation Transport**

**TG99 Reference Animals and Plants Monographs**

**TG103 Mesh-type Computational Phantoms**

**TG113 Dose Coefficients for X-ray Imaging**

**TG115 Risk and Dose for Astronauts**

**TG118 RBE, Q, and  $w_R$**



# Fundamental: Ethics & Concepts/Application

**TG105 The Environment in the System of RP**

**TG108 Optimisation in Medical Imaging**

**TG109 Ethics in RP in Medicine**

**TG110 Veterinary Practice**

**TG114 Reasonableness and Tolerability**

**TG124 The Principle of Justification**

**TG125 Ecosystem Services**

**TG127 Exposure Situations and Categories**

**TG128 Individualisation & Stratification**

Selected examples only

Many cover multiple areas, but are not repeated on each page





# ~18 Additional topics identified

## May initiate this term (ca 2024)

- Dose limits / protection of the individual (TG128)
- Non-cancer effects beyond cardiovascular
- Sources and impacts of uncertainties (paper png)
- RP in space

## May initiate early next term (ca 2025/26)

- Primary aim, human & environment objectives
- The principle of optimisation of protection
- Protection of other non-human biota
- Integration of RP of the environment
- Practical implications of ethics in RP
- Revised detriment & its application
- Dosimetry system consolidation

- Justification in medicine
- Justification and optimisation for the fetus, premature infant & neonate

## May initiate late next term (ca 2027/28)

- RP in medicine (new P105)
- Education and training
- Communication
- Compendium of dose coefficients
- **Dose/risk coefficients for molecular radiotherapy**
- **Current working party on newer radiotherapies to include heavy ions, FLASH, and TAT: C3 with C1 and C2**

**Approximate & subject to change**

# Revised General Recommendations

## Role of ICRP Symposia (recordings available)

**2021<sup>+1</sup>** First ICRP symposium after launch of review & revision

**2023** Specifically designed to directly address key fundamental topics

**2025** Structure likely similar to ICRP 2023

**2027** Possible very early consideration of General Recommendations ?

**2029** Possibly link to consultation on draft General Recommendations ?



VERY PRELIMINARY!

# ICRP



[www.icrp.org](http://www.icrp.org)



**ICRP 2023**

**TOKYO, JAPAN**  
**6-9 NOVEMBER 2023**

**Venue: Grand Nikko Tokyo Daiba**

**3 days of live presentations**

**On-demand video presentations**

**Hybrid poster sessions**

Hosted by QST • In cooperation with JHPS & JRRS • supported by NRA & many others

**Registration and abstract  
submission now open**

**[www.ICRP2023.jp](http://www.ICRP2023.jp)**

Tuesday 7 Nov	Wednesday 8 Nov			Thursday 9 Nov
Welcome & Lindell Lecture	Atomic bombing, Suffering and Science			Clinical Potential and Prospects for Carbon Ion Radiotherapy from Physical and Biological Properties
Going Beyond Dose: Wellbeing in RP	The Next Generation of Scientists & Professionals			RP in Ion Beam and Targeted Alpha Therapy
Dosimetry for the Next General Recommendations	Stratification & Individualisation	Sustainable Development & Protection of the Environment	Classification of Effects	Radiation Detriment, Other Risk Metrics, and their Application
Communication	Exposure Categories & Situations	Tolerability & Reasonableness	Offspring & Next Generations	Effects & Dose Response: Cancer, Circulatory Disease, & Beyond
JRRS Poster Viewing	ICRP 2023 Poster Viewing			JHPS Poster Viewing
How Experience of the Fukushima Daiichi Accident is Improving RP	Radiation Emergencies	Imaging in Radiotherapy	Justification	Strengthening Expertise & Raising Public Awareness

# The FUTURE of Radiological Protection

## early 2030's

Next General Recommendations published

## mid/late 2030's

Reflected in international standards, etc.

## late 2030's and later

Reflected in national regulations, etc.

## 2060's ++ ???

Next-next General Recommendations ???



## 40 YEARS AGO

- Early personal computers
- No internet
- No smartphones
- CT scans were new technology (2% of per capita use today)
- First space shuttle
- No space tourists!

# Collaboration: An Invitation to Contribute

IOPscience



Journals ▾

Books

Publishing Support

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## Journal of Radiological Protection

ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT • OPEN ACCESS

### Keeping the ICRP recommendations fit for purpose

Christopher Clement<sup>1</sup> , Werner Ruehm<sup>2</sup>, John D Harrison<sup>3</sup> , Kimberly E Applegate<sup>4</sup>, Donald Cool<sup>5</sup> , Carl-Magnus Larsson<sup>6</sup>, Claire Cousins<sup>7</sup>, Jacques Lochard<sup>8</sup>, Simon D Bouffler<sup>9</sup> , Kunwoo Cho<sup>10</sup>, M Kai<sup>11</sup>, Dominique Laurier<sup>12</sup>, Senlin Liu<sup>13</sup> and Sergey Anatolyevich Romanov<sup>14</sup>

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<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1361-6498/ac1611>

**OPEN ACCESS!**

Radiation and Environmental  
Biophysics

**Areas of Research to  
Support the System of  
Radiological Protection**

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00411-021-00947-1>