

Bayfield-Ashland Counties EMS TOXINS / ENVIRONMENTAL Chemical Exposure	EC-5 RADIATION EXPOSURE
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SITUATION:

- Patient who has been acutely exposed to ionizing radiation from either an accidental or non-accidental environmental release of a radioactive source.
- Patient who has been contaminated with material emitting ionizing radiation.

ALL LEVELS

1. Don PPE capable of preventing:
  - a. Skin exposure to liquids and solids (gown and gloves)
  - b. Mucous membrane exposure to liquids and particles (face mask and eye protection)
  - c. Inhalation exposure to particles (N95 face mask or respirator)
  - d. Respiratory protection is very important to avoid inhaling irradiated particles.
2. Irradiated patients pose very little threat to medical providers who use appropriate PPE.
3. Identify and treat life-threatening injuries and medical problems prior to assessing for and treating radiation injuries or performing decontamination.
4. Use caution to avoid dispersing contaminated materials.
5. If patient experiences nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea:
  - Document the time gastrointestinal symptoms started.
  - Provide care per [Nausea-Vomiting guideline \[M-10\]](#).
6. If patient experiences seizure, provide care per [Seizure guidelines \[M-12\]](#).

Note: A “gray unit” (Gy) is a measure of the absorbed dose of radiation.