

Are we, as a nation, prepared for a radiological or nuclear attack?

UNLIKE PAST GRAND ROUNDS SESSIONS that focused on such topics as motor vehicle safety and polio eradication that have a clearly demonstrable health burden, “*Radiological and Nuclear Disaster Preparedness*” has a different public health challenge—it can be difficult to characterize a public health threat that is conceptual rather than current.

But with concern over continued terrorist threats at home and abroad, “dirty bombs”, and the nuclear armament of rogue states, this question is just as relevant today as it was on September 11. With resources stretched thin, emergency management officials from many U.S. cities and states rely on the federal government to intercede in the event of such a catastrophe. However, the federal government is also limited in the support it can provide to states, not to mention that federal radiation programs are often not well integrated with state public health offices. To minimize these gaps, the federal government must enhance collaboration with state public health offices and ensure that the integration of these radiologic preparedness programs with other preparedness activities is effective.

THIS SPECIAL SESSION OF PUBLIC HEALTH GRAND ROUNDS will not only address these challenges, but will also discuss current efforts to improve the public health community’s ability to prepare for and respond to the threat of nuclear and radiological disaster.

FUTURE GRAND ROUNDS TOPICS INCLUDE:
nanotechnology, chlamydia and malaria.

Radiological and Nuclear Disaster Preparedness

PRESENTED BY:

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Radiation and Public Health Response: State and Local Perspective

Charles W. Miller PhD, Chief, Radiation Studies Branch, National Center for Environmental Health
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FOCUSED DISCUSSION LED BY:

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Radiological and Nuclear Disaster Preparedness

DISCUSSANTS:

Robert L. Jones PhD, Chief, Inorganic and Radiation Analytical Toxicology Branch, National Center for Environmental Health
Detecting and Identifying Exposure to Radionuclides: Laboratory Role

John Halpin MD, MPH, Medical Officer, Emergency Preparedness and Response Office, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Worker Safety and Health Issues for Radiological Events

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Title of Talk Needed